

ENLACE ONLINE

The Official Newsletter of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese

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Fall, 2005

Editor: Mary-Anne Vetterling

Editor's Message

Welcome to the first edition of ENLACE Online. For many years, under the capable editorship first by Irving Rothberg, then by Ada Ortúzar-Young, and finally produced by the National Office in Exton, ENLACE was sent by “snail-mail” to keep AATSP members up-to-date with events and news of interest. Last summer the Executive Council decided that ENLACE could be produced effectively and efficiently online and named me as its editor. I am delighted and honored to serve the AATSP in this capacity and ask you as members to send me your news and ideas. We plan to have three editions: Fall, Winter and Spring. The deadline for the next issue is January 1st, 2006. Please contact me at: mav@regiscollege.edu Muchas gracias, muito obrigada.

President's Message

As I am soon to step down from the position to which you elected me, I would like to thank a number of members who have contributed so much time and energy to the Association over the last few years.

First, let me thank Lynn Sandstedt, who was our interim Executive Director for over a year and who, drawing on his vast experience, guided us most carefully during a difficult period in our evolution. Lynn became a member of AATSP in 1958, its President in 1984, and Executive Director from 1993-2001. We all are indebted to him for his skill and diplomacy; we thank him profoundly, and we wish Lynn and his wife a fulfilling retirement.

Second, during our period of transition we have relied on the expertise and dedication of the staff at Head Office in Exton, PA: Annamaria Colavita-Jacyszyn, Chitra Kannan and Rebecca Esteban. All of us owe them an immense debt of gratitude. They worked with Lynn, who was in Colorado, and they committed themselves to the daily and weekly functioning of our association, as well as to the long hours and labor-intensive preparations required so that our annual conference went off smoothly. We thank them from the bottom of our hearts for all they have done since May 2004 to keep us on course.

Third, I wish to thank those members of the Executive Council with whom it has been my pleasure to work during 2004--Milton Azevedo, María Inés García, Carmen Salazar, Mary-Anne Vetterling—and 2004-2005: Christine Campbell, Ana María Carvalho, Elaine Davis, Nancy Doedens, Sharon Ahern Fechter, Yvette Mato-March, Frank Nuessel, Janet Pérez, Martha Semmer, Liliana Soto-Fernández and Ray Williams. Your patience and cooperation are

exemplary, your commitment and dedication to the association are stellar, and your determination to reach consensus in a calm and deliberate manner is a pleasure to experience. May all professional associations be as fortunate as ours!

Fourth, I want to thank all Association members for their understanding and support during the difficult transitional phase that we experienced from mid-2004. You are to be congratulated on electing such dedicated officers to represent you on the Executive Council. Also, for their patience, goodwill, hard work and understanding, I want to thank Martha Quiat and Kevin Cessna-Buscemi of the National Spanish Exam (NSE), Judith Park and Ursula Sihocky of the Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica (SHH), and Pam Wink of the Sociedad Hispánica de Amistad (SHA).

Finally, let me welcome our new Executive Director, Dr. Emily Spinelli, who took over from Lynn in September 2005. Your Executive Council met in New York in March/April 2005 and interviewed five applicants for that position. After serious deliberations, we came to the conclusion that Emily had developed all the qualifications required to take the helm at this time and steer us on our future course. Emily was President of AATSP during 2004 and will already be well known to many of you. She has the breadth and depth of experience, as well as the skill and talent, to lead us for several years.

In conclusion, let me add that in the four “President’s Corners” I’ve written for *Hispania*, the fourth of which will appear in December 2005, I have discussed ways in which my views of AATSP evolved during the 12 months of my presidency, and I’ve reported on the admiration felt for the Association around the world. I believe that we are now in a good situation and that we are poised to become much stronger.

Our next meeting is to be held in Salamanca (June 28—July 2, 2006). I hope you are making plans to attend! It’s been a pleasure to serve you.

John C. Wilcox
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Message from the Executive Director

As most of you know by now, I assumed the position of Executive Director of the AATSP on September 1, 2005 and this is my first message to the membership in my new role. As John Wilcox did in his President’s Message in this issue of *Enlace*, I too, want to thank Lynn Sandstedt for stepping out of retirement and guiding our Association through a difficult period. I am grateful to him for making this transition period so easy for me and for guiding and mentoring me. I also wish Lynn and his wife Phyllis a long and healthy retirement period and look forward to seeing both of them at future Annual Meetings of the Association.

