

Newsletter of the Indiana Foreign Language Teachers Association

Indiana **IFLTA NEWS**

Spring, 2003

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

These are some of the most exciting days your state language teachers association has known.

Our Fall Conference last November drew an unprecedented number of participants. That may be ascribed to the effect of electronic communication which IFLTA is beginning to use ever more effectively. The conference was a professional success too. We honored teachers-of-the-year for IFLTA and its constituent groups, listened to the wise counsel of our keynote speaker, Dean Gerardo Gonzalez of the IU School of Education, got the latest in best practices for teaching in 72 sessions programmed by vice-president, Claudia Nole, and renewed contacts with colleagues from all over the state.

Plans have already begun for the 2003 Fall Conference, which is scheduled for

November 6-8, 2003. The theme of the conference will be "Measuring our Growth." It's not too early to inform school administrators of your interest in attending. The 2003 meeting will, once again, be at the Airport Holiday Inn Select. IFLTA began discussions with representatives of a different meeting place in 2002 and we will have a place that more comfortably fits our increased size and financial resources for the 2004 meeting.

This issue of IFLTA NEWS includes some exciting news about honors at Central States. Best wishes for a successful spring and summer. We hope to see you in the fall.

Professionally yours,

Larbi Dukada

IFLTA President

IFLTA NEWS is published by the Indiana Foreign Language Teachers' Association in the winter and spring of each year. Deadline for submission of material for the fall/winter next issue of the newsletter is August 1, 2003. IFLTA dues and change of address notices should be sent to Lori Ryser.

www.iflta.org

IFLTA HONORS 2002-03 TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

Each year at the IFLTA annual meeting, IFLTA makes awards to honor foreign language teachers whose achievements can serve as models for all to follow. This year, a new category was established for foreign language teachers at the K-8 level.

The award winner in the K-8 category is Ms. Barbara deGortari of Craig Middle School in the Lawrence Township Schools. Ms. deGortari was instrumental in beginning one of very few public school immersion programs. Her work to establish the program began at Forest Glen Elementary School, has extended itself to Craig Middle School, and now boasts the first class of high school students – currently in Grade 9 at Lawrence North High School. Ms. deGortari began with the program at Forest Glen and is currently teaching the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade immersion students at Craig. It is our hope that programs like this will become commonplace. Meanwhile, it is a pleasure to honor Barbara deGortari for being a pioneer in K-8 foreign language teaching.

The award winner at the secondary level is Ms. Cheryl Rich of Lawrence Central High School. Ms. Rich has had a truly exemplary teaching career for more than twenty years. At her last assignment in Monticello's Twin Lakes High School, she imbued students with her enthusiasm for the Spanish language, and she continues to inspire her students in Lawrence Township. That is self-evident when one meets her graduates in college classes. Her work in organizing committees for the last time Central States Conference came to Indianapolis was simply stellar. She now serves as treasurer of the Indiana AATSP and has a long record of successful competition in that group's annual academic contest. It is IFLTA's special privilege to honor this leader of our profession.

The award winner at the post-secondary level is Professor Lathrop Johnson of the Department of Foreign Languages at Ball State University. Professor Johnson teaches courses in German culture and civilization, phonetics, and literature. His research interests include computer assisted language learning and Total Physical Response Storytelling (TPR-S). He has given years of dedicated service to the Indiana chapter of the AATG and to IFLTA. His accomplishment lends credit to his school and his profession.

INDIANA SCORES “CLEAN SWEEP”

The Central States Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (of which IFLTA is a constituent group) met March 6 – 8, 2003, in Minneapolis, MN. It brought more than a thousand language teachers together for what has always been a very useful conference for practicing classroom professionals. This time was even more thrilling because the two awards presented annually at the Conference were both won by people from our great state.

The first award is the Paul Simon Award, named for a former Illinois Senator who wrote a cogent defense of language study in *The Tongue-Tied American* (Continuum Publishers, 1980). The award is given to a person or group outside of our profession who “has demonstrated leadership in the promotion of language learning and international understanding.” This year, that distinction went to SIA (now called Subaru Indiana America) of Lafayette. SIA has long supported the study of Japanese and visits by teachers of all subjects to see what Japanese schools are like. SIA received a similar, statewide honor at the IFLTA November conference.

