

TFLTA NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2018

Greetings from Daniel Paolicchi, TFLTA President

Dear Colleagues,

I hope that your school year is going well and that you are invigorated following last November's ACTFL conference in Nashville. I want to thank all of you who attended, presented, and who stopped by our booth to renew your membership and to vote for this year's new board members. At the conference, we also had the honor of recognizing two outstanding Tennessee world language teachers: Kurstin Bush from Centennial High School, who was awarded our 2017 Joyce Ward Teacher of the Year and who will be representing TFLTA as a SCOLT Teacher of the Year candidate, and Karen Sorenson from Austin Peay State University, who received the 2017 Jacqueline Elliott Award for Service in Higher Education. Kurstin and Karen's impressive body of work both as teachers and as advocates of foreign language education is why we could not think of two more deserving candidates for this honor. We look forward to their continued contributions to students, colleagues, and to our profession. To find out more information about these awards and past recipients, or to nominate someone for this year's award, please visit the [TFLTA website](#).

Two of the more exciting aspects of having the ACTFL Annual Conference in Tennessee in 2017 are that it gave us the opportunity to learn from and share ideas with amazing foreign language educators from across the nation and throughout the world, and that it also gave us a better understanding of core practices to develop student proficiency in foreign languages. If you have ever been in a conversation with someone where you tell that person that you are a foreign language teacher, and then hear that person tell you of the number of years he/she studied the language and how now all they remember are a few basic words, then, like me, you clearly recognize that traditional methodology has not been very effective. That is precisely why the current push to develop proficiency, or emphasizing the ability to *use* the language rather than simply *knowing about* it, is so exciting. For many, designing a curriculum based around proficiency can be a daunting task, and that why we are so lucky to have multiple opportunities to gather and to learn, such as at one of our two regional Mini Conferences in April, and at our 2018 TFLTA Annual Conference in November, whose theme this year is aptly titled *Paving the Path to Proficiency: Investigate, Innovate, Integrate*. In addition, be on the lookout for more information coming soon about our TFLTA summer workshop, which will focus on the new Tennessee World Language Standards. These are all fabulous opportunities for professional development and they give us much needed strength, excitement, and ideas that we can bring back to our classrooms. And, just like in our classes, these conferences work best when we work together and when everyone is engaged. Therefore, I ask that you consider not only attending one or more of these conferences, but that you also submit a proposal for a session. No matter our level of experience, there is always something that we can learn and something that we can teach to others, and we all learn best when we collaborate and help each other grow.

As I conclude, I want to take this opportunity to remind you update your TFLTA membership prior to registering for any TFLTA-sponsored event, and check out our website for more information about our

awards, conferences, scholarships, and even job postings! I wish you the best this spring semester, and I look forward to seeing many of you at one of our conferences.

Sincerely,

Daniel Paolicchi, TFLTA President

Attention TFLTA Members

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHERS SURVEY

TFLTA's own Pattie Davis-Wiley, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, along with Paul Garcia, past ACTFL president, Kelly Moser, from Mississippi State University, and Todd Hernandez, from Marquette University, has launched an on-line survey on the Perspectives of Post-Secondary WL Methods Professors and K-12 Cooperating Teachers who work with student teachers and interns in Teacher Education programs. This survey has been undertaken in response to the ACTFL goal actively to recruit and retain foreign language teachers at a time when more foreign language teachers are leaving than are entering the profession. Tennessee foreign language teachers are invited to complete the survey. IRB approval to conduct the survey has been obtained and the confidentiality of all survey respondents is ensured. The link for the survey is <https://tiny.utk.edu/TchrEdSurvey>. Any questions about the survey should be directed to Dr. Patricia Davis-Wiley (pdwiley@utk.edu).

2018 TFLTA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

***Paving the Path to Proficiency:
Investigate, Innovate, Integrate***

CALL FOR PAPERS

**Friday, November 2, and Saturday, November 3, 2018
Franklin Marriott Cool Springs - Franklin, Tennessee**

TFLTA is now accepting session and workshop proposals for the 2018 conference. Join your friends and colleagues at the conference this year. Share your expertise and enthusiasm. Enrich your teaching, and return to your classroom energized. Visit www.tflta.org for information and forms.

Deadline for workshop and session proposals is May 1, 2018.

TFLTA MINI-CONFERENCES

**TFLTA offers one-day TFLTA Regional Mini-Conferences
in East and West Tennessee.**

TFLTA East MINI-CONFERENCE

**Oak Ridge High School
Saturday, April 7, 2018**

**Open to current members of TFLTA. For membership information, visit the
TFLTA membership link: <http://www.tflta.org/membership.html>.**

**The registration fee for TFLTA East is \$40. (For full-time graduate students or
undergraduates, this fee is reduced to \$25.) Please note that these registration
fees are separate from membership fees. The registration fees for TFLTA East
include lunch and a light breakfast. Attendees receive a certificate verifying six
hours of professional development.**

Deadlines for East Conference: Session Proposals	March 27, 2018
Registration	March 27, 2018

Visit the TFLTA website, www.tflta.org for all forms and information.