During my first year in office I will be concentrating on the economic stability of the Association. One way to help achieve that stability is through a successful Annual Meeting. Our meeting for 2006 will take place at the Palacio de Congresos in Salamanca, Spain. While the Universidad de Salamanca and the Junta de Castilla y León have already been instrumental in their financial and organizational support for the conference, the success of the conference program depends upon the willingness of the members of the Association to submit a proposal

for a session or a workshop. Therefore, I urge you to go to the AATSP website and complete a proposal for Salamanca 2006. On the proposal site you will also notice a list of guidelines and suggestions to help you prepare a proposal form. In an effort to revive the continuing sessions from the past, we are soliciting proposals on literature, linguistics, and culture studies using topics from previous conferences as well as new areas of research and instruction. The deadline for proposal submission is November 15, 2005.

Another way to achieve economic stability is through more extensive use of e-mail messages to the membership rather than sending letters through the mail. We hope that in the very near future we will be able to conduct our elections on-line in order to avoid the expense of mailing the ballots to each member. We also hope to send the dues notification to the membership via e-mail. In the meantime, however, we are simply attempting to save on postage and to that end we recently mailed out the annual dues notification in the same envelope with the ballot for Vice President and Executive Council members. The deadline for voting is December 1, 2005. The deadline for payment of dues is November 1, 2005 in order to participate in the 2006 National Spanish Exam.

At its July meeting the Executive Council (EC) of the AATSP voted to publish our newsletter *Enlace* on-line and you are reading the first issue in the new format. At that same meeting the EC also named Mary-Anne Vetterling as the Editor of *Enlace* on-line. We are indebted to Mary-Anne for taking on this new position and pleased that she has done so well in her new editorship. There are many advantages to publishing *Enlace* on-line. First, we are saving the cost of mailing a newsletter to each member of the AATSP which helps us gain economic stability. But even more importantly, we are now able to provide the membership with a lengthier newsletter and send it more frequently. In addition, we are able to provide numerous photos in each issue which would have been prohibitively expensive in print format. As each new issue of *Enlace* is posted on-line, we will continue to send out an e-mail announcement to the membership and provide a link to the new issue.

In conclusion, I would like to ask you to keep informed about the AATSP by continuing to visit our website. In the near future, look on the website for information about registering for the 2006 Annual Meeting and for information about travel to Spain and lodging in Salamanca. The website will also be your source of information about AATSP awards and scholarships, nominations for future elections, and other events and committees of the Association.

Emily Spinelli
Executive Director, AATSP
espinell@umich.edu

Important Deadlines (Check the website <http://www.aatsp.org> for details.)

- Dues: **November 1, 2005**
- Call for Papers (for Salamanca Meeting): **November 15, 2005**
- Vote: **December 1, 2005**
- NSE (National Spanish Exam Registration: Usually sometime in November or early December. Contact your Chapter Coordinator via <http://www.2nse.org/chapters.htm>
Or go to <http://www.2nse.org>
- NPE (National Portuguese Exam) Registration: (See “National Portuguese Examinations” article located towards the end of this newsletter).
- Nomination of Candidates for 2006 elections: **March 1, 2006**

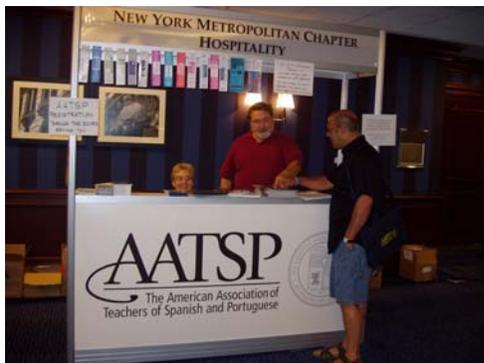
IMPORTANT: VOTE!

A ballot was included in a recent mailing along with your dues form. The biographies and statements of the candidates for this fall’s AATSP elections can be found on the website. Go to: <http://www.aatsp.org/ScriptContent/custom/members/home/2006Candidates.cfm>

IMPORTANTÍSIMO: SUBMIT PROPOSALS!

If you wish to give a paper at the upcoming AATSP conference in Salamanca, be sure to submit your proposal online by November 15, 2005. Go to: <http://www.aatsp.org/ScriptContent/custom/proposals/identify.cfm?meeting=AM2006&CFID=1094776&CFTOKEN=55113988>

AATSP Annual Meeting in New York City, July 28-August 1, 2005



The Annual Meeting of the AATSP attracted approximately 500 educators. Sessions were well attended and members were delighted with a wealth of excellent opportunities to renew and refresh their expertise, learn new pedagogies and gather up-to-date information to share with their colleagues and students. Social events provided marvelous opportunities to network and share information about the profession in an informal setting.



