



The *FLAGS* Pole

Volume 12, Issue 2

January, 2010

From the Advocacy Desk

Nicole Naditz, FLAGS Advocacy Chair

Well, behind the scenes, your local advocacy chair and the statewide Advocacy Committee have been very busy with legislation that affects all language programs. Keep your eyes and ears open for a call for letters (from teachers, parents, students, administrators, business people, etc.) to combat potentially harmful legislation. For example, while well-intended, many of the career-tech education bills that are proposed seem to view world languages as an adversary, rather than as an integral part of preparing students for future careers. Another example: with the elimination of the Curriculum Commission, the state now has no means to revise our world languages framework to help teachers align their curriculum to the standards. You may soon receive an email from FLAGS asking for a letter in support of reconvening the Commission for the purpose of allowing ongoing work on standards and frameworks.

What about Discover Languages, you ask? Well, how about a 24-hour online radio broadcast during Discover Languages month (February, 2010)? We'll highlight a different language each hour, talking about multiple benefits of learning that language for English speakers, highlight interesting cultural information about the places in the world where each language is spoken and interview parents, students, teachers, and community members about the importance of a multi-lingual society. We may even host a panel discussion. But all of this takes work, especially to plan the amount of content necessary to fill 24 hours of live, streaming television. PLEASE consider contacting Nicole Naditz (nnaditz@sanjuan.edu) if you know of individuals who would be willing to come on the radio to talk about a language they speak, to talk about the benefits of multilingualism in general, or to participate in an interview or panel. Sacramento is one of the most diverse cities in the country. The people are out there; I just need your help to find them!

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Are you still getting emails from us? Be sure to sign up for the **FLAGS website:** <http://flagsteacher.ning.com>. Please share the information with your colleagues who may not have received this via

FLAGS dues will increase from \$17 to \$20

January 1, 2011.

You can save money by paying two years of dues through December 31, 2010!

So renew your membership early, stay informed, and save money!



The FLAGS Pole

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The Presiden't Perch Ruth Ward

Hello Everyone:

Welcome to the new calendar year and for some, to a new semester! Please visit our improved website at <http://flagsteacher.ning.com> to learn about our exciting FLAGS activities for 2010. If you have not already done so, create a free account on the new site when you visit so that we can continue to send you email updates. We cannot add email addresses to the site ourselves; you have to add yourself in order for us to be able to send you updated information.

Well, first let's review our past year's activities. On Saturday, September 5th, we hosted the second annual all-day FLAGS International Interactive Games Exhibit created by Nicole Naditz for the State Fair. Families as well as students and teachers visited our booth to play games, talk about language learning, take the "Are you smarter than a language teacher" quiz, and spin the wheel for Discover Languages merchandise. It was a lot of fun, and both the adult and student volunteers, who introduced the games and gave participants "free stuff," were a big hit with the fairgoers. It was a great occasion for all those involved!

Another interesting event was our Share-a-thon, which took place on Thursday, September 17th from 4:30 to 6:00 PM at Natomas High School. A small but dedicated group shared teaching ideas including the adaptation of the Socratic seminar to enhance class discussions. However, our best attended Fall Workshop: Web 2.0 Wikis and Lingt, took place at Bella Vista High School on Saturday morning October 24th. Our webmaster Nicole was on hand to present the multiple uses of two vital technological tools: firstly, Lingt for providing students with oral/aural practice as they create speech samples on which teachers give specific feedback, and secondly, wikis for the development and assessment of student writing skills.

In addition to FLAGS events, on Saturday, October 17th, CapFLP, the California Foreign Language Project, sponsored a very popular one-day workshop at San Francisco's De Young Museum, spearheaded by CapFLP Leadership Team member Catherine Fox-Anderson. Called "Faces, Voices; The Story in the Painting, the Painting in the Story," it provided teachers with hands-on activities for integrating art and writing in the World Language classroom.

As for future activities, on Saturday, January 23rd we will present our Winter Workshop: Language Potpourri from 8:30 to 12:30 at Natomas High School. Please go to the FLAGS website to learn the details and to pre-register for this informative event.

We are also looking forward to seeing old and new members at the 2010 California Language Teachers' Association Conference, to be held in San Diego from March 11-14. Although technically the deadline has past, there may still be time to sign up to present a one-hour interest session. To fill out an online application to attend or to present a session, please go to <http://www.clta.net/conference/>. This will be an experience you won't want to miss!

