

Regional Reports

Editor's Note: Unless otherwise noted, the reports in this column were adapted by Journal staff from the regional group newsletters and Web sites.

MAALLT/SEALLT

The joint SEALLT/MAALLT conference was held the weekend of March 19-20, at the University of The South in Sewanee, Tennessee. Karl Fisher hosted about 22 members of both groups. The conference highlight was a homemade paella, made by the host himself. Presenters and presentation titles were as follows:

Frank Kruger-Robbins (Pine Crest Preparatory School)
The Wireless Language Classroom and Beyond

Peter Janssens (Georgetown University)
Supporting Research through Technology: Custom
Application Design for Foreign Language Graduate Studies

Jeff Samuels (Goucher College)
The IALLT Digital Exchange: A Work in Progress and a
Progressive Work

Georgia Schlau (College of Charleston)
Promoting Your Programs: The Language Lab in a New Role

Sharon Robinson (Lynchburg College)
Bringing Literature to Life with Technology

Rachida Primov (University of Miami)
Implementing a Scanning System for Inventory Control

Jun Da (Middle Tennessee State University)
Using Microsoft Speech Technology for Voice-enabled
Interactive Learning Materials Development

Gamin Bartle (University of Alabama)
Copyright Made Easy

Barbara Nelson (Colby College)
Digital Narrative: From Concept to Cultural Activity

Submitted by Gamin Bartle.

NEALLT

NEALLT was held March 19-21, 2004 at Princeton University in Princeton, New Jersey. This year's host was Marianne Crusius, Manager of Language Resource Center. Presenters and presentation titles were as follows:

Martin Heijdra (Princeton University)
Pre-conference Workshop: Making Windows 2000/XP and Office 2000/XP/2003 Multilingual

Nina Garrett (Yale University)
Technology as a Bridge of Many Gaps

Claire Bradin Siskin (University of Pittsburgh)
Integrating Digital Video into the Foreign Language Curriculum

Erika Gilson (Princeton University)
All This—But How to Make them Use It?

Martine Benjamin (Princeton University)
Business with Pleasure: The Use of Video Clips in the Teaching of "French for Business". Le Diner de cons, Le Placard, et L'Auberge espagnole

Michelle Cheyne (Princeton University)
Natural Selection: Using Evolving Technology to Enhance Foreign Language Pedagogy

Engracia Angrill Schuster (Onondaga Community College)
Interactive Jeopardy

Christine Foster Meloni & Susan Willens (George Washington University); Larissa Zolotareva (Yakutsk State University)
Communicating in Cyberspace: The US-Siber Dialogue

Jing Wang (Allegheny College)
Technology to Enhance Foreign Language Curriculum Outside the Classroom

NERALLD

The NERALLD Fall Meeting, *Shaking the Money Tree: Successful Grant Writing Strategies for Language Technology Professionals*, was held October 10, 2003 at Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts. The group was welcomed by NERALLD's new president Mary Morrisard-Larkin (College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA). This full day meeting dealt extensively with many issues involved with grant writing. The day also included a business meeting and a tour of Smith Center for Foreign Languages and Cultures by JoAnn Cannon Carlson, Director of the Center. There is an excellent description of the sessions at:

<http://akbar.marlboro.edu/~neralld/newslet/oldnews/dec03.html>

The NERALLD Spring Meeting, *The Face of Technology: Connecting with Faculty*, was held April 2, 2004, at Boston College in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts. Sessions were as follows:

Kevin M. Gaugler (Marist College)
From CALL to CALT: A Practical Approach to Computer-Assisted Language Teaching

Barbara Sawhill (Oberlin College)
If you teach it, are you -sure- they will come?: Strategies for creating successful faculty technology workshops.

David Kanig (Brown University)
The Human - Human Interface

There were Breakout Sessions to brainstorm effective ways that we can communicate with faculty, and a tour of Boston College Language Laboratory. For a more complete description of the meeting, please see:

<http://akbar.marlboro.edu/~neralld/newslet/index.html>

NWALL

NWALL had a meeting on March 20, 2004, during the WAFLT (Washington Association for Language Teaching) conference in Tacoma, Washington. During this conference, two IALLT members gave a presentation on technology and language teaching:

Scott Gerrity and Paul Aoki
Turn-Key Lab Solutions: Do I Need One and How Do I Chose?

SOCALLT

SOCALLT 2004, *From Chalkboard to Blackboard: New Technologies for Language Teaching & Learning*, was held at San Jacinto College Central in Pasadena, Texas on February 6 and 7. The South Central region's annual spring meeting was hosted by Karima Benremouga of San Jacinto College Central in Pasadena, Texas. The forty-eight conference participants enjoyed a wonderfully organized conference in a brand-new state-of-the-art technology. Karima's attention to details and the excellent support of her technology staff made this conference a tremendous success. The conference participants enjoyed door-prizes and free meals, thanks to the generous sponsorship of McGraw-Hill, Multimedia Learning Systems, Vistas Higher Learning, ASC Direct, Apple Computers, Houghton Mifflin, and Teaching Systems. The conference presentations centered around new technologies for Language Teaching and Learning, with a special focus on online or online-enhanced courses. During the afternoon of Thursday, February 5, Claire Bartlett arranged a special pre-conference lab tour showcasing Rice University's Language Resource Center. An Exhibitor's showcase and a lab-tour of San Jacinto College's technology facilities followed on Friday. The presentations were:

Claire Bartlett (Rice University)
Creating a Truly Multilingual Digital Environment for our Students

Teresa H. Johnson and Riahna Weakley (Saint Louis University)
Incorporating Technology In Outcomes Assessment