- **Pre-Conference workshops**

Members were able to choose from eleven excellent pre-conference workshops. One very popular one was a full day workshop, “Spain in New York” which featured tours of the Instituto Cervantes, the Hispanic Society of America, and the Lladró shop and museum and a cooking lesson at the Solera Restaurant followed by lunch.

Photos from the Solera Restaurant:





- **Chapter Delegate Assembly**



This was a great opportunity for chapters to have a voice in the improvement of the AATSP and to exchange ideas with other chapter leaders and with the Executive Council. The Chapter Delegate Assembly was organized by Martie Semmer and Mary-Anne Vetterling with the help of chapter Liaisons: Terry L. Ballman, Daniel Bender, Jay Duhl, Ann Mar, Locknath Persaud, and Ken Stewart. Chapter representatives, the Chapter Liaisons and the entire Executive Council attended. AATSP President John Wilcox welcomed the group. Interim Executive Director Lynn Sandstedt gave a brief history of the AATSP and Executive Director Designate Emily Spinelli

shared her vision of the association. Martha Quiat and Kevin Cessna spoke about new developments with the online National Spanish Exam. Judith Park and Ursula Sihocky spoke about the Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica (SHH) and Pam Wink spoke about the and Sociedad Hispánica de Amistad (SHA). Donna Long gave a report on the LangNet Project. Then attendees broke into small groups to discuss how to improve the AATSP at the chapter and at the national levels. At least one member of the Executive Council was a member of each group. This was a highly successful session and there was much enthusiasm about continuing with a Chapter Delegate Assembly as part of our 2006 meeting.



- **Keynote Speaker**



We were delighted by the inspiring talk given by Esmeralda Santiago, author of *Cuando era puertorriqueña*, *El sueño de América*, *Casi una mujer*, and co-author of *Las Christmas*. She talked about her amazing journey to New York City from Puerto Rico with her mother and ten brothers and sisters when she was just thirteen years old. She spoke about code switching, identity, finding and being true to oneself, the importance of family and showed how trials and tribulations can foster intellectual and emotional growth. Her educational journey took her to Harvard University for her BA and to Sarah Lawrence College for her MA. She gave us some hints about her latest book *El amante turco*, which is currently available in English and in Spanish (October 15, 2005): <http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1594376476/102-1865772-0490566?v=glance&n=283155&n=507846&s=books&v=glance>



- **Banquet**



At our annual Banquet the following people were honored:

Honorary Members and Fellows

Enrique Battaner Arias
Carlos Bousoño Prieto
Javier Alvarez Guisasola
Jesús Fernández González
Juan Vicente Herrera Campo
Esmeralda Santiago

AATSP Distinguished Service Award

Mary-Anne Vetterling, Regis College, Weston, MA.

Robert G. Mead Jr., Distinguished Leadership Award



Lynn A. Sandstedt, Interim Executive Director, AATSP.

Robert G. Mead, Jr. Travel and Study/Research Award

Edmée Fernández, Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg, KS.

First-Time Attendees Travel Stipends



Roberto Mendoza Farías, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ.
Greg Thompson, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ.
Veronica Fernandes, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ.
Antonio José B. Da Silva, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ.
Sarah Hirsh, John Stark Regional High School, Hercniker, NH
Talia Bugel, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, IL.
Guadalupe García, Summit Ridge Middle School, Littleton, CO
Michele Pascuci, Bryan College, Dayton, TN.

Teacher of the Year, K-8

Luisa Bolen, San Antonio Academy, San Antonio, TX.
Teacher of the Year, High School (AATSP and ISE)
Ken C. Stewart, Chapel Hill High School, Chapel Hill, NC.

Teacher of the Year, College/University
Mary Blanche Wortham, The University of Louisiana at Monroe, Monroe, LA.

Scholarship Recipients (Scholarships for summer, 2006)



Estudio Sampere
Christina O. Duarte, Xavier College Preparatory, Phoenix, AZ.
Elaine H. Davis, Madison High School, Madison, NJ.

Embajada de España
Thomas M. Soth, Northwest High School, Greensboro, NC.
Stephanie A. Cuddeback-Salim, Somerville, High School, Somerville, MA.

Cuernavaca Language School (Mexico)
Lourdes F. Orta, Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart, Meyersville, MD.

Cemanahuac Educational Community, Cuernavaca (Mexico)
Jill W. Jett, Silver Bluff High School, Aiken, SC.

University of Alcalá (Alcalingua)
Lauri Hut Kahn, Suffolk County Community College, Port Jefferson, NY.

Chapter Incentive Award
Chicago Area Chapter

- **Fiesta de despedida**



This event was sponsored by the Junta de Castilla y León and la Universidad de Salamanca. We celebrated both our very successful meeting in New York and the magnificent opportunities that await us in Salamanca next year.



