



The *FLAGS* Pole

Volume 9, Issue 1
August, 2007

FLAGS Recognizes Outstanding Teachers

By Kristina Jenkins, Awards Chair

On March 2nd at the Sacramento Brewing Company, a huge group of 50 FLAGS members and friends came together to celebrate Naoko Sugano McHale and José Oseguera, this year's FLAGS Outstanding Teachers. Naoko teaches Japanese at Davis High School and is very active in the Japanese teaching community. José teaches Spanish at Laguna Creek High School, where he works actively with groups that promote diversity and understanding. Both teachers were nominated by colleagues as well as students who all spoke wonders of them. Upon meeting

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Kristina Jenkins presents Naoko Sugano McHale her Outstanding Teacher Award.

Center High Language Teachers Strive for Excellence

by Marie Robb, Historian

“Begin with the end in mind.” With these words, the Foreign Language Department of Center High School embarked on a voyage of discovery. The entire department—Marie Robb, Mark Loftus, Jan Sorelle, and Kristen Clements, with Tanya Zaccone as our facilitator—participated in the Capital Foreign Language Project’s Foundations for Successful World Language Teaching workshop at CSUS. Over the course of several Saturdays, we explored the components of the Effective Instructional Sequence: Setting the Stage, Comprehen-

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SPAM blockers!

Do you use one? Or does your school?

Make sure to put FLAGS on your safe list:
email@flagsteacher.com

Get all the great announcements we send you!

The FLAGS Pole

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The President's Perch: A letter from Carol

Congratulations Everyone,

We made it through another year in the trenches and into the summer! (Sort of "into, through and beyond!") I sincerely hope your 2006-2007 school year was pleasant, or at least without much calamity. As always, it astounds me how quickly the time goes by.

Traditionally this is where I recap the events of the past year and fill you in on what's coming up. This time, however, I am going to do something a little different.

My primary purpose in writing is to thank the greatest group of dedicated professionals I have ever had the pleasure to work with: your **FLAGS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**. You may not be aware of this, but **FLAGS** is one of the largest affiliates in the state with over 100 members. However, since I became a board member in 1997, the board on average has been comprised of about 6 people. In addition to their teaching responsibilities and other professional activities, these individuals give tirelessly of their time and have been known to hold several positions simultaneously. Despite their overloaded schedules, they have found time to participate in CTC program review, CSET preparation, and the development of the CLTA Futures Program. Without them we could not exist. With them, I feel that we are the CLTA affiliate that sets the standard of excellence. I commend all of our board members: Kristina Jenkins (Oak Ridge HS), Christine Lanphere (Natomas HS), Nicole Naditz (Bella Vista HS), Marie Robb (Center HS), Tanya Zaccone (Center HS), and our newest member, Ruth Ward (Natomas HS). Frankly, I consider my job as president to be the easiest, due primarily to the extraordinary work of my board colleagues. So, if you should see them at events, please take a minute and thank them for their leadership and all they do for you.

As a corollary to the above, remember that you too can become an active member of the board. Nobody is ever asked to do more than they feel they can do. So, you may want to start out slowly as a member-at-large, and work your way into a position that you find interesting a little later on. **FLAGS** would LOVE to have you come on board. This organization tries very hard to keep abreast of what you, the teacher, want to see in your professional life. Sometimes our efforts are successful, and sometimes not.

The only way to be sure that **FLAGS** is providing the professional services you require is if the board hears from as many of you as possible. That's why we would love to have board members from a broad spectrum of schools throughout the region. Please think about it. The board typically meets once a

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ONE FRIDAY EACH MONTH

FLAGS Board meeting

All members are welcome
Contact: Carol Eberhart
(916) 481-1940

September 7, October
5, November 9, January
18, February 29, April
25. Location TBA.

