

Regional News

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Introduction

Since the IALL Council decided in May to fold the *IALL News Review* into the *IALL Journal* to save on publication costs, news and notes from the various regional groups will henceforward appear here.

Some regional groups publish their own newsletters, and of these some are routinely mailed to regional members while others are sent mostly via email, with hard copy available to those without easy access to the Internet. I've been impressed by the breadth of information that these newsletters make available to their members, and it seems to me that much of it would be useful to IALL members at large. For example, a regional group looking for a particular kind of workshop or presentation for one of its meetings might find out about a presenter in a neighboring group—or might learn of a new language lab or media center not too far away that's worth a visit—or might hear of useful software under development.

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Since one of the duties of the President-Elect is to organize the reports of the regional groups, I'd very much like your input on ways to make such information more broadly available. Probably it will not be too long before each regional group has its own home page, at which point it will be easy for all of us to find out about regional affairs. But again, not all of us have equal access. I hope that those of the regional groups that have their own home page will send me those addresses. Other suggestions for sharing useful regional information also gratefully received!

NWALL: Northwest (AK, WA, OR, MT, ID)

The Northwest Association of Learning Laboratories Spring meeting was held at the University of Washington (affectionately known as "U-Dub") on March 15, 1995. We were delighted to see so many new faces from Seattle and the surrounding area but disappointed at the lack of attendance from Oregon and Idaho. We have always realized that travel fund-

ing or lack thereof, combined with the large size of the region, tend to make attendance at our meetings very lopsided. Once again, we are considering the possibility of uplinking the meeting so that more members may "attend."

The bad news was that Paul Aoki, who had been coordinating the meeting, had come down with pneumonia on the previous Monday. However, LLC staff Nina Allen and Bob Majors, along with graduate student support, saved the day in handsome style.

Twenty five attended from outside the campus along with six UW staff and faculty. Four Oregonians journeyed from as far south as Corvallis as did two Eastern Washingtonians from Spokane and Walla Walla.

Meeting Program

The program for the day began with Bob Balas of Western Washington University. Bob and his colleague, John Underwood, have developed their own authoring tool to interface with the French in Action laserdisc. Students are assigned a video to watch for each lesson in advance of class discussion. This allows instructors to exploit what the students have already watched by follow-up exercises in class.

Over a box lunch, members discussed the types of services they would like to see from NWALL. In addition to this type of discussion, Paul Aoki was chosen by consensus as the next Regional Leader. (Since that time, Paul has declined but agreed that he might be ready for this honor in 1996.) Dave Wilkinson of Edmonds Community College will do the newsletter while Marti Morandi will continue as representative to IALL at the May meeting. The group disbanded after lunch to do such things as attend the Computer Fair on campus.

The meeting resumed with a presentation, "Design, Development and Delivery of Multimedia CALL" by Bob Majors, Senior Computer Specialist of the LLC. Bob discussed how students use the LLC at University of Washington, instructional design projects for languages, integrating and authoring multimedia programs and challenges for the future. Most authoring is being done using Authorware, HyperCard, and Macromedia Director as well as video, audio, and graphics digitization. The developed courseware is at the workstations in the lab; records are maintained on the server. Students can leave comments right on the programs themselves. Modifications of the programs are based on this feedback.

The overview was followed by a "hands-on" session in the computer lab. Attendees—with the help of graduate student lab assistants—accessed various language programs and the WWW page for the lab. Jim Barrett, Director of the UW Health Sciences Center for Educational Resources, discussed the use that the Center is making of WWW for providing visual materials to the medical community at UW.

The final event of the day was a panel discussion moderated by Bob Balas which covered a variety of issues such as overcoming duplication of effort in foreign language program development and how NWALL might be supportive of attempts to share programming and information, integration of lab and classroom, and strategies for the future of language centers.

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SALT: Southwest (CA, NV, AZ, HI)

The Southwest regional group (SALT) is planning a conference for November 17-18, to be hosted by Walter Oliver at California State University, San Bernardino. The conference will focus on uses of the Internet and networked computers in education. Our tentative program includes the following presentations. LeeAnn Stone and Judi Franz (UC—Irvine) will give a workshop on Netscape and the World-Wide Web. Renate Albrecht (Stanford University) will demonstrate MOO's. Michele Magnin and Dr. Richard Stroik (University of San Diego) will talk about the advantages of using email for student writing projects. Frances Sweeney and Carol Copenhagen (St. Mary's College) will lead a discussion on using computers as a resource to augment language learning. Walter Oliver (CSU—San Bernardino) will make a presentation on multimedia. We will also be electing a new regional group leader as Patty Lamb's (UC—Santa Barbara) two-year term is coming to a close.

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**MWALL: Midwest
(ND, SD, NE, KS,
MN, IA, MO, WI,
IL, OH, MI, IN)**

At the Fall meeting in Minneapolis, Ron Balko was elected Administrative Officer of MWALL and Lisa Stewart of Kansas was elected Newsletter Editor. We are piloting a Membership Coordinator position which is currently being filled by Pam Griffin-Castro, Marlene Johnshoy, and Jenise Rowekamp in a tag-team arrangement. The spring meeting plans are not firm as yet, but it looks as if we will be at Grand Valley State in Grand Rapids, Michigan, in early May 1996.

