

**Indiana Foreign Language Teachers' Association**  
**Meeting of the Board of Directors**  
**Park Tudor School**  
**March 19, 2005**

**Members Present:** Claudia Nole (Pres.); Sarah DeMaris (Vice-Pres.); Lori Ryser (Sec.); Rhonda Pool vonWerder (Treas.); Kristin Hoyt (InDOE); Nancy Doedens (Advocacy); Jeremy Walker (Webmaster); Kathy Darnell (Exhibits); Edra P. Staffieri (Spanish Resource Center, IUPUI); Hannelore Weber (IATG Pres.); Jane McMurrer (AITJ Pres.); Jo Jones (IAATSP Pres.); David Banta (ICC Pres.); Angelika Becker (YOL); Gabrielle Bertier (World Languages and Cultures, IUPUI)

**Call to Order (Claudia):** 10:00

**Minutes (Lori):** After the following corrections were made to the minutes of the December 4, 2004, meeting, the minutes were accepted by consensus:

- \$2100 was received from Larbi Oukada on 12-4-04.
- Sarah will present her choice(s) for Best of Indiana for the 2006 Central States Conference.
- Registration hours on Friday will be from 8-5.
- The 1:00-1:30 time slot on Saturday will be for the Exhibitor's Raffle, not an Exhibit Break.
- The Student/Teacher Creativity Contest suggested by Pamela was passed by consensus after discussion; Pamela will chair and organize this event.

**Treasurer's Report (Rhonda):** (see attached) Taxes for 2002 and 2003 have been filed. Taxes for 2004 are scheduled to be filed on time for May 15, 2005, deadline. Current total assets are \$37,516.11. Rhonda raised two questions for discussion:

- Should we raise the price of luncheon tickets? After discussion, it was decided by consensus not to raise the price, even though the price that we charge members is lower than our actual cost for the meal.
- Should we establish a CD with \$5000 of our assets, due to the greater interest/earning rate? Jo Jones moved that we do so; David Banta seconded the motion; motion passed.

**Financial Update (Claudia):** No additional payment has been received from Larbi Oukada since 12-4-04. According to our records, it appears that he still owes IFLTA \$5000 for the CD, plus attorney fees, accountant fees, and interest.

**Newsletter (Claudia for Bethany):** Bethany sends apologies for the lateness of the last newsletter, and reminds us that the deadline for submissions for the next issue is April 1, 2005. Claudia suggested including a membership form in the newsletter for members who are unable to attend Conference, but wish to maintain their membership. Rhonda followed up on this with a suggestion of sending an invoice after Conference to those members who did not attend, offering them the chance to renew their membership. Rhonda also suggested including a name/address correction page in the newsletter. The

timing of the newsletters was discussed, raising the question of whether we want to move to just 2 newsletters per year. After much discussion on all of these issues, it was decided that no final decisions could be reached until Bethany is present, since most of these questions will depend on her input.

**Poster Contest (Claudia for Rudie):** Rudie expects this year to be a “banner year” for the contest, with more schools participating due to the Year of Languages. Rhonda will post a reminder of the deadline on Kristin’s listserv.

**Conference Plans (Sarah):**

- Bumper Stickers: after reviewing and discussing various ideas for the 2005 bumper sticker, Sarah moved that the sticker read as follows: Languages Connect: INDIANA AND THE WORLD. Lori seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously. Jo will order the stickers, as in the past.
- Friday morning workshops: Sarah will send information this summer to the language group presidents to prepare for the workshops. Jo requested that the IAATSP again be able to use two rooms for shorter workshops. Sarah agreed that this seemed to work well.
- Keynote speaker: Sarah has contacted Keith Cothrun, the immediate past president of ACTFL; he has agreed to deliver our keynote address.
- University Night: An email was received from Vincennes University, requesting to be on our mailing list for University Night. Sarah circulated a list of state universities and colleges and asked for input on any that should be invited to participate.
- Website conference info: The session proposal form is available on-line; many have been received; deadline for proposals is July 15, 2005. A printable registration form is available on-line, and all members are encouraged to register for the Conference as well as the hotel as early as possible.
- Other venues for Conference: Sarah has continued to inquire at other hotels about the availability and suitability for hosting IFLTA; the Adam’s Mark at the airport is already booked for 2005 and 2006; the Omni North is too small for our needs.
- CSC: Sarah has contacted John Clark to represent IFLTA at the Central States Conference in 2006.

**Exhibits (Kathy):** Kathy is expanding the exhibitor mailing list using the list of companies from CSC. Kathy raised the question of whether to limit exhibitors to a maximum of 3 tables; suggestions included charging a set price per table or charging more for each additional table. Kathy will develop 2 proposals and the Board will vote at the next meeting. The 2005 Conference will include the first “Raffler’s Raffle”, in which all companies participating in the Raffle contest will themselves have a chance to win the Raffler’s prize of ½ off of the following year’s exhibit fee. Kathy suggested using gift bags instead of boxes for the raffles. Also, a German publisher from CSC would like an invitation to exhibit at IFLTA.

**Website (Jeremy):** The website has been redesigned and updated, making it much easier to add/change information. Some of the additions include: updated forms, a 2004 Teacher of the Year page, and a link to the Year of Languages website. Plans still include separating Conference links into “IFLTA Conference” and “Other Conferences” so that site visitors can more easily find the information that they are seeking, and on-line registration for the 2005 Conference.

