

**DETAILED, LONG-VERSION MINUTES**  
**2007 NCSSFL ANNUAL MEETING**  
**November 13-15**  
**San Antonio, TX**

**Members in attendance on Tuesday (11.13.07):** Lynette Fujimori (HI), Ali Moeller (NE), Ruta Couet (SC), Helen Small (VA), Faye Rollings-Carter (retired from VA), Gregg Roberts (UT), Susan Spinnato (MD), Helga Fasciano (NC), Shuhan Wang (DE/Asia Society), Jacque Van Houten (KY), Don Reutershan (ME), Debbie Robinson (OH), Ryan Wertz (OH), Ann Marie Gunter (NC), Rendy Jantz (OR), Janis Jensen (NJ), Ann Tollefson (WY), Carolyn Taylor (Univ of WY), Pam Kolega (PA), Mary Ann Hansen (CT), Laquisha Oliver (TN), Jody Klopp (OK), Peg Henson (SD), Anita Bruce (retired from HI), Kristin Hoyt (Kennesaw State Univ), Duarte Silva (Stanford Univ), Marcia Rosenbusch (K-12 NFLRC), Jill Robbins (NCLRC), Arleen Burns (CA), Robert Crawford (WV), Pam Delfosse (WI), Terri Hammatt (LA), Tom Welch (Welch & Assoc.)

**Professional Development Technology Session:**

NCSSFL members attended a two-part technology presentation/training, held at John Paul Stevens HS in Northside School District. Northside School District teachers, Lorraine Trawick and Amanda Hafner, introduced three useful tools: bookmarking with [del.icio.us](http://del.icio.us), wikis with [pbwiki.org](http://pbwiki.org), and blogging with [edublogs.org](http://edublogs.org). Patsy Lanclos of Knowledge Architect presented a session on podcasting in the FL classroom

**Members in attendance on Wednesday (11.14.07):** Lynette Fujimori (HI), Ali Moeller (NE), Ruta Couet (SC), Helen Small (VA), Faye Rollings-Carter (retired from VA), Gregg Roberts (UT), Susan Spinnato (MD), Helga Fasciano (NC), Shuhan Wang (DE/Asia Society), Jacque Van Houten (KY), Don Reutershan (ME), Debbie Robinson (OH), Ryan Wertz (OH), Ann Marie Gunter (NC), Rendy Jantz (OR), Janis Jensen (NJ), Ann Tollefson (WY), Carolyn Taylor (Univ of WY), Pam Kolega (PA), Mary Ann Hansen (CT), Laquisha Oliver (TN), Jody Klopp (OK), Peg Henson (SD), Anita Bruce (retired from HI), Kristin Hoyt (Kennesaw State Univ), Duarte Silva (Stanford Univ), Marcia Rosenbusch (K-12 NFLRC), Jill Robbins (NCLRC), Arleen Burns (CA), Robert Crawford (WV), Pam Delfosse (WI), Terri Hammatt (LA), Tom Welch (Welch & Assoc.), Elizabeth Webb (GA), Adriana Melnyk (IN), Carol Johnson (retired from TX), Ines Garcia (retired from TX), Susan Grier (retired from AR), Phyllis Farrar (KS), Janine Ericson (CO FL Teachers Professional Organization), Barbara Medina (CO), Ursula Lentz (CARLA / MN), Ken Relihan (NH), Carl Falsgraf (CASLS), Katherine Lopez-Natale (MA), Phil Smith (retired from NV), Alfred Gage (retired from OK)

1. Welcome to annual meeting by NCSSFL President, Jacque VanHouten
2. Introduction of new members
3. Welcome to TX from Carl Johnson, Ines Garcia & Maria Trevino
4. Carl shared the history of NCSSFL annual meetings over the years
5. Another round of introductions of everyone – veterans, newbies, retired ones, organizational associate members