The second award is the Founders Award which goes to a member of our profession who has demonstrated “leadership in the

language teaching profession as exemplified by the founders of the Central States Conference.” This year that honor was presented to Dr. Walter Bartz, former Coordinator for Foreign Languages of the Department of Education of the State of Indiana. Dr. Bartz recently retired. He was well known for his “excellence in the promotion of language learning” and most richly deserved the award.

The story does not end there. Like most awards, extensive documentation must be presented to the award committees. The preparation of that documentation falls to the nominator or to someone acting for the nominator. That diligent public servant is seldom recognized, but we owe a vote of thanks to Rhonda Pool-vonWerder, IFLTA secretary and exploratory language teacher in the Tippecanoe School Corporation, for her work in providing documentation for the Simon award and to Mary Carr, former IFLTA President and Spanish teacher in Lawrence Township, for her work toward the Founders Award. Without the energy and dedication of these two colleagues, IFLTA might never have been able to show how truly deserving our awards candidates were.

You may wish to mark your calendar now for the next CSC conference, which will be in Dearborn, MI, on April 1-3, 2004. Visit the website at www://centralstates.cc

WE WANT NEWS FROM YOU!

If you thought that the life of a language teacher were dull as oatmeal, you probably would not have become one. Thus, we can assume that there are everyday or rare events which happen in your classroom about which your colleagues would like to read. The story that follows is a good example of a story we hope never repeats itself, although the protagonist is finally able to look back at the event and appreciate what humor there may or may not be in the situation. Your story does not have to be

quite so out of the ordinary. Your colleagues are interested in the daily goings-on of your class, if only to know that their particular combination of frustration and delight may be shared by others in similar situations. So, please forward news in electronic format to alangarf@purdue.edu. If you include photos, jpeg format is preferred.

LANGUAGE TEACHERS ARE HEROES TOO!

There are many ways to teach reflexive verbs, we know. Still, Esmeralda Woodcock at Brebeuf Preparatory School in Indianapolis must hold the patent on the most realistic one. Last year, she was teaching “to cut oneself,” using a large scissors to demonstrate. Unfortunately, she slipped and cut off part of her fingertip. She was reluctant to stop teaching then and there, but had to give in and go to the emergency room for “digital repair,” as it were.

“You’d better know your reflexives on the next test,” Ms. Woodcock told her students, only partly in jest. The moral of the story is that language teachers are heroes too.

INSTITUT D’ÉTÉ POUR LES PROFESSEURS DE FRANÇAIS

**L’enseignement du français et
les standards nationaux**

Du 16 au 28 juin, 2003 à IUPUI
(deux semaines – 6 heures de crédit)

L’institut vise à intégrer l’enseignement de la communication, de la culture, de la comparaison structurale et culturelle, des liens entre le français et d’autres disciplines, et des communautés françaises en dehors de la classe. Cette intégration sera répartie sur quatre modules, chacun organisé autour d’un thème intéressant et pertinent aux jeunes anglophones. Les places seront réservées aux premiers venants. Pour toute information, adressez-vous au Prof. Vermette à rvermett@iupui.edu.

AATF CHAPTER PRES HAS INFO

If you teach French in Indiana and are not on AATF Chapter President, Lynette Liberge's electronic mailing list, you are sure to miss something important. You can find out what we mean by writing libergel@scican.net. Ms. Liberge will be happy to add you to her mailing list.

AATSP TO MEET IN CHICAGO

The American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese will meet this summer as it usually does. The meeting will take place at the Fairmont Hotel in Chicago from July 31 to August 5, 2003.

The venue is well chosen because it allows a Spanish teacher to engage in professional and other pursuits. Chicago offers the Art Institute Museum just over a mile from the Fairmont. There you can see works by Velazquez, Dali, Picasso and others. You can visit the tapas bar, Café Ibérico, which is within two miles. The hotel is on the "Magnificent Mile" for those who enjoy window shopping (all a Spanish teacher can afford on that street) and there are ethnic neighborhoods, museums, and restaurants galore to make your trip well worth the time.