Upcoming meeting in Salamanca, June 28-July 2, 2005

Thanks to generous donations from a variety of sources in Spain, our upcoming conference in Salamanca promises to be one of the best ever! This is your opportunity to attend a great meeting and share your expertise with other educators. One of the most important features of

any conference is the presentations by its own members. Please consider giving a paper. You must submit your proposal online (<http://www.aatsp.org>) by November 15, 2005.

The AATSP is soliciting proposals that

- meet the needs of K-12 teachers
- meet the needs of post-secondary instructors/researchers of language and culture
- meet the needs of post-secondary instructors/researchers in literature, film, and cultural studies
- meet the needs of post-secondary instructors/researchers in linguistics

In an effort to revive the “continuing sessions” of the past, special consideration will be given to proposals that are composed of a panel of academic papers representing language, literature, linguistics, and cultural studies.

The Annual Meeting Program Selection Committee will give serious consideration to all proposals whether or not they are contained on the following lists.

Details and a long list of suggested topics can be found at <http://www.aatsp.org>

NEWS from JNCL: Languages in the National Interest

The National Council for Languages and International Studies (NCLIS), composed of fifty-five associations representing over 200,000 language professionals, endorses the study of world languages in addition to English to assist in meeting national interests related to:

- Increased diversity in communities and schools nationwide;
- The need for an internationally competent workforce;
- New national and human security challenges, and
- The need to develop a well-educated, culturally literate, and globally responsible citizenry

Among groups from the government, academic and private sector, there is consensus for the creation of a systematic and systemic approach to language education in the United States. NCLIS endorses:

1. Language and culture instruction that begins in the early grades, continues with well articulated sequences of instruction throughout grades K-12 and two and four year colleges and universities, allows for multiple entry points, and encourages life long language learning.
2. A broad offering of languages that support global literacy and communication goals related to the learning of languages and their cultures that are important for future economic and security needs.
3. Adequate financial support for, and philosophical commitment to, language education in the federal budget and by state legislatures.

4. Recruitment of highly qualified teachers along with the promotion of teaching excellence through effective pre-service education, professional development, and opportunities for participation in exchange and study abroad programs.
5. Incorporation of standards-based assessments of language and culture into state and/or federal accountability systems.
6. Maintenance and continued development of heritage language proficiency to promote bi-literacy and cultural awareness to enhance opportunities for further achievement—both for cultivation of heritage resources to teach these languages and for cultural understanding within our communities.
7. Establishment of standards-driven, research-based policies for teaching language and culture.
8. Integration of other content areas into the teaching of language and culture at all instructional levels.
9. Improved access to currently available foreign language instructional materials, distance learning resources, and technologies to expand foreign language and cultural learning opportunities.
10. Support for advanced research and development in second language acquisition, foreign language pedagogy, heritage languages, assessment, and other areas critical to the advancement of language education.
11. Continued development of policy and legislation to address gaps in national language capacity by creating a variety of program models and financial incentives for learning, maintaining, and teaching languages other than English.
12. Establishment of a national coordinating entity to develop, organize and oversee the implementation of a national world language strategy that will provide US students with the kinds of instructional programs needed to acquire meaningful levels of language and cultural competence.

JNCL/NCLIS Executive Summary. Excerpts from May-September, 2005:

- Both the House and Senate Appropriations Committees have approved final funding figures for FY 2006. International Education and Fulbright-Hays are level-funded at \$106.8 million. FLAP is zero-funded by the President and the House but increased to \$25 million in the Senate bill. As usual, numerous small programs of importance to languages and international education are eliminated by the President and House, but restored, or even increased by the Senate.
- Funding for NEH has passed both houses and been finalized at \$143.1 million, an increase of \$4.7million. Funding for Education and Cultural Exchange in the State Department has been significantly increased in all three appropriations requests. The largest is to \$440.2 in the Senate.