6. Jacque shared a few comments about the status of NCSSFL and the important image we hold in the eyes of the profession – individuals/groups/organizations look to us for positions, perspectives
7. Jacque called for a brief review of the 2006 annual meeting minutes
8. Elizabeth Webb found a typo in the short minutes – ‘chair of’ instead of “off”
9. With consideration of corrected typo, Elizabeth Webb made a motion to approve the 2006 meetings minutes, which was seconded and approved by voice vote
10. Secretary’s report: Kristin Hoyt described the membership drive that was conducted this fall.
11. Treasurer’s report: Ryan Wertz thanked the membership for the vote of confidence in his first year of serving as treasurer. Ryan mentioned that there has been a growth in the treasury due to growth in membership. We are \$3000 up this year, in spite of funds spent on officers’ travel. Ryan explained the system of our fiscal year. He is going to update our system with electronic invoices which will facilitate treasurer’s work as well as provide documentation for agency reimbursement, etc. Helga Fasciano made a motion for the approval of the Treasurer’s Report. Elizabeth Webb seconded the motion. Voice vote of approval.
12. Helga Fasciano gave the Vice President’s Report. She commented on yesterday’s technology session sponsors as well as the importance of our acknowledging these sponsors and personally thanking them. Helga then outlined the events / venues for this conference and provided details on meeting points, times, etc. Helga mentioned that Ryan will need to add to the registration materials a check-off for Saturday morning’s breakfast as well, since College Board will be holding their Saturday breakfast as an on-going, regular event for us in the years to come.
13. Jacque VanHouten introduced a meeting agenda item to recognize member’s achievements:
  - a) Debbie Robinson and Paul Sandrock both have contributions on articulation in the October issue of *Language Educator*
  - b) Janis Jensen has co-authored with Paul Sandrock the new ASCD World Languages book
  - c) Janis Jensen is also President of the New Jersey Chapter of ASCD
  - d) Janis Jansen has also been promoted to the position of “Director of New Jersey’s Office of Academic Standards”
  - e) Janine Ericson has been named president-elect of ACTFL
  - f) Desa Dawson has joined the ACTFL Board
  - g) Vickie Scow is also on the ACTFL Board as representative for the Central States Conference region
  - h) Susan Spinnato has been named to the board of directors for the Maryland Foreign Language Association
  - i) Ann Tollefson was recognized by the Wyoming Foreign Language Association with a lifetime achievement award
  - j) Jacque VanHouten has an article published in the ADFL Bulletin on the European Language Portfolio
  - k) Kristin Hoyt has been named as the Director of the Ways & Means Committee for the Foreign Language Association of Georgia, and has also been elected president of the Georgia chapter of AATF
  - l) Ruta Couet has received the *Palmes académiques*
  - m) Shuhan Wang announced that she has traveled 24 states this year in her new position with *The Asia Society*