To get more information about all these happenings, go to <http://www.flagsteacher.ning.com/>. There you will find the FLAGS activities calendar, as well as flyers, maps, directions, and registration forms.

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ONE FRIDAY EACH MONTH

FLAGS Board meeting

All members are welcome

Contact: Ruth Ward

(530)661-4117

Saturday, January 23, 8:30-12:30

FLAGS Winter Workshop: Language Potpourri

Natomas High School

January 30-May 15

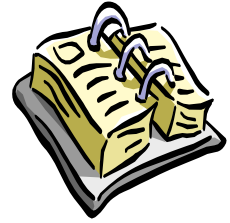
Designing a Standards-Aligned Unit

CSUS

March 11-14, 2010

CLTA Conference, San Diego

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



March 19, 2010, 6-9 PM

FLAGS Teacher Awards Dinner

Hard Rock Café

May 1, 2010, 8:30-10:30

FLAGS Student Awards Breakfast

Denny's

FLAGS FALL WORKSHOP

Inga Templeton

It was a cold October morning and many suspicious looking creatures were on their journey to Bella Vista to hear about Wiki and Lingt. ...No, Wiki and Lingt are not scary people, but they are wonderful tools for you to use in your foreign language classroom and if you were not one of these "suspicious looking creatures" attending you missed out on a great workshop. On October 24th FLAGS offered a wonderful fall about Wiki and Lingt presented by none other than our amazing Nicole (aka. Queen of Tech). Don't feel bad, if you don't know what a Wiki or a not either, until I attended this workshop and I am glad I did. Wiki is a way pages that the students can contribute to and add their own information. great for ongoing projects like presenting a country, or to make a student to name a few. I was so excited about it, that I immediately made my page about the fall of the Berlin Wall and my students loved being able to the page by adding their own information, music, pictures and videos. After we learned how to set up a Wiki website and successfully created page, we went on to learn about another amazing online tool available to guage teachers, called Lingt. I don't know how it is at your school, but my not have a foreign language lab and most students don't have the chance target language at home. Lingt is the way to get students to speak outside room or use the computer lab as a foreign language lab. You can create personalized speaking activities and post them online for your students. You even get an email when a student has done the activity with the sample attached. There are so many possibilities with Lingt. You can add pictures, vid- eos, text and then ask questions for the students to answer.

Oh, by the way, have I mentioned that both Wiki and Lingt are free for educators? Yes, you heard right: it does not cost a penny to join. It is free, free, free! I know I sound like a sales person, but I really believe these tools are a great way to make teaching and learning more fun and exciting to teachers and students.

I don't know how Nicole does it, how she has the time to find these amazing tools, but I am very thankful that she is sharing them with us at these wonderful FLAGS workshops. We had so much fun making our Wiki pages and Lingt speaking activities. So, if you feel like you missed out, make sure that you will not miss the next one and come to the winter workshop on January 23, 2010.

There is only one more thing left to say, Thank you FLAGS for making it all possible!



workshop
Naditz
Lingt is. I did
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The FLAGS Teacher Awards Banquet by Ruth Ward

It is both an honor and a joy to discuss our annual FLAGS Teacher Awards Banquet. As in previous years, current FLAGS members have nominated individuals in three categories of awards: Outstanding Teacher and Friend of the Profession. At the flagsteacher.com website, they downloaded all of the forms from the links provided at the bottom of the page. The **Outstanding Teacher Award** honors an accomplished individual who has been a world language teacher for at least two years and who is an inspiration to everyone. The **Friend of the Profession Award** recognizes a person who is not a world language teacher, but whose support and efforts give us strength and keep our programs vibrant. This award is for administrators, district personnel and community members who share our commitment to language education. The deadline to nominate a teacher or friend of the profession for this year passed on December 15th, but please consider nominating a deserving person in 2010.

This year's Teacher Award Banquet will take place at the party room at the Hard Rock Café on the evening of Friday, March 19th from 6 to 9 PM. We chose the \$21 gourmet dinner (price includes tax and gratuity) with a choice of pasta or chicken. There will also be a no host bar. To sign up for this moving event, please visit our website at <http://flagsteacher.ning.com>. The venue seats a maximum of 50 people, so don't delay! Let's help our colleagues and allies gain the recognition they deserve!

Calling All Future's Fellows

By Tanya Zaccone tzaccone@surewest.net

Our parent association, the California Language Teachers Association, has successfully completed training of the first cohort of the Futures Academy fellows. We are currently seeking educators for the second cohort of leadership training. If you or any of your colleagues are interested, you may apply yourself, directly to CLTA. Please put "Futures Fellows" on the subject line.