- The House of Representatives has extended the current Higher Education Act for three months. The Senate is expected to follow suit.
- The House Education Committee has passed H.R. 609, the College Access and Opportunity Act of 2005. This bill makes a number of improvements in Title VI such as increased outreach, greater opportunities to study abroad, and expands the Institute for International Public Policy (IIPP). However, H.R. 609 retains a revised and softened, but nonetheless, expensive and unnecessary Advisory Board.
- Of note, H.R. 609 includes foreign languages in Title IV, Financial Assistance, as an Area of National Need. Under these new provisions, foreign language students are eligible for loan forgiveness if they go to work for the federal government or go into elementary or secondary education teaching.
- The Senate HELP Committee has passed its reauthorization of Higher Education, S. 1614, the Higher Education Amendments Act of 2005. This bill also strengthens outreach, study abroad, IIPP, and makes undergraduates eligible for FLAS fellowships. It contains no Advisory Board for Title VI, but it does make reference a number of times to reflecting “diverse and balanced perspectives” and generating “debate on world regions and international affairs.”
- S. 1614 also includes foreign languages in Title IV, Financial Assistance, as well as Title II, Teacher Preparation and Title VII, Graduate and Postsecondary Improvement Programs listing foreign languages, along with reading, math and science, as “high-need academic subject areas.”
- The Senate Appropriations bill contains a report on languages that recommends increased funding be provided for a new grant competition in FLAP to “school districts with poverty rates of 15 percent or more, to help the highest-need elementary schools within such districts establish foreign language instruction programs.”
- The National Security Education Program (NSEP) will provide \$8 million for undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships. Additional funding has been appropriated for the Flagship programs, the K-16 Chinese Flagship Initiative, and an English Heritage Language Speakers Initiative.
- S. 1089, the National Foreign Language Coordination Act, is being considered by the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. This bill establishes a National Foreign Language Coordinator Council to develop and implement a national foreign language strategy.
- The National Security language Act (H.R. 115) has been referred to committee. Rep. Rush Holt continues to work on drafting a companion omnibus language bill.
- The Abraham Lincoln Commission continues to meet, seek input, and hold hearings. A report may be forthcoming by the end of the year. An issue of some contention is whether or not the study abroad fellowship should go to the individual or the IHE.
- S. 1376, Teaching Geography is Fundamental was introduced this summer by Senator Thad Cochran and five co-sponsors. The bill “expands geography literacy among kindergarten through 12th grade students by improving their teachers’ professional development...”
- The Defense Department continues to work on implementation of their Language Transformation Roadmap and the State Department and Secretary Rice have made languages a major priority throughout operations, management, and training.

Report of the AATSP Committee on Resolutions

Those of us whose terms on the Executive Council of the AATSP end December 31, 2005 would like to express our gratitude to all of the members of the Association for being able to serve on the Council and to work for and with the dedicated members of this great organization. We also express our willingness to continue to serve the Association once our terms have expired. It has indeed been an honor and a pleasure to work with all of you during the past three years. All of you have been very helpful in guiding us. We urge you to continue to bring your good ideas and your concerns to the attention of the Executive Council in the future. This will help the organization to improve and to flourish.

We thank Lynn A. Sandstedt for his unflagging dedication in serving as Interim Executive Director (July 1, 2004 to August 31, 2005) and for his truly outstanding service to our organization during a time of significant transition. We also wish to thank Mary-Anne Vetterling for serving as Chair of the Search Committee for the Executive Director of the AATSP and all of the members of the Search Committee for their fine work. We also wish to thank Emily Spinelli for accepting the position of Executive Director beginning September 1, 2005. We look forward to an era of trust and cooperation under her guidance.

We would like to acknowledge the outstanding work of Janet Pérez as Editor of *Hispania*. Her untiring dedication to our journal makes it the most prestigious one in the field. Her high academic standards ensure that this will continue. We also thank all of the Associate Editors of *Hispania* for their fine work.

We thank the many dignitaries from Spain who honored us with their presence at the 87th annual meeting of the AATSP held in New York July 29 - August 1, 2005. They included: Dr. Juan Vicente Herrera Campo, Presidente de la Junta de Castilla y León, Dr. Javier Alvarez Guisasaola, Consejero de la Junta de Castilla y León, Dr. Enrique Battaner Arias, Rector de la Universidad de Salamanca, Dr. Jesús Fernández, Director de Cursos Internacionales de la Universidad de Salamanca, Dr. Juan José Mateos, Director General de Universidades e Investigación de la Junta de Castilla y León, Dr. Miguel Martínez, Consejero de la Oficina de Educación y Ciencias de la Embajada de España, and Dr. Gonzalo Gómez Dacal. We thank the Junta de Castilla y León and the Universidad de Salamanca for sponsoring the *Fiesta de Despedida de Nueva York/Bienvenida a Salamanca*. All of the members of AATSP are eagerly anticipating next year's meeting in Salamanca (June 28-July 2, 2006), and we know that it will be a very memorable occasion.

We are grateful to the Embassy of Spain and Dr. Miguel Martínez, Consejero de la Oficina de Educación y Ciencia de la Embajada de España and his fine staff for hosting the reception for the President of the AATSP and for the new Executive Director of the AATSP. We also thank Esther Zaccagnini de Ory, Education Advisor for the Embassy of Spain for facilitating the very successful "Spain in New York Workshop."