- n) Carl Falsgraf edited an ISTE (International Standards for Technology Education) publication on integrating technology in the teaching of Foreign Languages
  - o) Ali Moeller is editing the 2008 *Central States Conference Report*, which will focus on teaching all learners
    - i) Last year Ali Moeller shepherded her doctoral students, mentoring them in the necessary skills to serve as an editorial board for the *Central States Conference Report*. They critically reviewed the submitted articles and developed a conceptual framework for the publication of these articles, in an effort to professionalize the publication.
  - p) Maria Trevino spearheaded the Texas Language Summit, resulting in the publication of the *Roadmap for Languages in Texas*
  - q) North Carolina Department of Education, under Helga Fasciano's guidance, hosted the Embassy of Spain Administrators' Semi-Annual Seminar this past spring
14. The discussion moved away from accomplishments and accolades into mini state reports, updates, and announcements of upcoming events.
- a) Shuhan Wang announced another national conference on K-16 Chinese
  - b) Two months ago, there was an article in *Phi Delta Kappan* on Foreign Languages
  - c) Elizabeth Webb announce an upcoming IB (International Baccalaureat) conference
  - d) Pam Kolega briefed the membership on legislative acts in Pennsylvania impacting the role of World Languages in the state and its introduction into the core curriculum
  - e) Debbie Robinson spoke briefly about Ohio's pending legislation (supporting a state advisory council for World Languages proposal) in favor of a World Languages high school graduation requirement for all students
15. Jacque called for the report on NCSSFL's attendance at last year's ASCD conference:
- a) Helga Fasciano and Shuhan Wang mentioned the lack at attendance at the sessions on internationalizing the curriculum
  - b) Duarte Silva reported that he had good attendance at his session on identifying resources
16. Jacque announced that the report on the JNCL May meeting is printed in the packet. Jacque has been elected to their board of directors for the next two years.
17. Debbie Robinson, as chair of the nominating committee, presented the slate of officers, and as a side note, asked the membership to review the by-laws on voting privileges of members. Paper ballots were distributed for those who have voting rights and had not previously voted (prior to meeting dates).
18. Don addressed the issue of state reports by reiterating the importance of these reports representing current information. He urged those who have not yet updated their reports to do so. There was a brief side discussion on posting to listserv and the possibility of having a members' only page.
19. Jacque gave a *LinguaFolio* update and thanked the membership for supporting her attendance at the Council of Europe meeting in Strasbourg this past year. Jacque talked about the international presence at this meeting. Carl Falgraf added a comment that the concept is moving beyond Europe and it's becoming more an international / universal model. He pointed out that the drive toward having this framework be flexible enough to meet the needs of many autonomous entities as well as its role in providing a common language that meaningfully crosses boundaries. Ali Moeller piggy-backed with further detail on the purpose of the ELP and how it is not an assessment, rather a framework. (Members can view Jacque's PPT that she presented at the Strasbourg meeting, by visiting the Council of Europe

website where they have catalogued the various presentations, presented papers, etc. of the gathering.)

## **BREAK**

20. Marty Abbott talked to the membership about the ACTFL Enrollment Data Survey. She addressed the short-term and long-term aspects of the project and the need for collating this state data in a national context. (Please see handout she provided that explains the project.) She also mentioned that *Language Educator* is trying to focus more on state news and would like for us to submit reports and/or be interviewed to report on topics such as high school graduation requirements, the status of Foreign Languages in our states, and the like. (Editorial contact for this publication is Sandy Cutshall.)
21. Jacque continued with her discussion of *LinguaFolio* and the challenges that have been faced in making the purpose of *LinguaFolio* more transparent, especially with respect to ACTFL's perception of the project. She also talked about the challenge of funding further dissemination of the tool and how we might seek funding to support this project. Elizabeth Webb shared that Georgia could use *LinguaFolio* as a college transition document. Don Reutershan reminded the membership of the various *LinguaFolio* resources that are posted on the NCSSFL website. Ali Moeller announced that Janine Theiler developed a *LinguaFolio* training workshop video that is available at [www.linguafolio.unl.edu](http://www.linguafolio.unl.edu). Pam Delfosse also shared what has been done with *LinguaFolio* in Wisconsin by the Wisconsin Association of Foreign Language Teachers, in terms of a student publication and an accompanying teachers' handout. Helga Fasciano talked about some further work with *LinguaFolio* in North Carolina. The general sense is that there are lots of districts thirsty for PD on *LinguaFolio*, and we presently do not have the manpower to address their demands for workshops. Finally, Jacque announced that the undertaking of making *LinguaFolio* a copyrighted product is nearly completed.

## **New Business:**

1. NCSSFL has been attempting to work with College Board as much as possible, so that we can have some sense of what is happening across our states in terms of newly established Chinese language/culture programs. Many schools/school districts are directly contacting College Board to make request for Chinese teachers. Hopefully, the long-term plan could be to have College Board and NCSSFL interviewing teacher candidates from the same pool, at the same time.
2. There have been some challenges in establishing a consistent plan of action with HanBan; however, the current plan is to sign an MOU/MOA that would outline some of these procedural operations.
3. Last year Duarte Silva planned a training for the arriving teachers, and in spite of logistical problems, the overall training was successful and provides a strong basis for developing future such trainings.
4. There is a need for ongoing dialogue, as MaryAnn Hansen pointed out the confusion with having both populations of College Board-recruited Chinese teachers and the DOE/state-recruited Chinese teachers together in Connecticut, without clear links of the operations. She pointed out some of the benefits of going with College Board, with respect to the issuing of the J visas, the pre-established insurance coverage, and post-arrival training with StarTalk,