The rationale for the project: CLTA and CFLP are committed to developing leaders for future generations of language educators. The many conventional and emerging areas impacting the profession call for a continuing source of leadership.

The vision statement for the project: The CLTA Futures Academy will recruit, prepare, and sustain a cadre of world language educators who will assume leadership roles in CLTA and in its local affiliates, engage in advocacy, use and develop resources, and address the professional challenges of world language education in the 21st century.

The mission statement for the project: The Futures Academy will prepare language educators who have demonstrated leadership potential, dedication, and a willingness to work collaboratively to further the goals of language education. The fundamental principles of sharing successful models and "teachers teaching teachers" will inform the curriculum.

Futures Academy fellows may engage in the following activities:

- Identify successful leadership models
- Participate in small seminars at already-established CLTA-CFLP venues
- Interact in role-playing and shadowing
- Engage in leadership activities and reflect on experiences
- Prepare to assume leadership positions at the local and state levels
- Engage in mutually supportive communities of leaders in the profession
- Select and complete an individual project related to one of the modules

(continued on page 5)

(Futures, continued from page 4)

Please use all of the following files to complete an application to the Futures Academy. Remember to mail the application by January 31, 2010!

Look for the following files:
 Shortcut to Futures.Nomination.Form.doc
 Futures.Peer.Survey.doc
 Futures.Self.survey.doc
 Selection rubric.doc
 Invitation letter.doc
 Vision and Mission Statement for CLTA Futures Academy.doc

All paperwork must be submitted not later than January 31, 2010 to:

The Futures Academy
 c/o Carolyn L. Moir
 687 Roskilde Road
 Solvang, Ca 93463-2118.

If there are any questions please email Carol Moir at cmoir@smjuhsd.org or call 805-688-3339.

ACTFL 2009: an Amazing Opportunity for California's Language Educators

By Christine Lanphere

Sacramento and other California World Language educators made the most of the ACTFL annual Convention and World Language Expo held in San Diego November 18-21, 2009. After a long hiatus, the national conference returned to California and welcomed over 5,000 educators for workshops, interest sessions, and networking with language educators from around the country.

Pre-conference workshops began on Thursday at the same time that the Assembly of Delegates met for their annual session. This group includes representatives from each of the states and meets annually at the conference to discuss issues of national language policy.

The Opening General Session on Friday welcomed more than 3,000 conference attendees and featured the long-anticipated announcement of the 2010 ACTFL National Language Teacher of the Year. This year's winner is Lisa Lilley from Springfield, MO, a Spanish teacher and district professional development coordinator. I had the opportunity to visit briefly with Lisa, and it is clear that she will be a wonderful ambassador for language education this year.

Following the Opening Session, attendees were able to spend the next 3 days attending interest sessions and visiting the extensive exhibit hall where they could meet

CLTA CORNER

Welcome to the Wild and Wonderful World of Languages

March 10-14, 2010: CLTA Conference in San Diego

See the CLTA website: www.clta.net for more information.

with publishers, government representatives, and vendors of language curriculum materials. Interest sessions addressed a wide range of topics: research presentations; best practices in instructional strategy; issues of language policy; and elementary, secondary, and university language education issues. FLAGS members can be proud of the number of conference presenters from our area, among whom were Tanya Zaccone and Carol Brown, Nicole Naditz, and Christine Lanphere.

If you were unable to attend, you can check out the conference pages on the ACTFL website where presentation materials have been uploaded. You can also join ACTFL and become a part of their newly activated on-line community. (www.actfl.org)

ACTFL 2010 will be held in Boston, MA next November. I encourage you to consider saving up to attend this wonderful professional development experience. If you are considering applying to present, check the ACTFL website soon because submissions are due January 10, 2010.

The ACTFL conference is always a special event for me and many other local educators who had the opportunity to attend in the past. This year, it was a great pleasure to see so many FLAGS members attending their first ACTFL conference with a sparkle in their eyes and leaving with so many exciting new ideas for their classrooms.

FLAGS Fall Workshop on Wikis and Lingt:



Membership Corner



It's hard to believe that the holidays have come and gone! Along with family celebrations, winter sports, braving the crush at the malls, it also means it's time to plan to renew your membership with FLAGS and CLTA! The new membership years starts on January 1, 2010, so check that off your list today. If you are not sure whether your membership is up to date, you can contact me and I'll let you know: membership@flagsteacher.com.