Most IFLTA members can get to Chicago in four hours. In case we have tempted you, all the meeting information awaits you at <http://www.aatsp.org>. Click first on the link for "Members" and then on "2003 Meeting."

SOUTH RIPLEY SPANISH STUDENTS "CHEAT" AT EUCHRE

Well, that's what their opponents in euchre, a card game which is played by nearly everyone in Ripley County and lots of people elsewhere, have alleged. Spanish teacher, Dan Monroe of South Ripley High School

(southeastern Indiana), reports that the allegation may not be really deserved. The only "crime" his students have committed is learning Spanish numbers well enough to use them to secretly pass strategic information to partners in the game. Don't tell us that learning a foreign language is useless!

PURDUE UNIVERSITY

The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures at Purdue University publishes an occasional newsletter about departmental activities and personalities. IFLTA members are cordially invited to accept a free subscription by writing Joyce Detzner at cjdetzner@purdue.edu.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FRENCH TEACHERS

Many thanks to Lynette Liberge, Indiana AATF chapter president, for the following items:

The Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie will present information on their programs on Tuesday, April 22, 2003. The "Colloque sur le français aux Etats-Unis" will follow on April 22-24 (For more information, visit:

www.indiana.edu/~creolefrench_in_the_united_states.htm. The contact person at IU Bloomington is Deborah Piston-Hatlen at dhatlen@indiana.edu.

Summer Institute for Teachers of French in the Province of Québec "Frontières: Hier et Aujourd'hui du Saint-Laurent aux confins du continent" June 22-30, 2003. Institute description, an application form, and information about advanced credit may be found at the web site: www.umaine.edu/canam/k-12outreach/TI2003.htm. Application deadline is March 28, 2003.

ACTFL 2003
Philadelphia, PA
November 21-23, 2003

IDEAS FOR TEACHING AP FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Janet Selby
Zionsville High School

One of the challenges of teaching AP foreign language (a national program administered by College Board that may result in granting advanced college credit) is that in addition to hammering on the fine points of grammar and exposing the students to a wide range of vocabulary, one needs to have class activities that are fun and interesting and provide an opportunity for these outstanding students to practice and develop their language skills in a meaningful and creative way. Meeting this challenge is an ongoing process, involving constant revision. I hope the following activities which have been successful for me will prove helpful to others.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

► *Bilingual preschool story hours:*

Twice a semester small groups of AP students read picture books in Spanish to preschoolers at our local public library. They teach vocabulary, culture, and songs as they explain the stories to the children. This program is in its third year and has proven to be very popular with the children, the librarians, and the parents in the community who are eager to expose their young children to foreign language. AP students are proud to be able to share their skills and knowledge, and they love working with the children!

► *Spanish lessons in the lower middle school:*

Twice a year AP students visit fifth- and sixth-grade classes and teach a 30-minute lesson. Each group of students plans what they will do and prepares materials that enhance their presentation. The things they think of are so creative and original! One group taught color vocabulary (among other things), and at the end they had cookies iced in various colors. The children had to ask in Spanish for the cookie they wanted. Another group taught vocabulary and then showed a short video they

had made of an adventure story using the vocabulary. Others taught children the Spanish cheer we yell before and during our athletic competitions. Each middle school teacher completes an evaluation of the AP students' presentation, and the reports are glowing! Students often choose to return to the classroom of one of their former teachers where they had a rewarding and memorable experience. Teachers are pleased to see the growth in their former students and gratified to be remembered in this way.

DISTANCE LEARNING

I am always on the lookout for opportunities to expose my students to native speakers because of the wonderful practice such exposure offers for their speaking and listening skills. Two interactive distance-learning programs we can access through Vision Athena have been excellent.

► *The Speak to Learn Show, Indianapolis Museum of Art:*

Students observe slides of works by Hispanic artists at the museum and then are questioned about the works by a native speaker/docent. She awards them points for their responses, and at the end of the 50-minute session, a winning team is declared. I require all of my students to speak during the session, and I feel the feedback they get from an outside source is very valuable for them. The feedback is positive; occasionally a student has to repeat or clarify what he/she said, and this is a good experience as well. Students enjoy the game aspect of this program, and the medallions the winners receive are much admired!