**Brochure (Nancy):** Nancy distributed (for comments and suggestions) copies of a brochure to promote the study of Foreign Languages (attached). Suggestions included adding a list of sources and web links, as well as using photos that show a greater variety of languages.

**CSC Extension Workshop (Kathy):** The topic of the workshop was “Vertical Articulation”. Kathy, along with 3 other IFLTA members who were present, will present a session at the fall Conference to share the information. Kathy requested a longer time slot, due to the quantity of information. Sarah suggested that in lieu of one long session, Kathy submit 2 session proposals and request that they be in back-to-back times.

**YOL Language Ambush (Angelika):** Angelika reported on an event in Chicago held by ACTFL Board members that they called a “language ambush”. Board members went to prominent locations in downtown Chicago and asked people, “What time is it?” in various languages. They then recorded the types of responses received. The main purpose of this sort of activity is media impact: the individual responses are not as important as the media coverage provided. Angelika suggested that IFLTA coordinate a similar event throughout the state. Lori moved that during the week of April 11, IFLTA schedule a language ambush (participation and exact dates are left up to individual teachers to decide); Jane seconded the motion. In additional discussion, Angelika said that she will post a notification on Kristin’s listserve; also, due to conflicts, the date was changed to the week of April 25, with Indianapolis organizing a city-wide event on the 27<sup>th</sup>. With these changes, the motion passed unanimously. Also for YOL, Claudia distributed information from the Wisconsin association detailing their activities, and copies of the US Senate and House of Representatives resolutions declaring 2005 to be the “Year of Languages”.

**State of the State and CSC (Kristin):** Kristin distributed copies of the new graduation requirements, starting with the class of 2010 (see attached). Also under discussion at the state level is making the “Core 40” Diploma the default diploma for Indiana graduates. A decision has not yet been made on this question. The Foreign Language Assistance Program (FLAP) is available this year only to State Education Agencies, rather than local schools. Kristin is submitting a grant application to FLAP addressing the issue of how more Foreign Language can be taught at the middle school level. The State Board of Education has a discussion meeting on April 6 regarding middle school curriculum issues; Kristin suggested that IFLTA send a representative to address the board regarding the importance of starting Foreign Language education at the middle school level.

Regarding previous discussions about ways to promote IFLTA, Kristin suggested that we create a portable display and take it to various conferences, such as ACTFL. Kristin reported that at CSC, she received a chart showing financial data from the past 7 years; the year that Indiana hosted CSC had the highest attendance. Claudia raised the possibility of Indiana hosting CSC again in the near future. This will take much coordination with the CSC board, but the first possible year seems to be 2009.

### **Reports from Affiliate Groups:**

**ICC (David):** Members are preparing for the Junior Classics League competition.

**IATJ (Jane):** The IATJ is working on an AP test for implementation in 2007 or 2008.

**IAATSP (Jo):** Nancy Doedens is on the National Board for AATSP. Members are working on and preparing for the contest on April 23.

**IATG (Hannelore):** In January, members administered the National German Exam; many students scored above the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile. The IATG convention will be held at Ball State University. The weekend of April 15-16 will be the German Immersion weekend, held in the Amish community of Shipshewana.

**IATF (Kathy):** National French Exams were given during the week of March 14; results are expected in May. Officers met in December and are “regrouping” after a large turnover in the officer positions. They are discussing the possibility of an IATF website, as well as Immersion Nights. Also discussed was the Winter Carnival trip to Quebec.

**IN-NELL (Claudia):** Annual conference was held on March 5, 2005. There was a relatively low attendance, but the approximately 60 attendees enjoyed an exciting presentation from 3 Florida teachers.

### **Old Business:**

- **Teacher Hall of Fame:** Discussion centered on whether creating a Teacher Hall of Fame would detract from the Teacher of the Year awards. Sarah suggested putting a listing of all previous Teachers of the Year for each language on the IFLTA website, and calling that listing the “Hall of Fame”. Nancy suggested a regular newsletter feature called “Spotlight on...” to showcase individual accomplishments in the classroom. Further discussion was tabled until the next meeting.
- **Student Scholarships:** In the interest of time, this discussion was also tabled until the next meeting.

### **New Business:**

- **Officer Nominations:** We are still in need of people willing to take on the positions of Webmaster, Vice-President, and Treasurer in December. Tracy Kacer Rogers has accepted nomination to the office of Secretary.
- **National Foreign Language Research Center:** The NFLRC is collecting data on FL education and has requested a copy of our members’ email addresses. A random sampling of those members will receive an email requesting that they go to a website and complete a survey. After

discussion, it was agreed by consensus that we provide that list only after being guaranteed that the list will be destroyed (and not used for any other purpose) once those emails have been sent.

- **Nationalities Council of Indiana: Pam Valdes / Nationalities Council /Pike International Festival / July 30. More information is needed.**
- JNCL: Jo moved that IFLTA cover the approximately \$700 to send Nancy as the IFLTA representative to the JNCL conference in June; Kathy seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.
- Mini-grant application: We have received a request for a \$100 mini-grant (to pay for materials) from Heaven's Express Academy. These materials would provide 30-60 minutes per week of Spanish instruction to students. Further discussion tabled until more information is received.
- YOL Indy: The mayor of Indianapolis issued a proclamation naming 2005 as the Year of Languages in Indianapolis.

**Meeting adjourned (Claudia):** Approximately 2:15

NEXT MEETING: MAY 7, 2005