



Our Mission is to Advance the Teaching of World Languages and Cultures in Minnesota

Vol. III, No. 6

June 2012

From your President:



"School's out for summer, School's out forever." I have to admit that Alice Cooper's 1972 rock hit, "School's Out," resounds in my head every time as I leave the building for the last day of the school year. Summer is the time to replenish our souls, time for long leisurely lunches with good friends, matinees, golfing, gardening and afternoons at the pool.

Unless, of course, we are traipsing through Europe with our students, teaching summer school, writing grants or designing curriculum. If we are traveling with students we are changing their lives forever. They will have learned to open their eyes to the world, to discover humanity with all its rich diversity. They will be forever smitten to pursue their next adventure, their next journey stepping out of their comfort zone. That is what delving into other languages and cultures does for our students; it piques their curiosity and opens them up to others' uniqueness.

We have a unique, new image for MCTLC as you can see in our logo. We liked the conference logo so much we want to include it in our new brochure design as our organization logo. We were trying to capture the essence of our organization. Our mission is to advance the teaching of world languages and cultures in Minnesota. As language professionals, we are globally-minded, modern, cosmopolitan, and worldly. Through technology we promote social justice at home and abroad. This is the spirit we instill in our students and that inspired our 2012 conference theme, "Imagine Globally, Engage Locally."

MCTLC is sponsoring **Travel Photography for World Language Teachers** workshops this summer to empower your travel programs. We meet at 6:30-7:30pm on two Thursdays: June 14th and July 12th. Kimerly Miller, chair of MAIN (Minnesota Advocates for Immersion Network) board of directors, will be leading them at Ramsey County Public Library, Roseville (Highway 36 & Hamline). Check out www.mctlc.org for details.

I close in tribute to my own son's language teacher this year. He comes home talking about her class almost every day. His classmates' mothers tell me how their sons were just going to study the minimum years of language but because of this teacher they want to study the four years of high school. They want to travel with her. She does start out each academic year with a personality test which involves chocolates, it's true. She instills a sense of camaraderie among the students and engages their imaginations. They feel better about themselves because of what they can do in another language.

Do you know a teacher like that? June 15 is our deadline for nominating teachers for awards. Every year we have awards without nominees. Contact awards@mctlc.org to nominate a colleague. We have to spread the word about how we are opening our students' eyes to the world, creating global citizens in Minnesota.



SAVE THE DATE
MCTLC Conference
October 18-19, 2012
Think Globally,
Engage Locally

John Rassias, Keynote
Pre-Conference
Workshops
Thurs: 10/18/2012
All Day Conference
Fri: 10/19/2012

http://www.mctlc.org/conference_2012

Travel Photography for
Language Teachers
Creative Image Composition
With Kimerly Miller
June 14
Creative Image Composition
July 12
Exposure & Light Conditions
www.mctlc.org

June 15th AWARDS
Mail/Email nominees:
MCTLC 2012 Awards
P.O. 11926
St. Paul, MN 55111
www.mctlc.org/awards

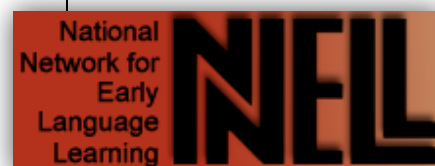
by June 10th for the July
Newsletter: submit
news, dates, articles.
editor@mctlc.org
MCTLC Editor
P.O. 11926
St. Paul, MN 55111

Mary Thrond

Practitioner's Corner: Sharpen the Saw
Tech Tips

by
Beth Kautz

Learning by Doing: When it comes to technology, we know that hands-on practice is essential. As teachers, we spend our days developing new



The National Network for Early Language Learning and EMC Publishing sponsored a free workshop for FLES teachers at the U of MN on

ways to engage students and guide them through various activities using the language to learn more about the target culture. These days, that often involves some aspect of technology. Few of us, however, have had much experience as a learner in the digital-age. Many of us have never taken a class that used a course management system like Moodle or Blackboard. Working on a group project meant meeting at someone's house or dorm room on the weekend. "Discussions" emphasized speaking and listening skills and keeping up with the flow of facts, questions and opinions.

How Social Networking Tools Function in an Educational Setting:

Fortunately, there are a growing number of online professional development opportunities in which you can discover how social networking tools function in an educational setting. You can experience online discussions – synchronous and asynchronous, via text or video or both. In fact, that's just what the MCTLC Board did in April by holding its quarterly meeting virtually via Wimba Classroom. We connected online for a very productive two-hour session on a Saturday morning – each from the comfort and convenience of his/her home or office. We saved a great deal in travel time, not to mention travel costs!