etc. - all management components already in place. There was further discussion about the unique features within each of our states in terms of teacher certification, interpreting HQT in each state, etc. Shuhan Wang pointed out that StarTalk will be holding a certification summit. She further emphasized the importance of knowing/having access to the various state regs on teacher (visiting teacher) certification, so that such policies and regulations can be effectively addressed with the visiting teachers' programs, such as HanBan.

5. Janis Jensen gave a brief presentation on ASCD, describing the organization and its national and broadly-based membership. Teaching, learning, and leadership are the tenets of the organization, as well as influencing policy and practice in terms of what's best for children. ASCD has been active in advocating for the reauthorization of NCLB to include initiatives that counter the effects of "narrowing of the curriculum" that resulted from the original NCLB Act. Janis's information gives the membership some needed perspective on how we might have a meaningful presence in this organization – something we have been striving to achieve in recent years. Gregg Roberts announced that the future president of ASCD is a former World Languages teacher from Utah.

## LUNCH

6. Jacque called for reports from National Resource Centers:
  - a) Marcia Rosenbusch from the National K-12 FL Resource Center reports that the center's new focus will be on (treatment & control) research. There will no longer be a focus on summer teacher/PD workshops; rather, these research initiatives will take precedence. The focus of the research will be student attitudes, teachers'/staff person's attitudes, parents' attitudes, English-language students' language learning ... impact on test scores (a longitudinal study).
  - b) Ursula Lentz from CARLA reminded us that her center does focus on outreach and workshops (She distributed a flyer.) She announced two new publications as well as programs focused on LCTLs, integration of technology into instruction, and immersion education.
  - c) Jill Robins, from the National Capital Language Resource Center, showed us her center's website and talked about their various programs, while pointing them out on the web for us. She also distributed a flyer outlining the center's programs and initiatives.
  - d) Carl Falsgraf from CASLS reminded us that there is a plethora of resources available to us at the resource center website. CASLS has 15 grants and contracts and 50 employees now – too much to outline in his limited presentation. He talked about The Oregon Roadmap – a collaborative project with Foreign Language educators and key players statewide. He also shared the CASLS strategic plan, which includes several foci: (a) a focus on PD for emerging leaders in the field in the launching of SILL in the SCOLT region (based on the WILL project of the Northwest region); (b) assessment – expanding into more holistic assessment models featuring *LinguaFolio* as the portal, showcasing a learner as whole person.
    - Carl shared the overall findings from the New Jersey FLAP grant project: (a) Time does matter in terms of proficiency, (b) SES does not make a difference in terms of learners' capacity to develop oral proficiency, (c) SES does make a difference in terms of learners' capacity to develop reading proficiency