► *Scientists of Hispanic Heritage, Eli Lilly:*

Students have the opportunity to question Lilly scientists in Spanish about their heritage, their training, and their work. Scientists may also ask questions of the students regarding their career goals and plans for college. Questions comparing the environment of the scientists' homelands to the US and Indiana environment inevitably arise. This program provides practice in speaking and understanding

Spanish and increases students' confidence in their communicative abilities. It also provides a glimpse into some of the careers possible at a company such as Eli Lilly. (Not every community has similar access to Spanish-speaking scientists, but some do. -Ed.)

FIELD TRIP

As a follow-up to the distance learning project with the Indianapolis Museum of Art, all AP students take a field trip to the museum in the spring. The same docent who worked with us via distance learning gives us a tour (narrated in Spanish) of some of the Spanish works in the museum. She asks the students about the works, and they also ask questions of her. After the tour, students have 30 minutes to take notes on a work they particularly liked, in preparation for an in-class essay analyzing the work. We do preparatory work with the vocabulary of art criticism, and practice analyzing slides of Hispanic works before the field trip. Students have already done an in-depth study of a Hispanic artist in Spanish IV, so this activity expands and enriches their previous knowledge of Hispanic art.

All of these activities meet the state standards for *Communication* and *Communities*, as well as providing many benefits to the students. They increase student confidence, interest, and motivation; create positive PR for the AP program in the school and community; and offer a way for students to contribute to the community. Hopefully some of these ideas will prove useful as a way to challenge AP students in an engaging and creative way while continuing to improve their language skills in preparation for the AP exam.

DON'T JUST SIT THERE ... DO SOMETHING!

Have you ever wondered what part you might play in IFLTA activity and operation? Here are some ideas for your consideration:

1. Express an interest in joining the IFLTA

board. It is made up of elected officers and of representatives of each of several language teaching groups in the state. Write Claudia Nole, our President-elect, at cnole@parktudor.pvt.k12.in.us to have your say.

2. Present a session at the annual November Fall Conference. The session proposal forms will be on the website soon at www.iflta.org.

3. Attend the IFLTA Fall Conference on November 6-8, 2003, at the Airport Holiday Inn Select in Indianapolis. Registration forms can also be found at our website at www.iflta.org. Watch for more detailed information about the conference just after school begins next fall.

4. Consider a cash donation to IFLTA, Inc. We are a tax-exempt non-profit group. Contributions are tax deductible and donors may direct use of the money for a number of approved purposes. Write Claudia Nole at the e-mail you see above.

IN-NELL HOLDS MEETINGS; SEEKS MEMBERS

Early language learning is good because it makes use of the natural imitative capacity that most young children have, and thus smoothes the path for subsequent language learning. If you subscribe to that premise, no matter the level at which you may teach, you should consider membership in and support of the newest constituent group of IFLTA, The Indiana Network for Early Language Learning, IN-NELL

On March 1, 2003, IN-NELL held a most successful annual conference at Park Tudor School on the north side of Indianapolis. Presentations by two middle school teachers (Spanish and French) from the Chicago area were complemented by a "swap-shop" of ideas and an opportunity to practice some suggested techniques. There will be an IN-NELL session at the November meeting of IFLTA, as well.

Do your language teaching practices lean toward the concrete and away from the

abstract? IN-NELL is the group for you. For further information, contact Rose Egan, president of IN-NELL, at RQE2@comcast.net. She will include you in plans for future.

NEWS & UPDATES FROM YOUR STATE COORDINATOR FOR WORLD LANGUAGES AND INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Kristin Hoyt-Oukada
Indiana Department of Education
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Yes, my title has changed. In fact, the State Board of Education has approved the change of title from “foreign languages” to “world languages” for our entire K-12 content area. It will undoubtedly take some time to follow through with the various technicalities involved in implementing this change in the Indiana Administrative Code and the many places we currently are using the term “foreign languages.” However, we are pleased to be among the many states, universities, and professional organizations that have made, or are currently making, the same change to this more inclusive nomenclature, more aptly reflecting the changing face of our nation.

