CONFERENCE WRAP-UP
Vol. 5, 2019

Editor: Mary-Anne Vetterling

Above design adapted from Evana Dias; Covington (NY) Latin School, 1st Place AATSP Poster Contest Winner, 2017.

Juntos más fuertes: el español y el portugués
Juntos mais fortes: o espanhol e o português
Town and Country Hotel
San Diego, CA
July 8-11, 2019
Dear Colleagues,

Our 101st Annual Conference took place in San Diego, California, on July 8-11, 2019 at the Town and Country Hotel. There were a number of events during the conference where attendees were able to socialize and make valuable connections with one another. Especially memorable were the continental breakfasts by the registration area, the President’s Reception held in the Exhibit Hall with tables where participants could congregate, the Portuguese 75th anniversary celebration with a special cake following the Portuguese Plenary, the Sigma Delta Pi special 100th anniversary party held outside on the patio under sunny California skies, and the Celebration Dinner.

We had approximately 600 in attendance. Presenters came from approximately 40 different states in the U.S. and from Barcelona, Salamanca, Valencia and Madrid in Spain; Tepic, Mexico; Medellín, Colombia; Taipei, Taiwan; Lille, France; London, Ottawa and Guleph in Canada; La Paz, Bolivia; Londrinha, Brasil; Buenos Aires, Argentina; and Trin City, Trinidad & Tobago.

During the conference, there were 27 sessions of interest to teachers of Portuguese plus a plenary session given in Portuguese by Professor Ricardo Vasconcelos followed by a celebration of the 75th anniversary of Portuguese’s affiliation with the AATSP. For more information, please access the online conference program: https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.aatsp.org/resource/resmgr/2019_conference_docs/2019_aatsp_program-05_29-.pdf

In this document you will find numerous pictures from the various receptions, meetings, sessions, exhibits, awards ceremonies, and the celebration dinner at the conference plus links to other sources of information of interest to AATSP members. Summaries accompany the pictures from the Vasconcelos Plenary and the Keynote Speech by Zoe Weil. The pictures selected from the regular sessions and workshops are identified by their number in the online program where you can find more information about them. Look for more photos on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and in the A&R messages sent out to members periodically.

Many thanks to the staff at the AATSP and especially to Millena Oliveira for putting the final touches on this document and making it available to the membership.

Our next conference will take place July 9-12, 2020 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. I hope (with cameras ready) to see many, many AATSP members there! Best wishes for a wonderful school year.

Sincerely,

Mary-Anne Vetterling

Mary-Anne Vetterling
Editor, Conference Wrap-Up
Professor of Spanish, Emerita, Regis College, Weston, MA
Visiting Lecturer, Harvard Extension School, Cambridge, MA.
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APPRECIATION DINNER
For more information about travel stipends & scholarships, go to:
https://www.aatsp.org/page/conf_stipends

Photo by Millena Oliveira
Business Meeting

For Business Meeting Minutes, go to: https://www.aatsp.org/page/businessmeeting

Special Recognition for Kevin Cessna-Buscemi, National Spanish Exam Director

Signing the MOU between AATSP and Sigma Delta Pi
CHAPTER ASSEMBLY

CHAPTER OF THE YEAR: CHICAGO AREA CHAPTER:

https://www.aatsp.org/page/ChapteroftheYear?&hhsearchterms=%22chapter+and+year%22
SPANÍAS DIDAGÉI PROÁGOMEN
https://sigmadeltaipi.org
Zoe Weil, a renowned advocate for humane education and “solutionary” approaches to problems, talked about how we can best prepare our students for the future, a future she hopes will be like the very positive, peaceful one depicted in Startrek. She stressed that we need to have students solve, rather than debate problems. They need to address real world problems and look deeply at their causes. She gave us some examples of solutions to problems via a video about Robert Lee: https://www.cnn.com/2015/05/14/us/cnn-heroes-lee/index.html. She showed us an amusing account of the perils caused by unintended consequences in “Operation Cat Drop:” https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=17BP9n6q1F0

She concluded her talk with a video found on the homepage of the Institute for Humane Education, an organization of which she is founder and President: https://humaneeducation.org. She encouraged AATSP members to continue the conversation by emailing her at Zoe@humaneEducation.org.

Afterwards, there was a book-signing event for AATSP members to celebrate the publication of her book The World Becomes What We Teach.

Here are two of her talks that are of interest: TedX Talk: A talk that deals with the subject of her presentation at AATSP: https://humaneeducation.org/who-we-are/meet-zoe-weil/ and another about solutionaries (2012) that provides a good explanation of that concept: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ImOi9YnMau8
Professor Vasconcelos addressed the fact that falling enrollment numbers in both Spanish and Portuguese courses (since 2013) should be a wake-up call for us to make some important curricular changes. First of all, he discussed the pluralistic nature of the Portuguese-speaking world, which includes speakers from Portugal, Brazil, the Azores, PALOP (Países Africanos de Língua Oficial Portuguesa), and Asia plus the rich and interesting linguistic variants produced not only among them but also within the 9 countries they represent. He reminded us that Portuguese is the fifth most-spoken language in the world (the third most-spoken in the West) and is spoken in more U.S. households than Italian or Japanese. And yet there are only two Portuguese programs in the U.S. with departments of their own: Brown University and the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth.

He made seven specific suggestions on how Spanish and Portuguese should collaborate. (1) Encourage heritage students of Spanish to learn Portuguese as a way to improve their language-learning skills and gain a third language to make them more attractive in the job market. (2) Create a course in Portuguese for speakers of Spanish. (3) Students enrolled in MAT programs in Spanish should add Portuguese to their curriculum so that they can teach a course in Portuguese as part of their regular assignment. (4) Offer study abroad programs that have a trans-national focus (like the one that Prof. Vasconcelos will be leading in Lisbon, Porto, and Santiago de Compostela). (5) Hire teachers who can teach both Spanish and Portuguese. (6) Require a course in Portuguese (Spanish) for Spanish (Portuguese) majors as part of their degree requirements. (7) Create a B.A. in both Spanish and Portuguese.
CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE CANDIDATES, GO TO:

https://www.aatsp.org/page/2019candidates?&hhsearchterms=%22candidates%22
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TEACHERS OF THE YEAR:

Sonia Puerta-Quinn (K-8)

Christy Presgrove (9-12)

Susanna Williams (2-yr. College)

Diana Ruggiero (University)
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Judy Park

Domnita Dumitrescu

CHAPTER OF THE YEAR: CHICAGO

MARTIN VARGAS LLOSA AWARD

Marta Constenla, President AATSP Chicago

Melanie Gamboa

OUTSTANDING SCHOLARLY PUBLICATION:
SESSIONS: EXHIBITOR-SPONSORED SESSIONS

Sess. 053, PREX, U. autónoma de Nayarit, México

Sess. 067, Amig@s por siempre—Manzana Learning

Sess. 039, U. de Salamanca, cursos internacionales

Sess. 068, Forum Language Experience

Sess. 147, U. de Salamanca, cursos internacionales

Sess. 092 Embassy of Spain, Education Office, Los Angeles, CA
SESSIONS: PORTUGUESE

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF PORTUGUESE AS PART OF THE AATSP

Sess. 148

Sess. 037

Sess. 066

Sess. 096

Sess. 050  Photo by Millena Oliveira

Sess. 136
AT THE CONFERENCE
POST-CONFERENCE EXCURSION

Rhythm and Culture Aboard the San Salvador