

President's Message
April 2014

Saludos, saudações, greetings.

Spring has finally arrived and we have much to look forward to as we prepare for the busiest season of our academic years. There are honors, awards, induction, and graduation ceremonies to be organized; final, AP, and NSE assessments to be administered; and last, but not least, travel, conference, and excursion plans to be made.

Induction, promotion, and graduation ceremonies mark a time of transition. The time of year when we celebrate these events is upon us. Many thanks to all of you who shepherd students through these important moments and help them successfully articulate to the next level in their linguistic and literary development and careers. Your role in their progress and success at every level is critical.

As educators, we are constantly involved in the process of assessment and in our profession we assess everything from language proficiency to critical inquiry and insight. The AATSP is proud to number among its members assessment professionals at every level who bring the most current thinking and research to this process and make the task of assessment easier for all of us.

In a few short months, we will gather in beautiful Panama City as an association for the 96th time. [Registration](#) for the conference is open and I encourage you to register and book your hotel as soon as possible. In addition, there are some exciting excursions planned. These typically fill quickly, so please register soon if you have not already done so. The [AATSP 2014 Conference Program At A Glance](#) is available on the conference Website as well, and I encourage you to mark your calendars for our special events. I certainly hope you will plan on joining us at the President's Reception and the annual awards banquet. We are looking forward to a very strong turnout in Panama.

Finally, speaking of transitions, please take a moment to peruse the March issue of *Hispania*. You will note an aesthetic as well as structural redesign that supports the connections among our activities and reflects the diverse interests of our membership. Thanks go to Sheri Spaine Long and David Wiseman for their tireless efforts in this area.

The Executive Council and I very much appreciate the work that all of you do and hope to see you in Panama.

¡Todos a una!

Sharon Ahern Fechter
AATSP President, 2014