Gain Experience Using Technology: As you consider professional development opportunities in the summer and coming year, look for those where you can gain both content knowledge and valuable experience using technology. Here is a sampling of what is available:

- 1) "Using Social Networking Technologies for Collaborative Language Learning and Professional Development" – 5-week summer online course offered by CARLA (carla.umn.edu/institutes).
- 2) Master of Education in World Language Instruction – includes 9-month online courses; offered by Concordia College (www.cord.edu/Academics/graduate1.php)
- 3) ACTFL Webinars – one hour online lectures with questions from the audience; offered throughout the year (www.actfl.org):
- 4) MCTLC Webinars – we offered one last year! Look for more in the future! (www.mctlc.org)

The Virtual World: We have years of experience determining what is or is not effective in the face-to-face classroom. Now it's time we experience communicating, collaborating, teaching and learning in the virtual world so that we know how students feel, what motivates them, and what makes it a meaningful experience.

May 5, 2012.

Teachers shared breakfast and exchanged ideas. They tried out EMC language games for early learners, and networked.

There were lesson presentations and demonstrations using technology.

Ed Rosheim from EMC and Kathy Olson-Studler from St.Paul Academy were the hosts.

Teachers earned CEU's for attendance and went home with new materials (gifts from EMC), new lesson plans, and new friends in the profession.



Gemma Nelson, Spanish teacher from Oak View Montessori School in Shoreview, Minnesota wins a door prize of a box of giant multi-lingual flash cards from host Ed Rosheim of EMC.



MN ESL, Bilingual, and Immigration Education

By
Ayumi Stockman

I had the opportunity to attend the Minnesota ESL, Bilingual, and Migration Education Conference sponsored by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) at River Center in St. Paul on May 3 & 4. Concurrently, *Festival of Nations* was taking place at the same location. *Festival of Nations* is an annual event where food vendors, gift stores, and performers showcase their unique and rich cultural heritages. Many schools bring their language students on a field trip.

I enjoyed both days of the conference; I learned about World Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) standards; listened to a keynote speaker share stories of the impact of the U.S. Immigration Policy implementation; and attended a session on how to create a learning environment to ensure student success presented by teachers from a charter school. I feel world language teachers benefit from learning about WIDA standards. Our students immigrate or their parents have immigrated to the U.S. We care about students whose lives are deeply affected by governmental policies. We then create learning environments for students to be successful.

Teachers of English Language Learners and World Languages share many similarities in what we do. In the U.S. today people from all over the world are connected through technology. The global economy can be seen in any store or business you walk into, and where many languages are spoken. We prepare Minnesota students to fully participate in the ever evolving global community. The keys that students must be equipped with are language skills and cultural competency. ESL teachers do this by affirming students' cultural identities and promoting students' native language literacy as well as teaching English language skills; World Language teachers do this by teaching languages and cultures and what it means to be a culturally competent global citizen.

I was inspired at the conference. Visiting bazaars and food vendors at *Festival of Nations* on Friday was a capstone. I love the diversity and the

richness of the cultural heritages of the Twin Cities. The conference environment included people from all over the world in their traditional clothes with cultural artifacts and crafts. It reminded me of our important work teaching languages and cultures.

Minnesota Festival Quijote 2012

Gracias to
AATSP-MN for organizing another fabulous state
Spanish competition.



On April 13th, Brooklyn Center HS students attended AATSP-



MN's Festival Quijote 2012. The BC Centaurs celebrated with four gold medals, two silver, and three bronze. TOP ROW (L-R): Ieshia Dabbs, Jorge Cabrera, Mikayla Ostroot, Zach Anderson, & Taylor Miller. BOTTOM ROW (L-R): Rebekah Holm, Pedro Fraire-Morales, & Molly Rossi.

WIDA

World Class Instructional Design and Assessment.

WIDA has developed English language proficiency standards for English Language Learners. For more information: www.wida.us

MCTLC Newsletter
Editor
P.O. Box 11926
St. Paul, MN 55111



Many Faces of Mexico in Minnesota

Experience moving to Minnesota from Mexico through conversations, stories, analysis and artistic expression with Mexican immigrants.

June 25 -28, 2012,
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
\$450 for 2 graduate credits
Hamline University
\$250 for CEU's only

La Conexión de las Américas
3019 Minnehaha Ave, Suite 20,
Minneapolis, 55406

Register by Mon., June 10th
www.hamline.edu/piperline
(course #6097)
www.americas.org

孔子学院

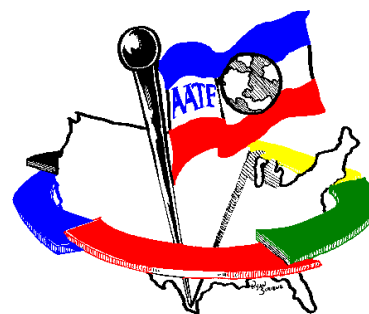
CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

The Confucius Institute has monthly gatherings for Chinese teachers. They are seeking hosts for teacher meetings in June, July, and August. Please contact Emily at hans0996@umn.edu to host at your school. You could host at the Center if your school is closed during the summer.

Emily Hanson
Community Programs
Specialist
Confucius Institute
p: 612-625-5080 f: 612-625-5185

www.confucius.umn.edu



MN-AATF is awarding students this month for success on the National French Exam, Le Grand Concours. Nationally, almost 100,000 students took the exam. This year the number of students taking the exam in MN increased by about 250.

For comments, questions, additions, and corrections to the newsletter, please contact Jodi James at editor@mctlc.org.