The title, world languages, implies a more integrative, global perspective as our population becomes increasingly multi-ethnic and international. Further, world languages is a more appropriate title when including the study of Spanish as a heritage language. Such is the case for our growing population of Hispanic students who are studying Spanish in an effort to improve their academic literacy skills and enrich their knowledge of literature. That is, the language of study is not necessarily ‘foreign’ for many of our students. Finally, when approving the professional teaching standards for our discipline in 2001, the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards adopted the name World

Languages Other Than English. This title has been perceived as a harbinger of nationwide name change, and on the national level, the profession is adopting this nomenclature.

World Languages Webpage

Please note that my webpage, linked to the Indiana Department of Education website, (maintained for access to pertinent information for our discipline) has undergone a change of address to comply with our new title.
www.doe.state.in.us/opd/wrldlangs

Visiting Teacher Program

I am pleased to share with you that we have 18 teachers from Spain in our Indiana schools this year, as a part of the Visiting Teacher Program. These teachers are not only filling a critical need we have for language teachers, but are culturally enriching their classrooms and school environments with an international dimension. Six are teaching in the immersion program at the International School of Indiana, 5 are teaching in parochial schools, and 7 in public schools. If you (or one of your district administrators) would like more information on how your school corporation can participate in hiring a teacher from Spain to teach either Spanish or ESL, contact me at khoyt@doe.state.in.us.

K-8 World Languages Task Force

I am grateful for the K-8 World Languages Task Force, a team of experienced language teachers in the elementary and middle school context, who have begun the drafting of state standards for our younger language learners. The Department of Education will be eventually looking for reaction and input from the field on these draft standards, so be looking for that opportunity sometime next year. It is another opportunity for you to participate in the growth and expansion of your profession at the state level.

World Languages Listserv & Distribution Lists

This listserv is intended primarily for the use of Indiana educators of world languages. The listserv is used to exchange and share

information as well as issues related to world languages education that are of pertinent interest to listserv subscribers. To subscribe to the World Languages Listserv, visit the Department of Education World Languages Website at <http://www.doe.state.in.us/opd/wrldlangs> and click on the link for joining the listserv. Or, you can simply send an e-mail message to me at khoyt@doe.state.in.us indicating your interest in joining the listserv.

I also maintain language-specific distribution lists. Send me an e-mail message with your name, e-mail address, language(s) and level(s) taught, and I will include you in electronic mailings that include language- or culture-specific information.

On the National Scene

Did you know that our profession is right in the middle of the various educational reform movements occurring on the national scene? Check out the following websites to find out more:

- NCATE/ACTFL Program Standards for the Preparation of Foreign Language Teachers: Go to www.actfl.org and follow the links "Special Projects" and "NCATE standards."
- INTASC: Licensing Standards for Beginning Foreign Language Teachers: Go to www.ccsso.org/pdfs/ForeignLanguageStandards.pdf.
- The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS): Standards for Accomplished Teachers of World Languages Other than English: Go to http://www.nbpts.org/pdf/ecya_wloe.pdf.

CALL FOR PAPERS: OCTAVO CONGRESO DE DIDÁCTICA DEL ESPAÑOL

On September 27, 2003, IUPUI will present its eighth annual conference on Spanish teaching. Papers from practitioners at all levels are welcome. They may deal with any aspect of teaching Spanish and, of course, MUST BE IN SPANISH.

The conference is co-sponsored by the Indiana chapter of AATSP and IUPUI. Teachers at all levels will enjoy a chance to practice Spanish and pick up some interesting ideas. Further information is available from Professor Marta Anton at manton@iupui.edu. Last year's proceedings are at www.iupui.edu/~flac/actas.html.

SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR TEACHERS IN SALAMANCA: MAT DEGREE PROGRAM IUPUI-Universidad de Salamanca

You are welcome to participate in the Summer Institute as a means of earning 8 graduate credits and immersing yourself in the Spanish language and culture in a very beautiful city that has been the haunt of students for centuries. You may choose to live in a dorm or with a Salamanca family, and the cost of tuition for the 8 hours, course materials, health insurance, and food and lodging for the month is \$1,800.

The deadline for receipt of a non-refundable deposit of \$500 is March 25, 2003. For more details, please get in touch with next summer's Resident Director, Prof. Herbert Brant, at hbrant@iupui.edu or with Ursula Dalinghaus at umdaling@iupui.edu.