September 29, 2007

Immersion Day, Sac State

October 20, 2007

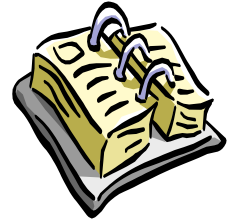
FLAGS Fall Conference: "Using Authentic Images", Sac State

March 13-16, 2008

CLTA 2008 Conference in Irvine

We look forward to seeing you there! Check for

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



registration information on-line at www.clta.net

February 28-March 1, 2008

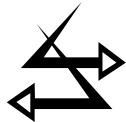
SWCOLT 2008 Conference in Salt Lake

The annual Southwest Region conference offers a variety of workshops and interest sessions. The regional Teacher of the Year will also be announced. Check for registration information on-line at www.swcolt.org.

July 28-August 1, 2008

CapFLP Summer Institute at Sacramento State.

CLTA Corner



Check the web!
www.clta.net

Here's what's new with CLTA...

The **Annual Conference** takes place a bit earlier this year (March 13-16, 2008) in Irvine, CA. The theme is *Coastin' the Communication Highway*. Now is the time to hunt down some funds!

Conference 2009 is in Sacramento! Help us make it great! Contact a board member today!

(Perch, continued from page 2) month on Friday afternoons from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. during the school year. Look for the schedule in this edition of the FLAGS Pole or online at the FLAGS web site www.flagsteacher.com.

In addition, I send a huge thank you to all those who assisted FLAGS with its many activities throughout the year; for example, the folks at Laguna Creek HS who hosted the Fall Conference, and likewise, the good people at Natomas HS who invited us to hold the Share-a-thon and Winter Workshop at their school. By using school facilities for our events we can offer you work-

shops and other professional events at a greatly reduced cost, and occasionally completely free. Another huge thanks to all of you who supported the Teacher Awards Banquet, the Student Recognition Breakfast, *Read Around the World*, and the World Language display of student work at the Sacramento County Fair. These events place us in the public eye and promote world language study in a valuable way.

This coming year FLAGS will start serious planning for CLTA Conference 2009, which will be sponsored by us and held at the Doubletree Hotel near Arden Faire Mall in Sacramento. There are several committees that could use your help, such as Registration, Hospitality and Audio-Visual Support. If you are interested in helping, please contact me or any other board member (contact information is located on the second page of this newsletter.) Conference is also a great time for you to share your wealth of experience with colleagues. Since the event is over a year away, you have plenty of time to start planning a workshop or interest session to present. Regardless of whether you present or not, the board would heartily welcome any assistance you can offer.

I think that's all for now. Take care, and enjoy the new school year. I sincerely hope to see you at a future FLAGS board meeting!

Con cariño, *Carol*

Membership Corner



Welcome back to school! I hope that your summer was restful and productive. Now that you are starting back up, it's a perfect time to renew your membership in FLAGS and CLTA for 2008! Your membership expires on December 31, but why wait?!

If you are not sure whether your membership is up to date, check your mailing label: your membership year is printed beside your name. If it says "2007", you're current and are ready to renew. Thank you! If it has another year printed, it's not too late! Please send in your renewal today. If you have any questions about your membership, please contact me at membership@flagsteacher.com.

FLAGS is one of the most active affiliates in the state and offers many exciting activities and opportunities to get involved in advocacy, such as this year's "Rally at the Capitol", and other activities in the community, such as "Read Around the World" and the County Fair. FLAGS is also a resource for local language educators through conferences and workshops and awards programs.

The FLAGS Board counts on your renewal to meet our plans for professional development programs, maintaining communication, and offering services for students and teachers in the area. 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, www.flagsteacher.com, 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.

Christine

Welcome New Members:

Vanessa Arnaud	CSUS
Mimi Hafeman	Granite Bay HS
Lisa McClintock	Dixon HS
Naoko McHale	Davis HS
Abbie Stewart	Truckee, CA

("Center High", continued from page 1)

ble Input, Guided Practice, Independent Practice, Application, Extension, and Assessment. We enjoyed being the students as Tanya and Nicole Naditz demonstrated (and had us practice) each part of the sequence. We brainstormed together as we planned our own units of instruction, always remembering Tanya's and Nicole's foremost question, "What do you want the students to do?" We also supported each other as we presented our completed units.

