



## Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting  
Saturday, May 3, 2008  
Park Tudor School, Indianapolis  
10:15 a.m.-12:18 p.m.

### Attendance:

Officers: Angelika Becker, Silvana Falconi, Nicci Saari, Julie Canady

Non-officer directors: David Malcom, (IAATSP), Carol Goss, (Website Manager), Hannelore Weber (IAATG), Kelly Sax (AATF), Mindy Zhang, Ye Sun (ICLASS), Shawn Whistler (Poster Contest Chair), Molly Jeon ( IATJ), Ricky Baron (AATF-NW), David Banta (ICC)

Ex-Officio: Adriana Melnyk (IDOE)

Guest: Edra Stafferi

1. Angelika Becker, IFLTA President, called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.
2. The minutes for the IFLTA meeting on March, 29, 2008 were submitted to the IFLTA website and distributed on paper by Nicci Saari, IFLTA Secretary. Two corrections to the minutes were to change the submission date for IFLTA proposals to July 21 and to change the ICC annual conference location to the University of Southern Indiana. The minutes were approved as corrected.
3. Julie Canady, IFLTA Treasurer, submitted the Treasurer's Report and discussed IFLTA's investment options. IFLTA's beginning balance was \$39,164.36 and the ending balance was \$38,583. This was a correction based on the March 29, 2008 minutes. The Treasurer's Report was approved as corrected. Julie discussed investment options. Currently our checking account gets .10%. Chase's interest rate is low, at 1.49%, with a six month fixed rate of 2.47 %. We can declare it as an endowment for our organization and take the interest out as needed. This way we could keep money in the account but invest it. Teachers' Credit Union gets 2.61%, but might be easier to keep it all in the same place. We could invest \$23,000 in the CD. It was mentioned that before we invest it is necessary to be sure that we will have enough money to cover conference expenses. After investing, the balance would be approximately \$15,000 and Angelika noted that this should be enough to cover the conference expenses. There was a motion to invest \$23,000 into a CD at Chase bank. The motion was seconded and approved. Regarding other financial matters, a \$100 Mini-Grant was awarded to Wabash Valley Teachers for the Wabash Valley Quiz Bowl. It was mentioned that there is a need to revisit gas expenses for traveling to IFLTA Meetings and conferences for teachers traveling quite a distance with the higher gas prices. The board discussed hosting meetings at a centralized location to keep it equidistant to all as much as possible. Adriana Melnyk brought up teleconferencing as an option to save on traveling expenses. Silvana Falconi will further explore this option. The IFLTA meeting for August may be moved to Indy depending on

logistics. Angelika proposed reimbursing \$.25 per mile one way for teachers traveling more than 20 miles from the meeting site. Julie will create a mileage reimbursement form and this will be placed on the IFLTA website. Mileage from various areas to Indy was discussed to see how much it would cost our organization and at the current gas prices it would cost \$800 per year. A motion was made to approve the mileage reimbursement proposal and approved.

4. Silvana Falconi, IFLTA Vice-President, presented the IFLTA 2008 Conference Update. Silvana researched keynote speakers and selected Dennie Hoopingardner, the Associate Director for Technology Implementation for CLEAR (Center for Language Education and Research) at Michigan State University. In addition, he is the current director of the Language Learning Center at Michigan State University. His keynote speech will relate to the conference theme: Languages: Connect to the Future. In addition to the keynote speech, he will also do a three-hour workshop entitled Internet Applications for Rich Language Learning. For the three-hour workshop teachers will need to bring their laptop. Holiday Inn will charge us \$300 for the wireless internet. The keynote speech is being moved to the morning before the language workshops. Angelika suggested that the workshop from Dennie could be done in 2 workshops in the afternoon. Hannelore Weber, IATG President, suggested maybe having Dennie's workshops on Saturday afternoon to increase attendance on Saturday. Adriana discussed maybe moving the keynote to a different time than lunch so that people wouldn't have to pay to hear the keynote. Silvana noted that proposals for sessions and workshops by the language specific organizations will be due and submitted online in June. So far we have received 6 or 7 online proposals for individual sessions.
5. Carol Goss, IFLTA Website Manager, submitted the Website Manager's Report and Update. Carol requested that documents be updated on the IFLTA website. Adriana has requested again that the registration for the new teacher workshop be included on the general registration form for the conference to be handled by the Meeting Connection. Julie asked if there is an online registration form for vendors. Carol mentioned that there is a private page that has the past year's documents that can be used as a base for updating this year's documents. The mini-grants document will need to be changed since we increased the amounts as well as samples of past mini-grant awards and a brief description from the organizations telling how the grant was used, including pictures of how it was used as well.
6. Adriana Melnyk presented the board with an update from the Indiana Department of Education. Dr. Reed will be retiring from her post as the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Her last day will be mid-January of 2009. Tony Bennett (R) is one possible candidate to replace her. FLAP grants were due this week and 4 districts applied. Announcement of the award will be in mid-June. Adriana has data by corporation of enrollment. The College Board voted to eliminate Italian, French Literature, and Latin AP Exams. On a positive note, Adriana mentioned that professional standards for K-5 certification at the university level was approved, and K-12 certification is in the works. Adriana will be meeting with universities to get this going. Adriana mentioned that if there are already courses at a university for world language certification of any kind, universities can add certification in any language.