We honor Judith Park and Ursula Sihocky, Co-Directors of the *Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica*, for their exceptional efforts and very hard work on its behalf. We also thank Pam Wink for her

continued success in the promotion of the *Sociedad Honoraria de Amistad*. We appreciate the fine work of Gladys Wisnefski as Editor of *¡Albricias!*

We also honor Martha Quiat and Mr. Kevin Cessna-Buscemi for their continued hard work on the National Spanish Exam. Once again, they have both worked tirelessly to improve and enhance the quality of the exam. Their Herculean efforts to move the NSE to an on-line testing instrument are commendable.

We thank Luci de Biaji Moreira for her excellent work as Editor of the *Portuguese Newsletter*.

We value the hard work of the members of the various committees of AATSP.

- In particular, we give special thanks to the members of the New York program committee for their selection of a wide range of quality presentations for this year's conference. Members of that committee included: Annamaria Colavita-Jacyszyn, Lori Langer de Ramírez, Lynn A. Sandstedt, Emily Spinelli, Ken C. Stewart, José I. Suárez, Mary-Anne Vetterling, John C. Wilcox, and Raymond L. Williams.
- We thank the members of the Chapter Liaison Committee for their hard work in creating the first and very successful Delegate Assembly at this year's meeting. Members included: Terry L. Ballman, Daniel Bender, Jay Duhl, Ann Mar, Loknath Persaud, Martha Semmer, Ken C. Stewart, and Mary-Anne Vetterling.
- We thank Mary-Anne Vetterling for chairing the Nominating Committee and the other members of that Committee for their hard work: Milton M. Azevedo, María Inés García, and Carmen Salazar.

We are grateful that Esmeralda Santiago accepted the invitation to address the membership at the plenary session. Her inspiring remarks were a highlight of this year's annual meeting. We are also grateful to Santillana USA for sponsoring this event.

We thank Enforex for providing us with special briefcases stamped with conference logo for this year's annual meeting. We thank McGraw-Hill for sponsoring the Exhibit Break with coffee and donuts.

We thank the local committee and Bernard A. López General Chair and President of the Metropolitan New York AATSP Chapter, and all of its members for making our stay in New York a most pleasant and enjoyable experience.

We thank the staff of the Sheraton Hotel for their help in organizing the many sessions and events that took place in the hotel.

Last but certainly not least, we want to acknowledge the very hard work and dedication of the staff at the Exton office. Annamaria Colavita Jacyszyn, Rebecca Esteban, and Chitra Kannan merit praise from all of us in the AATSP for their outstanding professionalism and loyalty to our organization. We truly appreciate their commitment.

We hope to see all of you at Spain's oldest university, Universidad de Salamanca, next year (June 28 - July 2, 2006). It will be a valuable and enjoyable experience for everyone.

Muchas gracias y muito obrigados. ¡Todos a una!

Ana Carvalho, Frank Nuessel, Martha Semmer, Emily Spinelli

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR CANDIDATES FOR EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Pursuant to Section 6.7(a) of the AATSP Bylaws, nominations are submitted each year for the office of Vice President and for three seats on the Executive Council. Nominations may be submitted in writing either by a chapter or by an individual national member. Each chapter may submit no more than two names of candidates for each elective office. These candidates do not need to be members of the nominating chapter. Regular members not holding chapter membership may also submit names for nomination provided that such candidates are sponsored in writing by a written petition that includes the signature of at least ten (10) members of the Association in good standing. It is imperative that members and chapters submit names of well-qualified candidates at all levels of instruction in order to maintain highly competent leadership in the Association.

Chapters are urged to discuss possible nominations at their chapter meeting well in advance of the deadline for nominations. Chapters should send a letter of nomination of the candidate(s) for the office of Vice President and/or the Executive Council along with a complete curriculum vitae (CV) to the Chair of the Nominating Committee (address below). All documents should be formatted in Microsoft Word and sent as an e-mail attachment or on a diskette.

Members are reminded that the Bylaws require the following:

- At least one Executive Council member who is a K-12 teacher must be elected annually. The K-12 candidates must be paired on the ballot in order to ensure the election of at least one K-12 teacher each year.
- One Executive Council seat will rotate among a representative from a community college, from K-8, and from Portuguese. In 2006, the position will be earmarked for K-8. Candidates for these rotating positions must be paired on the ballot in order to ensure that a community college, K-8 or Portuguese representative will be elected every three years.

The Nominating Committee consists of the out-going members of the Executive Council plus at least two other members who do not sit on the Council. Note that Emily Spinelli, Immediate Past President of the Association, is not serving as Chair of the Nominating Committee since she has taken the position of Executive Director of the AATSP. Frank Nuessel was appointed Chair of the Nominating Committee by the Executive Council at its July 2005 meeting.

