

**Minutes of the National Council of State Supervisors of Foreign Languages
November 19-20, 1997- Opryland Hotel, Nashville, TN**

The Annual Meeting of the National Council of State Supervisors of Foreign Languages began at 7:45 AM on November 19 with breakfast sponsored by the National Textbook Company. Members present during the two-day meeting were: Becky Scarborough (Delaware), Virginia Ballinger (Ohio), Ann Marie Fuhrig (Illinois), Don Reutershan (Maine), Walter Bartz (Indiana), David Cox (Virginia), Susan Grier (Arkansas), JoAnn Wilson (Michigan), Susan Blankenship (Alabama), Joanna Crane (Alabama, Ret.), Paul Sandrock (Wisconsin), Joan Patterson (Utah), Karen Cardenas (South Dakota), Homer Dyess (Louisiana, Ret.), Peggy Singer (Louisiana), Debbie Brown (West Virginia), Fran Hoch (North Carolina), Bernadette Morris (North Carolina), Mario Nuñez (Florida), Carl Johnson (Texas), Inés García (Texas), Anita Bruce (Hawaii), Mel Nielsen (Nebraska), Mary Ann Hansen (Connecticut), Nancy Rhodes (Center for Applied Linguistics), Carolyn Horn (New Hampshire), Marcia Spielberger (Georgia), Janis Jensen (New Jersey), Jill Basye (Maryland).

After breakfast, NCSSFL joined NADSFL (National Association of District Supervisors of Foreign Language) for a panel and discussion on the critical needs for foreign language teachers. Those presenting were: Nancy Rhodes and Lucinda Branaman (CAL), Susan Walker (NNELL), Sari Kay and Kathleen Mellor (NADSFL), Marcia Spielberger (NCSSFL), Marcia Rosenbusch (National Foreign Language Resource Center, Iowa), Melinda Lucke (JNCL).

After a break for lunch, NCSSFL convened at 1:45 PM. President Marcia Spielberger called the meeting to order and thanked Debbie Brown and Fran Hoch for their help in preparing for the meeting. She announced that Paul Hoekstra has left his job in Iowa and has resigned as vice-president. Debbie assumed the duties of vice-president for this meeting. Joan Patterson moved acceptance of the 1996 minutes. Rita Couet seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Fran Hoch presented the financial report. At the current time \$2963 is in the bank. Marcia announced that Mary Ann Hansen is the ACTFL delegate for this year.

Anita Bruce presented two amendments regarding a change in those eligible for membership in NCSSFL. Paul Sandrock moved approval of Amendment A with changes. Joan Patterson seconded the motion. The amendment passed unanimously. The amendment reads as follows:

Membership

(a) Those eligible for regular membership are state education agency personnel of any state of the United States of America, the District of Columbia, or the possessions of the United States of America with responsibility in foreign language education. If the SEA member cannot attend the annual NCSSFL meeting, he/she may appoint someone to represent him/her. If there is no one within the SEA with responsibility for foreign language education, a person selected by the state education agency in collaboration with the state foreign language association may serve as the NCSSFL representative for that state.

Paul Sandrock then reported on JNCL activities for the past year. See the attached handouts.

An afternoon break was sponsored by the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Spanish Embassy. Gonzalo Gómez Dacal made a presentation about the various ways in which the Embassy has worked with different states and school districts to promote the teaching of Spanish language and culture.

Marcia reported that she had had an informal discussion with Jamie Draper regarding ACTFL's assistance in helping NCSSFL do a webpage. NCSSFL members brainstormed about possible content for the webpage including position papers, names of members, links to states, general information about the organization, state reports, summary of the minutes of meetings, funding opportunities.

Marcia then led a brainstorming session about issues facing the profession including: webpage, statewide student assessments, standards implementation, interdisciplinary connections, K-16, future certification needs, International Baccalaureate, Advanced Placement, Charter Schools, Funding Sources, American Sign Language. As a result of the discussion, four groups were formed to focus on the issues at the next day's session as follows: (1) Webpage (2) Standards (3) Special Programs (4) K-16/Connections to the rest of the curriculum.

The meeting recessed at 5:00 PM. Dinner for NADSFL and NCSSFL was held at Two Rivers Mansion and sponsored by EMC Publishers.

NCSSFL reconvened at 7:30 AM on November 20 for a joint breakfast meeting with NADSFL sponsored by McDougall/Littell. David Edwards of JNCL provided a federal legislative update. After breakfast, Melinda Luche passed out the draft of the state surveys and asked members to make corrections. NCSSFL then divided into four discussion groups. Discussion continued until the break sponsored by Foreign Language Abroad Service. After the break and the sharing of state reports, each discussion group made a brief report:

Standards (Don Reutershan)

Suggestion of a letter from NCSSFL to those states in the processing of creating standards, stressing the National Standards and their importance

Creation of a national directory of state standards documents including on our web site

Importance of statewide implementation efforts

should include work with state foreign language organizations to focus on dissemination and alignment

statewide assessments-- links should be provided on web page

possibility to write grants to support states in their implementation

FL K-16 (Susan Blankenship)

Concerns with performance by students on basic skills test--what can foreign language teachers do?

