



**Board of Directors Meeting: Minutes
May 14, 2011 at 10:00 am (EST)
Woodfield Boardroom
Sheraton, Keystone at the Crossing
Indianapolis, IN**

Attendance:

Elected Officers:

President:	Nicci Saari
1 st Vice President:	Nancy Tilka
2 nd Vice President:	Rhonda VonWerder
Immediate Past President:	Angelika Becker
Secretary:	Grace Heebner
Treasurer:	Julie Canady

Pam Gemmer (Poster Contest), Wendy Yuan (ICLASS), Jody Bergman (ICC), Mike Tsugawa (AITJ), Adam Jones (IDOE), Steve (IAATF), Dee Webster (IAATSP)

I. Call to Order 10:10 am

Meeting began with a tour of the new conference venue.

II. Secretary's Report:

March 19, 2011 meeting minutes (on the website) (Grace Heebner)

The Secretary's Report was approved unanimously.

III. Treasurer's Report (Julie Canady)

Nicci read selections from Treasurer's Report. The hotel deposit is \$5272.

The "Meeting Connection" contract has not been received. Canady will follow up with the contact person. Current balance for IFLTA is \$22,589.34. IFLTA also holds a CD. Nicci will look up this information and note this in the minutes. Angelika notes that \$22,000 is a minimal cushion. At times, it is possible to lose several thousand dollars on a conference. While \$22,000 looks like a lot, it is necessary. Pam congratulates Julie for quality bookkeeping for the organization. Rhonda stated that perhaps we should consider reducing \$1,500 contribution to JNCL. Rhonda motions to lower 2012 membership donation to JNCL to \$500. This motion is approved. Pam notes that participation in JNCL requires careful attention to further actions. Angelika will research other advocacy groups and report back to IFLTA.

IV. Poster Contest (Pamela Gemmer)

New due date is September 15th. This should enable teachers to advocate for learning the language at the beginning of the school year. The website is updated and reflects past winners. Angelika & Nancy suggested to announce and publicize contest right at the beginning of school. Rhonda suggested to contact newspaper and media people to highlight winners.

V. IFLTA Conference 2011 Update: (Nancy Tilka)

Nancy: A few proposals for workshops have been received. The due date for proposals is June 20th but will extend deadline to July 1st as need arises. Dee said that we need to encourage teachers to develop proposals. We want to attract as many teachers as possible. It was discussed how to encourage younger teachers to participate. Pam raised a concern about constituent workshops being at the end of the day. Nancy stated that hopefully constituent organizations should encourage people to stay until the end of the conference. Angelika mentioned that this new format was based on a model after Wisconsin's annual conference which attracts 1000+ teachers each year. Nicci stated that it was something that we will try this year and see how it goes and decide to keep it if it is successful in following years. Adam Jones said he would forward any communications to Superintendents and Principals via E-mail.

VI. Website Manager's Report (Nicci Saari on behalf of Carol Goss)

All forms should be updated on the IFLTA website. Dee mentioned that the 2010 TOYs are not listed.

VII. Newsletter Editor's Report (Nicci Saari on behalf of Beate Westerhouse)

Julie has sent check to printer for postcards. We need to make sure that the postcards are sent out when the newsletters go out. Submissions for the newsletter are due August 1st with a publishing date of Sep. 1. This has moved up from Sep. 15 because of the earlier conference date.

VIII. News from the Dept. of Education (Adam Jones)

Adam Jones asked the IFLTA Board to give a "position statement" regarding the use of technology in world language education.

IFLTA Board Comments:

There is a difference between online/distance learning and computer programs. Software programs are just a tool. Rosetta Stone has been successful at marketing itself as a comprehensive language program. The language learning is linear and natural-methods based. This program lacks cultural components. A great deal of research regarding language acquisition for babies and young children reveals differences between computer-generated language and actual human interaction. There should be a local component, some face-to-face opportunities. Distance learning is a temporary solution. Classroom interaction with a teacher in the same physical space is very important. Participating in cohorts of other students is critical, too.

We support distance learning – not Rosetta Stone – in limited circumstances. Must be the only option based on program limitations. There should still be a physical teacher present. Distance learning should be a catalyst to growing a language program.

Distance learning does not facilitate TPRS and project-based learning. What about connecting with the community? What about connecting with other disciplines? What do the statistics say about online/distance learning and course completion?

Should there be a cap on number of students per class?

Check out the Center for Applied Linguistics. Also, the EU and Australia deal with several of these issues.

Quality must be superior to quantity.

IX. Old Business

A. Teacher of the Year (Dee Webster)

There have been very few TOY nominations. The question was posed: Could the same person win for two constituent organizations? Portfolios are due by the August board meeting (August 6th). All portfolios must be in by August 5th to Dee. Constituent organizations are responsible for notifying TOYs.