The FLAGS Board is planning to increase membership dues to \$20.00 per year beginning January 1, 2011. We want to offer our current members (and anyone who joins FLAGS in 2010) the opportunity to save a bit by paying 2 years of dues (for 2010 and 2011) at the current rate of \$17.00 per year. Please see the membership form in this issue or online for rates for CLTA and FLAGS.

The FLAGS Board really counts on your membership to meet our plans for professional development programs, maintaining communication, and offering services for students and teachers in the area. This year, we plan to sponsor two conferences, the Teacher Awards Dinner and Student Awards Breakfast, as well as sending quarterly newsletters and maintaining the FLAGS "ning" website as a resource for educators. Please help us to achieve our goals by renewing your membership.

Also, as advocates for the language teaching profession, please take a moment to encourage your colleagues who are new to the profession (or new to your school) to become involved with professional organizations such as FLAGS & CLTA. Tell them to check out our website, flagsteacher.ning.com (be sure you have joined the "ning" yourself, or you'll miss important FLAGS messages), and let them know how important it is to network with other professionals and receive the support that membership brings.

FLAGS and CLTA deserve to be at the top of your "To Do" list. Please take a moment to complete the form on the next page and send your check in today. We certainly appreciate your support. Wishing you a prosperous New Year,

Christine

(President's Perch continued from page 2)

Moreover, you will see announcements on advocacy issues, links for specific languages, and super opportunities for you to tell us what you would like to see FLAGS do for you in our periodic "FLAGS Polls."

Apart from our FLAGS activities, CapFLP will be presenting two seminars in the 2009-2010 school year: a continuation of Foundations for Successful Foreign Language Teaching and a new series on Creating Standards-based Lessons. The Foundations seminar, presented by Loré Carrillo, Jennifer Hill, Jeanne Kirchofer, and Cindy Peiper, was held on three Saturdays in 2009: 9/12, 10/3, 11/7; it will be continued in 2010 on 1/9, 2/6, and the morning of 3/6. The Standards-based Lessons seminar, presented by Ruth Ward and Tanya Zacone, will be held on five Saturdays: 1/30, 2/27, 3/20, 4/17, and 5/15 of 2010. You will be able to earn 4 Continuing Education units for your perfect attendance at each or either of these intriguing seminars.

Well, that's it for now. Stay well, stay tuned, and continue the inspired work you do that makes us all proud of our profession.

Un abrazo,
Ruth, FLAGS President

FLAGS Fall Workshop:



FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF GREATER SACRAMENTO

(A regional affiliate of the California Language Teachers Association)

Membership Application or Renewal

January 1, 2010 - December 31, 2010

Circle One

Name (please print).....

New Renewal

Title (circle one) Miss Ms. Mrs. Sister Dr. Mr. Rev. Brother

Home Address.....CA.....

number street city zip

Home Phone (.....)..... School Phone (.....).....

School..... Language(s).....

School Address.....CA.....

number street city zip

E-mail..... Fax.....

(New members) I was encouraged to join by.....

Save by paying 2010 and 2011 dues at 2010 rates! (2011 FLAGS dues will be \$20.00)

FLAGS dues (\$17 Regular; \$10 Student; \$5 Retiree) \$_____ (A)
(2 years = \$34.00 regular)

CLTA dues (\$50 Regular; \$40 Student or Retiree) \$_____ (B)
(2 years = \$100.00 regular)

TOTAL (A + B) \$_____

If paying FLAGS & CLTA dues, please make check payable to **CLTA** and send it with this form to:

MARGE SOTOMAYOR, CLTA Membership
PO Box 123
Ferndale, CA 95536

If paying FLAGS dues only, please make check payable to **FLAGS** and send it with this form to:

CHRISTINE LANPHERE, FLAGS Membership
9400 Trenholm Dr.
Elk Grove, CA 95758



**FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF
GREATER SACRAMENTO**

c/o Kristina Jenkins
120 Sierra Woods Circle
Folsom, CA 95630

**Check out the FLAGS
website!**

<http://flagsteacher.ning.com/>



**What's your
membership status?**

Have you been wondering if you'd renewed your FLAGS & CLTA membership? If you're not sure, email Christine at membership@flagsteacher.com to find out.

Please renew today!

New Website!

Have you joined the new FLAGS website so you don't miss news from us?

**You must join the new website to
continue getting emails from us!!**

<http://flagsteacher.ning.com/>

Do it today!!

**We can't sign you up, so we can
no longer email until you sign
up!**