For more information, please contact Pattie Davis-Wiley at pdwiley@utk.edu.

TFLTA WEST MINI-CONFERENCE

Hutchison School
Saturday, April 14, 2018

Open to current members of TFLTA. For membership information, visit the TFLTA membership link: <http://www.tflta.org/membership.html>.

The registration fee for TFLTA West is \$40. (For full-time graduate students or undergraduates, this fee is reduced to \$25.) Please note that these registration fees are separate from membership fees. The registration fees for TFLTA West include both breakfast and lunch. Attendees receive a certificate verifying six hours of professional development.

Deadlines for West Conference: Session Proposals	March 27, 2018
Registration	March 27, 2018

Visit the TFLTA website, www.tflta.org for all forms and information.

For more information about TFLTA West, please contact Alejandra Lejwa at alejwa@hutchisonschool.org.

TFLTA SUMMER WORKSHOP

TFLTA offers an annual Summer Workshop

Be sure to consult the TFLTA website (www.TFLTA.org) for up-coming information about the 2018 Workshop.

THE TFLTA JOURNAL

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Editorial Board of The TFLTA Journal invites you to submit original scholarly articles (i.e., research conducted in the second language classroom; language approaches and strategies; digital literacies; meta-analyses; assessment issues; context and content-based instruction; assessment measures; cultural issues; position papers) of interest to K-16 world language (modern, classical, and second languages) educators in the global arena. The TFLTA Journal is one of only five peer-reviewed state world-language journals in the U.S.

Manuscript submission guidelines and past issues of The TFLTA Journal are available on-line at tflta.org. All inquiries should be directed to the Editor, Dr. Pattie Davis-Wiley, Professor, WL/ESL ED, The University of Tennessee (pdwiley@utk.edu), with the subject line TFLTA Journal.

Current and past issues of The TFLTA Journal are available at www.tflta.org.

TFLTA Board of Directors Meeting: HIGHLIGHTS February 10, 2018

The TFLTA Board met on February 10, 2018, at the TEA Building, with President Daniel Paolicchi presiding.

President Daniel Paolicchi welcomed the members of the Board and called the meeting to order. All Board members were recognized individually with their schools and languages noted. Minutes were approved.

Officer and Liaison Reports and Discussion:

Treasurer: Francille Bergquist distributed the financial report at the beginning of the meeting. Francille stated that TFLTA is in good financial condition. The ACTFL convention also brought in additional money for TFLTA.

Conference Secretary: The Marriott Cool Springs will be the site of the annual conference for the next two years.

Webmaster: Daniel Paolicchi commented on Ryan Sellers' reworking of the TFLTA website. Ryan has requested photographs of the TFLTA honorees. Work is being done on a new logo for TFLTA because the current logo has low resolution, which does not show up well on the website. The new logo should be done by next year.

Secretary: Erika Stevens reminded chairmen of committees that she has the committee folders available.

President: Daniel Paolicchi: The 2018 TFLTA Annual Conference will be held at the Marriott Cool Springs in Franklin, Tennessee, November 2-3. The theme of the conference is "Paving the Path to Proficiency: Investigate, Innovate, Integrate." The keynote speaker will be Meredith White. Board members were challenged to consider submitting proposals and to encourage their colleagues to consider giving a workshop or a session at the conference. Daniel also noted 1st VP Kelly Schetz' hard work on the plans for the conference. He stated that the conference is an excellent means to help see the ACTFL proficiency model in practice. He also expressed his hope that TFLTA can get young teachers to present at the conference.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Finance:** Francille Bergquist, reiterated that TFLTA is in good financial condition. A report was distributed to the members of the Board.

- **Membership:** Erika Stevens, chair, reported that the committee expressed concern that more information is needed on the membership form, including the county of the member. The committee suggests that a check box be added to indicate the level taught and membership in the individual language organizations and ACTFL. The committee also raised the possibility of rewarding those who refer new members. They also suggested that social media could be used to promote rideshare to TFLTA events by providing a place for members to post about sharing a ride.
- **Nominations:** Ashlee Headrick, chair, reported that given the difficulty in getting nominations for the Board, the requirements be adjusted so that nominees be members of TFLTA for two of the last three years. Francille commented that the requirement is probably in the by-laws, so that will be checked and reported at the May meeting. Ashlee reiterated the goal of balancing the Board nominees among the sections of the state and by level taught.
- **Jacqueline Elliott:** Lisa Stone, chair, reported that a letter is being composed about the Award. Committee members are contacting former recipients for nominees. Lisa asked that Board members contact her with nominations.
- **Joyce Ward Teacher of the Year:** Joan Qingjun reported that the committee is composing an official letter to congratulate the winner and one to the winner's school. The letters will be ready by the May Board meeting. Joan also reported that the committee had discussed how to get more nominations for the award. They suggested notification through the website. The call for nominations is included in the newsletter. Now an e-mail is to be sent to all TFLTA members to obtain nominations. Daniel will draft the e-mail and send it out now and again at mid-March. Daniel commented on the need for the leadership of all colleges and universities to be made aware of the Jacqueline Elliott award and for all public and private schools to be notified of the Joyce Ward Teacher of the Year.
- **Professional Development:** The committee did not meet, but Daniel Paolicchi said that the TFLTA constitution is being worked on to update the language. In November the changes will be voted on.
- **Public Advocacy:** Daniel Paolicchi reported that Tennessee has adopted the seal of biliteracy, but we do not know the details. Kelly Scheetz is going ascertain the details.
- **Publications:** Peggy Ross, chair, reported that Kevin Kile and Pattie Davis-Wiley led a discussion of having a link to the TFLTA constitution and the by-laws on the TFLTA website. This will be forwarded to Ryan Sellers. Pattie asked that the link to the UT survey be included in the newsletter. Pattie also announced that the Journal will be available on-line before the September meeting.
- **Aliene Click Professional Development Scholarship:** Abigail Simone, chair, reported about the money not used for new teacher scholarships because of the ACTFL convention. It was moved and passed that this money will be used for preservice teachers to attend the summer workshops this year only. The scholarship and information will be posted on the TFLTA website. Preservice teachers awarded this scholarship will still be eligible to apply for a scholarship to attend the TFLTA Conference when they are first year teachers.