B. Rising Star Award

If you are within the first five years of teaching, the individual is only eligible for Rising Star – not TOY.

C. Mentoring for the Future Program (Angelika Becker)

Angelika will be in touch with people from Arkansas regarding Mentoring for the Future Program. She will share this information with principals and through the IFLTA newsletter. A motion is approved establishing an official IFLTA Mentoring Committee. A motion is approved establishing Angelika Becker as Chair of the IFLTA Mentoring Committee.

D. IU WEST Grant (Angelika Becker)

IFLTA is able to provide a mini-grant to IU WEST. Angelika encouraged those in attendance to take part in their summer workshop.

X. New Business

A. IFLTA 2011 New Officer Candidates

Nicci asked Troy Byler about the statistics of our new online voting system. Only 29 people used this method. Rhonda stated that maybe we need a different online system to include registration and ballots. Nicci encouraged those in attendance to think of future leaders and encourage them to be involved as officers. Wendy added that constituent organizations should encourage voting. Nicci asked that those in attendance send names and contact information of future leaders by July 1st. Rhonda asked if officers need to have been IFLTA members? Nicci said that although it is not a prerequisite, this is very important and suggested that perhaps they should have experience in a leadership role in a constituent organization before becoming an IFLTA officer.

Rhonda mentioned that some states have a VP in charge of membership and suggested that this be added to the second VP duties.

B. Future IFLTA Retreat(s)/Summer Institutes

Nicci would like for IFLTA to have a Summer Institute and/or Board Retreat in the future. It may be helpful to have a professional growth opportunity for teachers during the summer.

XI. Constituent Organization Reports (as needed)

AATF: Steve Olhaut

Finalizing mini grants for IU honors program--\$250 is given to five different regions of students; get money from dues; pilot program in its first year

AATF-NW IN: Ricky Baron (not present)

AATG: Beth Moller-Tank

Just held workshop at Carmel as an opportunity for teachers—consider this for other constituent organizations; IFLTA to promote German workshops in future endeavors; IFLTA SUPPORT NEEDED for French colleague (Andrea Yokum sp?) for Carmen (opera) workshop through Indianapolis Opera—this would be a workshop for French and German teachers because next year's opera will be Faust done IN German! This workshop will be hosted at Carmel HS the last week of September. CHS has the facilities but needs funding from IFLTA. 1.5 day workshop. There is a program from Metropolitan Opera in New York which shows operas from New York in movie theatres for only \$5. Professional Development and growth points can be provided.

AATSP: Dee Webster

State Spanish Contest was hosted at Cathedral High School; 430 students 7 hs, 5 middle schools attended; students were charged \$3 each, over \$300 profit was made in this endeavor; dance and music were added this year; State Spanish Exam Results have been sent out to schools. Spanish teachers do NOT need to a member to give the test—they can be charged more, but can still give the exam. Guidelines for the distribution and giving of the NSE need to be checked in regards to requirements for giving the exam—do you have to be a member or not?? Issues with charging students for the NSE—how do we get across to administrators the value of charging for the NSE?? There was much discussion regarding how to get school funding and support for taking World Language standardized tests such as the National Spanish Exam. Furthermore, AATSP has also established a scholarship fund in the memory of 2 teachers, and is soliciting donations from its membership to perpetuate the fund. The scholarship goes to support study abroad for teachers. AATSP is working on 2 workshops for the fall, and also notes that they are struggling with declining membership.

AITJ: Mike Tsugawa

Mike Tsugawa noted that AITJ members had recently participated in an advocacy workshop on April 30th where the committee met and secured venues for the next three years: DePauw, Ball State and then IU or IUPUI. Earlham is sponsoring a summer workshop which should be promoted through IFLTA! ☺ Fundraising for Japan disaster relief has been happening across the state. Tshirts are available through Japanese teacher at Columbus (Elizabeth Bays).

ICLASS: Wendy Yuan

April 30th was the Chinese fair which was a huge success. Chinese contests are included in the fair. September 16th-17th 2.5 day workshop for Chinese

teachers sponsored by Confucius—4 sessions and a keynote speaker. Wendy will send a blurb and information to Nicci when available and information will go in the newsletter.

ICC: Jody Bergman
Promoting ICC through IFLTA and visa versa.

IN-NELL: Julie Canady
Next story time is Portuguese at Marion County Public Library on June 11th—need helpers. Meeting in June to begin planning for next year's events. Rising Stars and ToY have already been submitted.

Announcements

Everyone's excited about the new venue for IFLTA conference.

Upcoming Meetings:

Sat., Aug. 6, 2011 10:00 a.m. Eastwood Middle School, Indianapolis, IN

Thurs., Oct. 27 9:30 p.m. during conference Sheraton at Keystone at the Crossing, Indianapolis, IN

Adjourn 1:35pm

Submitted respectfully by Nicci Saari (in part by Adam Jones), IFLTA President