The Fall meeting was a great success with 48 registered attendees, including a half dozen new members! Sessions were held at Macalester College (St. Paul) and at the University of Minnesota (Minneapolis) over a two day period. I was really pleased with the sessions and the setting.

Tom Thibeault, the previous regional leader, reported earlier that MWALL's web page address is <http://www.siu.edu/departments/cola/dffl/mwall.html>.

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**SOCALL: South
Central (TX, OK,
AR, LA)**

SOCALL will hold its annual meeting April 12-13, 1996, in San Marcos, Texas (Southwest Texas State University).

SWTSU is the home of the LIBRA authoring system, and we hope to include a LIBRA session into our program. As we usually have a strong contingent of one-time attendees who are in the planning stages of a lab, this year we will encourage short talks about home labs, complete with slides, diagrams, etc. This will allow us to share information about facilities with one another and with newcomers.

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**NERALLD: New
England (ME, VT,
NH, MA, CT, RI)**

The following are excerpts from the November 1995 *NERALLD Newsletter* (Chris Alberg, Editor.)

At the Fall meeting at Amherst College, Beth Wellington was elected as interim president of NERALLD; she will serve out the remainder of the current election cycle.

The meeting was a rousing success. Many thanks to Michele Zimmerman for her gracious hospitality and supreme effort in preparing her newly installed lab for our perusal, and also to Donna Van Handle of Mt. Holyoke for her fascinating presentation "WWW in FL Classrooms." Originally a supplementary course, Donna's German 209 has evolved during the seven years she has been teaching it into a culturally rich, multi-faceted, pioneering exploration of the vast body of material and information available on the World-Wide Web. By accessing Donna's German 209 home page, students can not only obtain information about the course and the reading assignments, but can also find Donna's many projects, such as the German Internet—on which she collaborates with Andreas Lixl-Purcell—and the German Urban Renewal (comparing Leipzig with Freiburg), containing movies, slides, texts, and exercises. You will find Donna's German 209 materials at the following URL: <http://www.mtholyoke.edu:2780/u/dvan> and [/dvhj12.html](http://www.mtholyoke.edu:2780/u/dvhj12.html).

It was decided that the NERALLD Newsletter will go out via e-mail to all those members present at the meeting last fall. It will go out on paper to potential new members. Requests can be made to the newsletter's Editor, Chris Alberg, calberg@wellesley.edu, (617) 283-2119. Announcements of upcoming meetings will also be sent out via email four weeks in advance.

Our Spring 1996 meeting is set for April 26 at Holy Cross.

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**NEALL: Northeast
(NY, PA, NJ, DE)**

The NEALL Fall meeting was held October 13-15, hosted by Wendy Baker Davis at Franklin and Marshall College. It was heavily attended; increasing numbers of faculty are participating in these meetings as they get turned-on to technology by their language lab directors. The new President-Elect is Virginia Lewis of Haverford; Wendy Baker Davis will be Secretary-Treasurer, and Margaret Wadehra of Union is the newsletter Editor. Although NEALL usually meets once a year, increased interest may lead to a Spring meeting in Philadelphia.

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**Mid-Atlantic (NC,
TN, KY, VA, WV,
MD, DC)**

No report.

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**Southeast (MS, AL,
SC, GA, FL)**

No report; no regional leader.

**M-SALT: Rocky
Mountain (CO,
WY, NM, UT)**

Colorado College presented two faculty workshops featuring Wendy Owens demonstrating the Perseus Project and Gilbert Furstenberg discussing *A la Rencontre de Philippe*. Marni Armstrong, Director of Instructional Media at CC, has also launched a series of lunchtime workshops to introduce departments to the possibilities of technology in language and humanities instruction.

The University of Utah received a grant for the equipment to develop a new multi-media classroom, but no money for the necessary remodeling.

Brigham Young University has completed the installation of a new Macintosh/Tandberg language lab and implemented a new multi-media testing program for languages and humanities. Over 20,000 tests utilizing digital audio and video will be given this year in the new lab.

Kimberly Hayworth reports that San Juan College, in conjunction with Ft. Lewis College in Durango, Colorado has developed software to teach Navajo language and culture. This software was presented at the Eighth Annual Navajo Studies Conference held in March at San Juan.

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CanIALL: Canada

The Canadian chapter of IALL is in the process of assembling contact addresses prior to conducting its first election of officers and arranging its first electronic conference. Kathy Hanneson at Guelph will be the contact person (khanneso@arts.uoguelph.ca).

FLEAT III (August 12-16, 1997) has a homepage up (but still evolving). In the coming months, we will be adding links to local tourist info and hotels, and gradually sharpening the focus of the page as time approaches. There is a link to our site (<http://ikra.call.uvic.ca/LangCen/FLEAT/feat1.html>) on the new IALL home page as well.

The local organizing committees will be in place by mid-October. A joint Program Committee to coordinate proposals from Japan, North America and Eurocall will be developing guidelines at that time too.

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