- e) In a brief follow-up, highlighted questions/topics for the resource centers disclose a need for more fluidity between K-12 and higher education.
    - Ursula Lentz pointed out the need to replicate the Minnesota Articulation Project and called for other states to engage in articulation projects, so that there are other models for k-16 articulation.
7. Presentation from Catherine Ingold on StarTalk: This is one of the NSLI initiatives that represent “new” money. It’s based on summer programs for teachers and learners of critical languages, as defined by the national security needs.
- a) Last summer’s (2007) focus was Arabic and Chinese. Next summer (2008) will add Persian/Farsi, Hindi and Urdu. Catherine provided a handout of her PPT slides. RFP will be put out in the next few weeks and she urged us to pass along the word to schools, districts that might be interested in applying for the grants.
  - b) She mentioned that they are looking to develop school-year programs that would serve as a follow-up to their summer experiences.
  - c) She reiterated what Shuhan had shared about the upcoming summit on licensure / certification and reminded us of the clout we have and the need to address this issue due to the dearth of highly-qualified FL teachers, especially in critical languages.
  - d) Catherine also talked about the need for different types of delivery systems to respond to small student populations that need alternatives, i.e., hybrid courses, online courses, etc.
  - e) Finally, she asked us to articulate what may be the roadblocks that would be keeping certain states from seeking StarTalk grants – they would like to explore ways to address such needs and facilitate bringing StarTalk to these groups / states.
  - f) Shuhan shared a couple of the lessons learned from the summer StarTalk projects: (a) There are lots of language-lover students out there who would love to do these type of intensive language programs and/or study ‘different’ languages that they have never had access to. (b) Families and their kids sacrificed to participate in the programs. (c) The time-on-task/intensive six-week program produced proficiency comparable to a year’s worth of study in the regular academic setting. Learners testified to their preference to have this intensive, uninterrupted exposure to language practice. (d) Give the summer program’s a fancy name to draw attendees / honor the kids who attend (e.g., governor’s …) Shuhan talked about the “paired pedagogy” model where an experienced language educator works with a heritage speaker (language specialist).

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Attendance notes: Helen Small (VA), Helga Fasciano (NC) – giving a NCSSFL-sponsored workshop (arrived at end of day)

Ann Marie Gunter (NC) – representing NCSSFL at the Delegate Assembly workshop (arrived at end of day)

Vickie Scow (NE) – representing CSC on the ACTFL Board

Desa Dawson (OK) – ACTFL Board

1. Morning meeting time was spent in the ACTFL Delegate Assembly

## **LUNCH**

2. Jacque conducted a discussion regarding our participation in the ACTFL Delegate Assembly.

Points made were:

- a) the importance of our presence in terms of image/recognition
- b) the value of our time and repeated information and/or non-pertinent information is wasteful
- c) members did not value the presentations on assessment
- d) perhaps make more judicious choices and only participate up until the break
- e) perhaps ask for the agenda ahead of time and pick/choose our participation accordingly
- f) perhaps work through our people on the ACTFL board and voice our concerns to ACTFL leadership in this manner
- g) we need to name a ‘magic date’ (about a month out) and lay it out before ACTFL leadership as a “must have the agenda by that date” so that we can plan accordingly

3. Selena Cantor, director of Chinese Language and Culture Initiative at the College Board, spoke to us on their relationship and work with HanBan. The programs/projects are focused primarily on serving K-12 schools. An ad-hoc arrangement has grown out of dialoging and working together (College Board & NCSSFL) in an effort to improve the quality overall of the visiting Chinese teachers programs and become more efficient in our procedures and processes.

- a) The topics that are under discussion to comprise the tenets of a possible College Board / NCSSFL MOU/MOA are:
  - promotion of Guest Teacher project
  - selection of schools/school districts
  - team up on the interview and selection process of teachers
  - orientation and professional development (post-arrival)
  - quality is an overall goal for this understanding – developing a national standard of quality that would counter misunderstandings and perceptions in various contexts
  - fees for J-1 visa processing and medical insurance coverage

Selena offered to send along the list of visiting teachers and the states in which they are working, since we may not be aware of their presence. Jacque and Selena informally discussed possible dates that may be mutually convenient (looking at a timeframe between late February and first few weeks of March), and that hopefully would not conflict with the regional conference dates. Jody Klopp represented Oklahoma last year in the interviews and she offered to share a preliminary set of successful interview questions.