It was an invaluable experience. Now, we CHS teachers share the same goals for our classes, and we speak the same language. We're excited about incorporating the EIS into our lesson plans; we will "begin with the end in mind."

Visit the FLAGS website today for links to resources, information on FLAGS events and more!

(continued from page 4) rest of the state—or more correctly, FLAGS members have demonstrated such initiative and drive, that their activities are serving as models for the state. In fact, our efforts have even been recognized and celebrated at the national level!

The coming school year will bring even more opportunities to celebrate our work and advocate for our programs. Online, you can check the Discover Languages web site (<http://www.discoverlanguages.org>) for ideas for activities, and in the coming months, the CLTA online advocacy page (<http://clta.net/advocacy/advocacy.html>) and our own FLAGS Discover Languages page (<http://www.flagsteacher.com/discoverlanguages.htm>) will be updated as well. If you have an idea you'd like to share, or if you would like help planning an event, please contact me at advocacy@flagsteacher.com.

Do you have a great idea for lessons, units, or projects?

FLAGS invites you to share your best ideas with your colleagues on the FLAGS website.

Submit your documents in **PDF** or **PowerPoint** files to Nicole Naditz at advocacy@flagsteacher.com

(“Outstanding Teachers”, continued from page 1)

them and hearing how much they are appreciated, we left the awards with full bellies and warm hearts. Every year this event is truly inspiring, and this year was no different. So many people came to support our Outstanding Teachers that we even changed venues at the last minute to have more space!!



Outstanding Teacher José Oseguera.

Do you have a fabulous colleague?

I know you do!

So nominate a colleague this year for a FLAGS award!!

Start planning now! See the FLAGS website for details (deadline is January 4th). While you're doing that, nominate your colleague for a CLTA award as well!

Mexico For Practically Nothing!

By Kristina Jenkins

How can you do it? Apply for a CLTA grant! I was the lucky recipient of a CLTA grant this year and spent three weeks in Cuernavaca, Mexico where I lived with a family and attended classes. After studying in several other schools in Mexico and France, I can say that this school is the best I've been to. The teachers were caring and I learned a lot. The directors put everything they have into making the school run smoothly. The region is amazing and the school offers fabulous excursions. I visited Mexico City several times to shop or see a museum. I also traveled to Teotihuacán (amazing pyramids from before the Aztecs), the colonial city of Puebla near where the Cinco de Mayo battle took place, and Taxco, the city of silver. Cuernavaca is known as the City of Eternal Spring, so the summer weather is great. Just remember your insect repellent, and you'll be set (and better off than I was the first weekend). If you would like to immerse yourself in your language, review some history, or travel, apply for a grant.

Ever wonder how you could make even more of a difference? How you could help out? Or just how things are done at FLAGS?

Do your part to create a fabulous regional affiliate, FLAGS!

Attend a Board meeting: find out what is in the works and let us know what you'd like to see planned in future.

If you get inspired, join us on a regular basis. **We have open positions! We want your input!**

September 7, October 5, November 9, January 18, February 29, April 25

Take the FLAGS poll online today!

FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF GREATER SACRAMENTO

(A regional affiliate of the California Language Teachers Association)

Membership Application or Renewal

January 1, 2008 - December 31, 2008

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

FLAGS dues (\$17 Regular, \$10 Student, \$5 Retiree) \$_____ (A)

CLTA dues (\$45 with FLAGS membership
\$50 with no FLAGS membership
\$40 Student or Retiree) \$_____ (B)

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
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Folsom, CA 95630

**Check out the FLAGS
website!
www.flagsteacher.com**

**Do we have your correct
email address?** If you're not
getting emails from us, email
Christine at member-
ship@flagsteacher.com



What's *your*
membership status?

Have you been wondering if you'd renewed your FLAGS & CLTA membership? You can tell by looking at the mailing label on this newsletter. The membership year that you have paid through is printed beside your name!

Please renew today!

The "Year of languages" is not
finished....
it's moving into
the future!

Keep the momentum of
"Year of Languages" going in your school
and community.

Discover more today on the ACTFL web-
site at **www.discoverlanguages.org**!