Delia Méndez Montesinos (University of Texas at Austin)
Personalizing Instruction with Blackboard

Tom Condon and Hildegart Hoquee (Vista Higher Learning and San Jacinto College Central) Web-based Student Activities Manual

Donovan Anderson and Hella Hennessee (University of Dallas)
Combining Distance and Language Immersion: Culture and History of Germany

Donald Weasenforth (Collin County Community College)
Threaded Discussions: Providing Discourse-Level Grammar Practice

Chao-mei Shen and Meng Yeh (Rice University)
Technology-enhanced Chinese Teaching

Robert A. Quinn (Jackson State University)
Teaching Spanish via the Internet: Caveat, Challenges, and Achievements

Stuart Stewart (Southeastern Louisiana University)
Teaching Romance Linguistics to Nonlinguists: Using Blackboard to Create a Community of Learners

Hajime Kumahata (Rice University)
Workshop 1: Creating Multimedia Exercises with Dreamweaver's CourseBuilder

Karima Benremouga (San Jacinto College Central)
Workshop 2: Using PowerPoint to Teach, Play, and Engage Students

John P. Sullivan (Prairie View A&M University)
Customizing Graphics for Online Language Courses: Examples from Spanish

Ava Zinn, Elizabeth Cazner and Carolyn Poole (San Jacinto College Central)
Using the Internet to Teach ESOL Reading

The annual conference proceedings will be published later in the year. The dates and location of SOCALLT 2005 will be announced this summer. Submitted by Ute S. Lahaie, President, SOCALLT

SWALLT

Our 2003 Fall Meeting blended the technological talents of SWALLT with the lively language teaching skills of the Arizona Language Association at the campus of Glendale Community College, September 19-20. The theme of the conference, "Discovering the Resources Within," fit very well with the goal of introducing the services of SWALLT to language instructors in Arizona, for we did indeed discover new friends within our own SWALLT region, many of whom have some remarkable ideas on how to teach with technology.

The choice to co-locate SWALLT with the already scheduled AZLA conference proved to be beneficial for both organizations. SWALLT members were able to present to an eager audience of instructors who could not have otherwise attended a separate SWALLT meeting, and AZLA members were able to demonstrate their latest ideas and techniques—including authentic folk dances—to their new SWALLT friends from out-of-state. Although the number of SWALLT members who were able to

attend were fewer than hoped, the wonderful welcome given by the very congenial AZLA members made those who attended feel as if they were right at home.

The conference began on Friday afternoon and one of the first sessions was a presentation by Alain De Leon of Auralog, one of our corporate SWALLT members, demonstrating the newest version of their award-winning speech recognition software, "Tell Me More."

Emi Ochiai Ahn, another local SWALLT member from Mesa Community College, co-presented with Professor Yasu-Hiko Tohsaku of University of California, San Diego, in a three-hour session that gave an interesting look at a multi-media Japanese cultural package known as "Deai: The Lives of Seven Japanese High School Students." The presentation was done completely in Japanese, and not only demonstrated the print, textual, CD-ROM and web-based content, but explained its history, production, and methodology. Anyone teaching Japanese should definitely look at this resource. Deai Website <http://www.tjf.or.jp/deai/>

"Technology and the Humanities: Cross-Disciplinary, Web Based Delivery of the Cultural Element in First and Second Year Language Courses" was the title of the session presented by our ever exuberant Patricia Miller, of California State University, Northridge. This session explained her cross-disciplinary template for delivering cultural components efficiently, through the use of out-of-class content gathered and organized by the students.

"Taking the Technology With You—How to Incorporate Technology in Your Presentations" was the title for a very practical session given by our stalwart Arizona SWALLT member, Peter Lafford from Arizona State University. This was a very practical demonstration on how to ensure that the technology you need for a presentation can be brought along with you in various forms, providing a backup for the technology that you thought would be there, but wasn't.

These sessions were followed by a great Southwestern buffet and then an evening of folk dancing, taught by the Phoenix International Folk Dancers (PIFD) who led us in performing folk dances from all over the world. It was a lively time, reminiscent of our traditional IALLT post-conference dance.

Saturday saw a number of technology sessions presented by both SWALLT and AZLA members. AZLA presentations

included:

- "From Computers to the FL Classroom: A Practical and Realistic Guide to Creating Web-based Activities and Assessments," by Julie Sykes of Arizona State University.
- "Pen-pal Project Using E-mail: A Way to Broaden Your Students' World and Enhance Their Writing and Reading Abilities," by Miko Foard, ASU.

From our SWALLT members:

- A panel presentation giving a broad overview of language learning technology conducted by Harold H. Hendricks, BYU; Gus Leonard, CSU Monterey Bay, Pat Miller, CSU Northridge; and Mimi Yu., University of Nevada, Reno.
- A session by Emi Ochiai Ahn on "Student ePortfolios: Let's Tell Students About the 5 C's!"
- An exciting session given to a standing-room only audience by Mimi Yu entitled, "Language Classes Come Alive with Animated PowerPoint in the Digital Era."
- "iMovie and the Language Classroom: An Introduction to Applications for Desktop Video Editing in the Language Classroom," by Gus Leonard

After a productive day of sessions our SWALLT business meeting attracted a number of new members.

All in all, the SWALLT/AZLA conference was very successful in bringing the membership to two closely related organizations together. Arizona membership in SWALLT has more than tripled as a result, and friendships we hope to renew in future meetings have blossomed as the desert rose.

http://www.ccsf.edu/Organizations/Southwest_Association_for_Language_Learning_Technology/vol2num2/hendricks.htm

Submitted by Harold Hendricks, Brigham Young University ♦