Develop human resource list --reading and writing across the curriculum; also a bibliography of resources available from states

Sharing of information via teleconferencing-where available

Certification--ways to restructure systems of certification and to improve teacher training programs

Look at what is working well and develop a survey jointly with NADSFL (Paul Sandrock and Don Reutershan will develop survey)

Special Programs (Mario Nuñez)

Discussion focused on the following special programs:

- Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate-- need for more information-- Paul Sandrock and Karen Cardenas will update us on AP and Mario and Marcia Spielberger will provide information about IB
- Charter Schools-- Need to find out more about charter schools and to discover where charter schools exist that teach and/or focus on foreign languages. Becky Scarborough will do research
- School to Work/Career Pathways-- Peggy Singer will investigate and obtain information; for. lang. state supervisors typically do not have much involvement in vocational education
- American Sign Language-- discussed; decision that this issue be left to individual states
- National Board Certification-- Fran Hoch will obtain more information about the National Board's Foreign Language Certification Committee
- Funding Sources-- need to look into alternative ways to fund foreign language programs through Title VII, Technology Challenge Grants, reading/literacy grants, etc.

Web Page Development (Carolyn Horn)

Two questions need to be answered:

- What are ACTFL's expectations in offering to host our web site?
- Who will do the work?

The site should feature content which is unique/specific to NCSSFL including:

- Background, history of NCSSFL
- Purpose of NCSSFL
- List of members, officers, state contacts
- Position papers (may need revision)
- Summary of meetings
- Hot topics

Important to distinguish between web site and listserve

Need for NCSSFL position paper on the use of technology

Homer Dyess then made a report about the development of a student course on middle grades French through Louisiana Public Television. (grades 5-8); may also include a series of professional development teleconferences geared toward the standards

Lunch was provided by Holt, Rinehart, and Winston.

Following lunch, general business was conducted. Walter Bartz nominated Marcia Spielberger as past president to serve as the NCSSFL delegate beginning June 1. Anita Bruce seconded the motion which carried.

Inés García moved that the NCSSFL delegate and the President be allowed to request \$500 per JNCL meeting. Don Reutershan seconded the motion which carried.

Mario Nuñez moved that \$1000 be given to JNCL for the coming year. Susan Grier seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Paul Sandrock moved that we continue paying ACTFL \$100 per year in dues. JoAnn Wilson seconded the motion which carried.

Walter Bartz moved that we allow up to \$500 to be spent for special/emergency meetings at the direction of the NCSSFL officers. Anita Bruce seconded the motion which carried.

Two NCSSFL sponsored sessions for ACTFL next year were proposed focusing on connecting state standards to implementation in the classroom:

Local curriculum-- Paul Sandrock; Mario Nuñez
Classroom assessment--Joann Wilson; Ginny Ballinger

A request will be made to have them back to back.

A discussion ensued about the joint NCSSFL/NADSFL meeting for next year. A possible topic would be our own professional development. One suggestion was a session on the culture standard perhaps by Alberto Fantini.

Marcia appointed a nominating committee composed of Ruta Couet, Walter Bartz, Karen Cardenas, Peggy Singer to propose a slate for sec-treas. and vice-president which will be voted on by mail.

Mario Nuñez moved that dues for 1998 be \$30 for regular members and \$15 for retired members. Inés García seconded the motion which carried.

Paul Sandrock moved that the 1998 registration fee be \$60 for regular members and \$30 for retired members. Don Reutershan seconded the motion which carried.

Walter Bartz moved that NCSSFL meet with ACTFL in Chicago in 1998. Carl Johnson seconded the motion which carried.

Following a break sponsored by the Center for International Education, Elvira Swinder and Steve Levy did a short presentation on ACTFL's New Professional Development Program.

Mel Nielsen then reported on a grant he will be working on for this year entitled Technology, Reform, and Education standards.

Carolyn Horn returned to the discussion of the development of a web page-- Mario Nuñez and Marcia Spielberger will look into the technological requirements; Paul Sandrock, Anita Bruce, and Mel Nielsen will work on the content.

Bernadette Morris will contact NADSFL in regard to professional development. Don Reutershan and Paul Sandrock will develop a survey on a variety of topics.

Joan Patterson will chair a project on basic skills, and resources; Susan Blankenship, Bernadette Morris, and Anne Marie Fuhrig will help.

Marcia asked that those people having to contribute to reports have the information to the chair by January 15. Reports from the chair to Marcia are due by January 31.

Mel Nielsen moved adjournment. Joan Patterson seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fran Hoch".

Fran Hoch
Secretary-Treasurer