## **Continued business from Wednesday’s meeting:**

1. First there was an announcement of sessions being presented at the present ACTFL Conference by NCSSFL members
2. Proposals for ACTFL sessions at next year's 2008 annual conference will be based on the white papers currently in progress. Individuals ??? were designated to take the lead in submitting ??? proposals. **[This is based on Debbie's recall. What about these topics listed below that I had in my notes? Delete them now?]**
  - a) Open source / Open minds
  - b) Second life ...
  - c) DOK (Depths of knowledge) / 21<sup>st</sup> century skills / STEM
  - d) National virtue magnet skills (linked to STEM)
  - e) Linking learning to life (à la plurilingualism, interculturality, Grade 9 typewriting class analogy)
3. Reminder of Friday & Saturday breakfasts and their foci (HanBan & College Board AP)
4. Dues: Mary Ann Hansen made a motion that we maintain current membership fees, Gregg Roberts seconded the motion. Brief comments by Ryan Wertz supporting the maintenance of current amounts. Motion was carried with a voice vote.
5. Meeting times: Jacque presented the various options. Since next year's meeting will be in the Eastern time zone, Gregg Roberts requested that Tuesday be an optional PD session for NCSSFL members and not a business meeting, since west coasters may not likely be able to make it on time. (Debbie Robinson is taking notes on the suggested ideas for PD.) Don Reutershan moved that we hold our meeting dates in conjunction with ACTFL dates and that Tuesday be an optional PD with our regular meetings being held on Wednesday and Thursday. Mary Ann Hansen seconded the motion. Tom Welch added a friendly amendment that we should simply mention that Tuesday is the beginning of the meeting and not say optional, due to SEA folks' requests for travel. Jacque called for a voice vote and the motion carried.
6. Ann Tollefson shared with us about "Curriki" – open source curriculum & provided a handout for our reference
7. A pause for honoring Ann Tollefson with a NCSSFL Plaque for her years of service to the profession and congratulating her on her imminent retirement
8. We need to think about the purposes of our White Papers. Whom are they for? How can we effectively communicate our message within the very title to reach a broader audience? In fact, even hook the targeted audience specifically with the language they understand. We need to think seriously about whether these papers will be accessible just to the initiated? ...or to a broader audience? Perhaps even follow the model that NASBE used: "Implications for Administrators" – "Implications for Boards of Education" – "Implications for ...."
9. Critical Issues Report Out:
  - a) Critical Languages – Debbie Robinson, Gregg Roberts, Mary Ann Hansen
  - b) Opportunities and Roadblocks to Licensure – Don Reutershan, Duarte Silva, Kristin Hoyt
  - c) Research: DOK, STEM, Partnership in 21st Century Skills, etc – Ali Moeller, Jacque VanHouten, Helga Fasciano
  - d) Assessment for Learning and of Learning – Janis Jensen, Ruta Couet, Ursula Lentz
  - e) The Possibilities of Virtual Learning for Digital Immigrants – Tom Welch, Adriana Melnyk, Ann Tollefson
  - f) Middle School Black Hole Dilemma aka Articulating a K-12 Pipeline – Elizabeth Webb, Terri Hammat, Marcia Rosenbusch



10. Critical Issues groups met to clarify their statements/recommendations, with a plan to continue review and revise their work during the month of December and post their drafts to the wiki site by January 10<sup>th</sup>.
11. Miguel Martinez spoke to us about the various Embassy of Spain Programs
12. Catherine Petillon spoke to us about the various French Embassy Programs
13. Ann Marie Gunter gave a report from the afternoon ACTFL Delegate Assembly (She has a PPT of her presentation and has filed a written report.)
  - a) Teacher-to-Teacher Initiative
  - b) Teacher Training Corps
  - c) Membership dues and their impact
  - d) ACTFL Mentor Program
  - e) ACTFL Code of Ethics
  - f) "Discover Languages ... Discover the World" 2007 report
  - g) Announcing 2008 theme: "Discover Languages ... Opening Minds to the World Through Languages"
  - h) 2007 National Teacher of the Year report
  - i) Announcement of future convention sites
14. Tom Welch thanked Jacque for her service to NCSSFL and Debbie Robinson gave a tribute presentation and gift to Jacque
15. Tom Welch presented a video documentary of our 2007 meeting time together
16. Helga Fasciano made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Elizabeth Webb seconded the motion, and the motion carried with a voice vote.
17. Passing of the bell and the easy button to Debbie as the incoming president.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Kristin Hoyt, Acting NCSSFL Secretary