7. Angelika began the discussion of some Old Business items. First she discussed the IFLTA Teacher of the Year selection for this year. Angelika needs the names of Teacher of the Year nominees from each constituent organization for K-8, 9-12, and Post-Secondary by May 15. Constituent Organizations must send out notification to the TOY Candidate, Principal, and the TOY's local newspaper. The Vice President or a Representative of the constituent organization brings the TOY portfolio to the August 9 IFLTA board meeting. The deadline for the Vice Presidents of the constituent organizations to have the portfolio for the meeting is August 1. Vice presidents will go through portfolios and select IFLTA TOYs at the Aug. board meeting. A suggestion was made to revise the rubric for the teacher of the year portfolios. Randy Studt is the chair for IFLTA Teacher of the Year selection. Vice Presidents for the organizations will discuss and clarify guidelines over the summer. Candidates must be IFLTA members for 3 years, consecutive or non-consecutive, to compete for the IFLTA TOY award. Angelika noted that we should encourage TOYs to submit a portfolio. David Malcom, IAATSP President, suggested that constituent organizations make it a requirement to be an IFLTA member for 3 years to be considered a TOY candidate in the organization to be in alignment with the IFLTA TOY rules. There was some discussion among the constituents as to how that would apply for them. Shawn Whistler, Poster Contest Chair, proposed adding teacher of the year awards for outstanding teachers who are newer teachers and having awards for teachers who have taught longer.
8. Angelika submitted an update on the Strasheim Award on behalf of Nancy Loriaux. There were 3 candidates for the Strasheim Award. A decision was made to split the money between the two strongest applications. They will each be awarded \$250 now and the balance of the award later.
9. Shawn Whistler presented an update on the IFLTA Poster Contest. There were 46 High School Entries, 20 Middle School Entries, and 2 Elementary School entries. Shawn has developed and presented the board with a draft of a rubric to score the posters. Shawn has suggested once the rubric is final to post it on the IFLTA website and to announce it at the Fall IFLTA Conference. A decision should be made by May 20 for this year's winners. By using an electronic format for scoring we could utilize judges from all over the state.
10. Angelika moved to items for New Business. IFLTA will distribute its first ever online newsletter in the fall. We need all languages and constituent organizations represented in the newsletter. Blurbs on the IFLTA Conference Language-specific workshops (and IN-NELL Swapshop) should be submitted to Matt Miller, IFLTA Newsletter Editor. Postcards will be mailed to remind IFLTA members to look at the newsletter online. Deadline for submitting items to the IFLTA Fall Newsletter is Aug. 1, 2008. Angelika discussed the need to start an advocacy campaign. Lawrence is now planning on cutting French and German in 7<sup>th</sup> grade after previous cuts to the 6<sup>th</sup> grade program. Hamilton Southeastern is now making similar cuts. IFLTA, AATG, and AATF need to start a letter writing campaign to school board, principals, and superintendents. There are a lot of advocacy materials available on the IFLTA website. Angelika suggested putting schools in danger of cuts in languages on the Advocacy page of the IFLTA Website. The last New Business item was the goals for afternoon strategic planning meeting. The goal of the meeting,

titled Focus on the Future, is for IFLTA to adjust to the new needs of teachers. We would like to plan a mission statement for IFLTA, or a focus. The goals were to identify original challenges or 3 most pressing issues in each organization, from last spring or they may have changed. What has been done, if anything, to address these since last spring? If not yet addressed, what should the next step be? What can IFLTA do as an organization to help make the constituent organizations stronger? All of the constituent organizations' notes will be collected by Angelika and a smaller board meeting in the summer will be conducted to finalize a mission statement for IFLTA and determine how IFLTA can serve better the needs of each constituent organization.

11. There were no reports from the Constituent Organizations.
12. There were no new announcements.
13. Future meeting dates:  
August 9, 2008 (West Lafayette, IN—tentative-could move to Indianapolis)  
Teacher of the Year Selection, Vice Presidents or Representatives of  
Constituent Organizations need to be present to be part of Teacher of the Year  
Selection Committee  
November 6, 2008 (conference)  
IFLTA Conference 2008 November 6-8 at the Holiday Inn Select Airport,  
Indianapolis, IN

Meeting is adjourned at 12:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Nicci Saari, IFLTA Secretary