- **Hall of Fame and Special Projects:** Jennifer Johnson, chair, reported that new wording for the TFLTA website for Hall of Fame and Friends of Foreign Languages is being developed and will be sent to Ryan Sellers, webmaster.
- **World Language Contest:** Ashlee Headrick reported on plans for a contest for art and essays. Themes for the contest would be National Foreign Language Week, the TFLTA conference theme, general themes about foreign language learning and culture. The deadline would be May 1st. A link for the contest would be on the TFLTA website and an e-mail would be sent out to all TFLTA members about the contest. Francille asked about certificates for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place for the posters and whether this would also apply to themes.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Pattie Davis-Wiley reminded the Board members about the UT survey of World Language methods teachers. She reiterated the problem that more foreign language teachers are leaving the profession than are entering it.

The requirement of a one-year hiatus between terms on the Board was discussed. This requirement is part of the constitution, so any changes will have to be studied and then referred to the Board for a vote. This will be considered later this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 P.M.

2018 TFLTA BOARD MEETINGS

Saturday, May 12

Saturday, September 8

REMINDER FOR ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS ONLY

All meetings are held at the TEA Building at 10:00 A.M.

801 Second Ave. North, Nashville, Tennessee 37201

KUDOS

Pattie Davis-Wiley, TFLTA Board member, has received the ACTFL Outstanding Service Award from the LLC SIG (Language Learning for Children).

Farragut High School in Knoxville, Tennessee, hosted its First Annual World Cultures Night. More than three hundred and fifty people from the community came together for cultural tables, entertainment, and food.

Plans are being made to turn the celebration into an annual event.

Let your accomplishments and honors and those of your colleagues receive their deserved recognition. Be sure to submit items of KUDOS to Peggy Ross, Newsletter editor, at rossp@frapanthers.com.

Important Dates to Remember

- March 27 Deadline for Session Proposals for TFLTA East Mini-Conference. For information and forms, visit www.tflta.org.
- March 27 Deadline for Session Proposals for TFLTA West Mini-Conference. For

information and forms, visit www.tflta.org.

- March 27 Registration deadline for TFLTA East Mini-Conference. For forms and to register on-line, visit www.tflta.org.
- March 27 Registration deadline for TFLTA West Mini-Conference. For forms and to register on-line, visit www.tflta.org.
- April 7 TFLTA East Mini-Conference at Oak Ridge High School, Oak Ridge Tennessee. For information, forms, and on-line registration, visit www.tflta.org.
- April 14 TFLTA West Mini-Conference at Hutchison School, Memphis, Tennessee. For information, forms, and on-line registration, visit www.tflta.org.
- May 1 Deadline for 2018 TFLTA Annual Conference proposals for sessions and workshops. For forms and on-line submission, visit www.tflta.org.**
- June 4 Deadline for submission of proposals for 2018 CAMWS-Southern Section meeting, October 18-20, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. For forms, visit www.CAMWS.org.
- June 25-28 Annual AATSP Conference, Salamanca, Spain. For information and registration deadlines, visit www.aatsp.org.
- September 1 Deadline for application for The Aliene Click Professional Development Scholarship for first time TFLTA conference attendees. For eligibility requirements, application forms, and on-line application, visit www.tflta.org. Watch for forms with 2018 TFLTA Conference information.
- November 2-3 TFLTA Annual Conference. Franklin Marriott Cool Springs, Franklin, Tennessee. Registration, information, and forms will be posted at www.tflta.org.
- November 16-18 ACTFL 2018 Annual Convention and World Languages Expo, New Orleans, Louisiana. Announcements, call for papers, forms, and registration will be posted at www.actfl.org

Be sure to visit the websites for the individual language groups' activities. Links to TFLTA's constituent organizations are available on the TFLTA website.