The 2006 Nominating Committee consists of

Frank Nuessel, Chair (University of Louisville)
Ana Maria Carvalho (University of Arizona)
Martie Semmer (FLES/K-12, Breckenridge, CO)
Kevin Cessna-Buscemi (K-12 and National Spanish Exam)
Agnes Dimitriou (University of California at Berkeley)

The Nominating Committee will conduct its work electronically (via e-mail). The Chair of the Nominating Committee will forward all nomination papers to the 2006 Nominating Committee shortly after the deadline. Each Nominating Committee member will then write a brief evaluation of each nominee's qualifications as outlined on the CV and letters of recommendation. These evaluations are then sent to all the members of the Committee for their consideration. Each Committee member then lists all the candidates for each position in rank order. Taking into consideration the rich diversity of our membership and a balanced geographic representation, the two nominees with the highest number of points in each of the slots become the candidates. The Chair of the Nominating Committee then sends the names of each of the candidates to the Executive Director of the Association who will prepare the ballot for distribution to the membership.

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS:

March 1, 2006 (as per a By-law change for 2005-06 only). REMINDER: All documents should be sent as an e-mail attachment or on a diskette. (See above description.)

SEND NOMINATIONS TO:

Dr. Frank Nuessel, Chair Nominating Committee
Department of Modern Languages
University of Louisville
Louisville, KY 40292-0001
U.S.A.
Office: 502-852-6686
Fax: 502-852-8885
E-mail: fhnues01@louisville.edu

Community College Committee Volunteers Wanted

In order to better serve community college instructors of Spanish and Portuguese, the AATSP has established an ad-hoc committee to examine the issues in the teaching of Spanish and Portuguese language and culture at the community college. If you are interested in the work of this committee, please contact Sharon Fechter at sharon.fechter@montgomerycollege.edu.

Thanks.

Sharon
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The National Portuguese Examination

The National Portuguese Examination, sponsored by the AATSP will be held from **February 15-March 15, 2006**. Teachers will administer the exam in their own schools with the help of a

proctor. In 2005, forty-two students participated representing three different states: Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Ohio.

2005 National Portuguese Exam Winners were:

Level 1

First Place: Myrcea S. Monteiro, Shea High School, Pawtucket, RI.

Second Place: Allison Cross, Falmouth High School, New Bedford, MA.

Level 2:

First Place: Laura Needre, Falmouth High School, New Bedford, MA.

Second Place: Isabel Nepstad, Falmouth High School, New Bedford, MA.

Level 3

First Place: Caroline Anne O. Cabral, Falmouth High School, New Bedford, MA.

Second Place: Rafael Mundim, Falmouth High School, New Bedford, MA.

Level 4:

First Place: Anand Savani, St. Xavier H.S., Cincinnati, OH.

Second Place: Luis Fernando C. Única, Falmouth High School, New Bedford, MA.

Congratulations to the three teachers who encouraged their students to participate in 2005: [Cecilia Bernardo](#), Shea High School, Pawtucket, Rhode Island; [Maria Branco](#), Falmouth High School, New Bedford, Massachusetts, and [Gregory Lamping](#), St. Xavier High School, Cincinnati, Ohio.

The examination, developed by the AATSP Projects and Development committee in 2002, requires the students to produce Portuguese both in writing and orally. Examinations are graded separately by two graders who consider accuracy, accent, fluency, and creativity. Students are evaluated according to the particular variant of Portuguese that they use. Among the 42 participants in 2005, students used Brazilian Portuguese, Continental Portuguese, Cape Verdian, and Azorean Portuguese.

Each participant receives a Certificate of Participation. National winners receive plaques from the AATSP. To participate in the National Portuguese Examination, students must be enrolled in Portuguese classes at the time of the examination. Teachers whose students participate must be AATSP members in good standing.

The National Portuguese Examination is intended as a motivational, extracurricular activity and contest for students of members of the AATSP. The NPE is not designed for any other purpose and should not be used for assessment, placement, or proficiency testing.

The NPE is a proficiency-based, communicative examination that encourages students to produce Portuguese through a controlled set of contexts. Currently there are four different levels of the examinations: I, II, III, IV. These are intended for pre-college students of Portuguese.

[The following are the requirements for sponsoring students in the NPE \(National Portuguese Exam\) contest:](#)

1. **AATSP member.** Teachers whose students participate in the NPE must be members in

good standing of the AATSP. Membership is based on the calendar year. AATSP membership may be obtained online at <http://www.aatsp.org>

2. **Registration of students.** Teachers must send Carmen Tesser a registration that includes the names and levels of students participating. A fee of \$5.00 is required for each participating student before the exams are mailed out.