The joint IUPUI-University of Salamanca MAT degree program includes 2 summer sessions in Salamanca, and the remainder of the 36 credit hours are completed in courses offered in the evenings at IUPUI during the normal academic year.

For help with admission and for more information about the degree program, please contact Professor Nancy Newton at nnewton@iupui.edu.

**Department of Education
World Languages Website
www.doe.state.in.us/opd/wrldlangs**

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DELE AT IUPUI

Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis (IUPUI) is an official testing center of the DELE (Diploma de Español como Lengua Extranjera) for 2003. The testing date for spring of this year will be May 17, 2003 for the following levels:

- Certificado Inicial (Intermediate)
- Diploma Básico (High Intermediate)
- Diploma Superior (Advanced)

The diploma is issued by the Spanish Ministry of Education and comes with the Seal of the Hague, attesting to its international accreditation. It is currently offered in 50 countries throughout the world and is being increasingly recognized in this country as a reliable measurement of proficiency in Spanish. Although the exams will be taken on the Indianapolis campus,

the written exams will be sent back to the University of Salamanca for grading. The Spanish Resource Center at IUPUI will take care of the enrollment procedures. Those who are interested need to register by April 11, 2003.

For more information, contact:
Spanish Resource Center at IUPUI
Cavanaugh Hall 408
425 University Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46202
(317) 278-1210 src408@yahoo.com

Complete information, registration form, and practice exams are available at the following web address: <http://diplomas.cervantes.es>.

Be an advocate of Foreign Languages
Visit www.languagepolicy.org to find out more.

2003 IFLTA CONFERENCE PROPOSAL

Thank you for your interest in submitting a proposal for the annual conference of the **Indiana Foreign Language Teachers Association to be held November 6-8, 2003**, at the Holiday Inn Select Airport, 2501 South High School Road, Indianapolis, Indiana 46241.

Deadline for submitting proposals is June 30, 2003. (You will be notified by the end of August.)

Name _____
Institution _____
Home Address _____
School Address _____
E-mail Address _____
Office Phone _____
Home Phone _____

If other participants will help you with your presentation, please list their names below. Attach an extra page if needed.

Name _____
Institution _____
E-mail address/Phone _____

Do you have someone in mind to be the presider for your session?

Name _____
E-mail address/Phone _____

SESSION TITLE _____

Brief description of the fifty minute Topic/Session: In 60 words or less, please identify content, objectives, procedures, and materials to be employed. State expected benefits to participants.

(Attach a separate sheet if necessary.)

PLEASE NOTE:

All sessions are scheduled for 50 minutes.

Please supply the following information:

Appropriate Level

_____ Elementary
_____ Middle School
_____ High School
_____ Post-secondary

Will you need A-V equipment?

If so, specify: _____

We are able to provide screens, overhead projectors, VCRs, and TV monitors. All other equipment will be the responsibility of the presenter.

Please send this proposal to:

Claudia Nole
IFLTA Vice President
Park Tudor Lower School
7200 N. College Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46240

IFLTA is a non-profit organization and is unable to pay your expenses.

Thank you in advance for your professional contribution

www.iflta.org

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT

In the next three weeks, the IFLTA Board will have to make an important decision about where the 2004 conference will be held. Negotiations are in progress and here are a few of the things we have found out.

1. The Airport Holiday Inn Select is now too small to comfortably accommodate our IFLTA Fall Conference.
2. IFLTA has limited resources because teachers cannot afford to pay registration fees that may be twice the current ones.
3. Larger venues in Indianapolis are either very costly or unappealing in one way or another.

Your assignment is due within a week after you

receive this newsletter. Give us your thoughts on moving the conference from place to place each four years (four year contracts save a lot). IFLTA is a statewide group. It would be well to serve members in cities other than Indianapolis. What if IFLTA held a Spring conference in Indianapolis near the time of Central States Conference? Send opinions to Larbi Oukada at loukada@iupui.edu. Thank you.

**“Measuring our Growth”
2003 IFLTA Fall Conference
November 6-8, 2003**

Indiana Foreign Language Teachers Association
c/o Department of World Languages & Cultures
Indiana University-Purdue University
425 University Boulevard
Indianapolis, IN 46202-5140
12-924-01

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