All registrations for the National Portuguese Exam must be received by the National Coordinator by January 15, 2006.

This deadline is important since sufficient examinations need to be produced on time for their administration between February 15 and March 15, 2006

3. **Cassette recording equipment and cassettes.**

Students will need access to cassette recording devices and each one will need to provide a blank cassette for the testing. Part of the test requires students to communicate orally.

How to order tests:

Each teacher who wishes to enter his/her students should contact Carmen Tesser at: Carmen@uga.edu or ctesser@middlebury.edu

Once the teacher knows the number of students who wish to take the National Portuguese Exam, s/he must collect the testing fee from students (\$5.00 per student) and send the request for examination packets, along with a check for the entire amount to:

**Carmen C. Tesser
National Portuguese Exam
308 West Lake Dr.
Athens, GA 30606**

The NPE (National Portuguese Exam) office will ship the tests to the respective chapter or to the teachers.

Proctoring:

Proctoring of exams by administrators or counselors is the preferred choice. If this is not possible for a school, language teachers may be used, PROVIDED THEY DO NOT PROCTOR ANY OF THEIR OWN STUDENTS. Proctors will need to prompt and time students during the oral expression part of the test.

Testing time:

The current NPE will take a maximum of 50 minutes to administer: 10 minutes for directions and completion of individual information; 10-12 minutes for each of the three parts.

Returning the completed exams and cassettes:

Test booklets and cassettes should be sent back to Carmen Tesser on the day after the testing session (or shortly thereafter). Please make sure to ask for a return receipt on your mailing in case questions arise about the time or the delivery of the tests.

Important dates to remember for the National Portuguese Exam:

January 1, 2006—Any teacher who wishes to participate in the NPE (National Portuguese Exam) must have their annual AATSP dues paid to the National office. Information on how to join the AATSP may be found in the organization's webpage: <http://www.aatsp.org>

January 15, 2006—All orders for the NPE (National Portuguese Exam) materials should be received by the NPE Coordinator (Carmen Tesser)

February 10, 2006—Test materials will be sent to participating teachers/schools.

February 15-March 15, 2006—Test window for the 2006 NPE (National Portuguese Exam) Contest

March 25, 2006—All exam and student recorded cassettes must be in the hands of the National Portuguese Exam Coordinator

**Carmen C. Tesser
National Portuguese Exam
308 West Lake Dr.
Athens, GA 30606**

April 15, 2005 Teachers will be notified of national winners of the National Portuguese Exam.

Links to Important Affiliated Services of the AATSP

Chapters <https://www.aatsp.org/scriptcontent/custom/chapters/chapterlookup.cfm>

NSE www.2nse.org Online practice exercises are available, at this website, free, until Dec 31st, 2005.

SHH www.sociedadhonorariahispanica.org;

<http://www.sociedadhonorariahispanica.org/National%20Director%20updates.html>

SHA www.sociedadhonorariahispanica.org

HISPANIA www.hispaniajournal1.org

For your calendar

- State FL Association Meetings (Dates will vary)

<http://www.utm.edu/staff/globeg/stateflto.html>

- ACTFL: November, 18-25, 2005, Baltimore, MD. <http://www.actfl.org>

- MLA: December 27-30, 2005, Washington, DC. <http://www.mla.org>

- SCOLT-FFLA conference February 16-18, Orlando, FL <http://www.valdosta.edu/scolt>

- Central States: March 9-11, 2006, Hyatt Regency, Chicago, IL. <http://www.centralstates.cc>

- 2nd Symposium of Portuguese for Spanish Speakers: March 17 - 19, 2006 at Stanford University, Stanford, CA

http://www.aatsp.org/ScriptContent/custom/members/home/Call_for_papers2.pdf

- Northeast Conference March 30-April 1, 2006, New York Marriott Marquis, New York City.

<http://www.dickinson.edu/nectfl>

- SWCOLT, April 6-8, 2006, in Phoenix, AZ. <http://www.swcolt.org/>

- AATSP in Salamanca, 2006. Save these dates: June 28-July 2, 2006. Check the AATSP website for updates. <http://www.aatsp.org>

Jobs

If you are looking for a new job, be sure to check out the AATSP website and also <http://www.LatPro.com>

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Please note the following stipulations regarding submitting materials: 1. Submissions may be written in Spanish, Portuguese or English. 2. Submissions should be made electronically in Word for Windows and submitted either via email or snail mail (CD or 3.5IBM floppy disk). 3. Photographs or art work may be in color or black and white. 4. All submissions are subject to editorial review. Deadlines: Fall—August 1; Winter—January 1; Spring—March 1.

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