For many teachers, the start of a new school year can be a time of conflicting emotions. On the one hand, there's the exhilaration that comes with new beginnings. On the other, there's a melancholy for the long days of summer, as well as apprehension over the challenges that are sure to lie ahead.

I recently came across a newspaper article that captures these feelings well. The comment below, offered by a teacher, spoke to me of our work at the AATSP:

“Like there are a million ways to be better than I was last year. It's a little overwhelming.”

Finding ways to be better - to light the fire of learning in ever more students, to acquire new knowledge and skills, and to add value to
our profession - is a signature characteristic of the many dedicated teachers and members of the AATSP. And yet, even the most steadfast of professionals can feel overwhelmed by the sheer amount of work.

Whatever your goals may be, the AATSP has many accessible and actionable resources to help you get there. Visit our new NSE website, designed by our talented Lisa Berry, to learn about how these tests can inform teaching, learning, and program design. If you are an NSE teacher, we invite you to contribute a five-minute video sharing your ideas and strategies for these tests. We will post your video online and give it special prominence during National Teach Spanish Week.

If it’s professional development that you are looking for, you will have access to no fewer than 15 webinars during this academic year: all given by leaders in our field, all free to AATSP members, and all issued with a certificate of attendance upon request. We also invite you to take advantage of our Teaching and Learning Resources, a carefully curated repository by a diverse group of AATSP members across content areas, grade levels, and languages. In addition, our partner organizations also offer a wealth of professional resources and support. You can learn more about these organizations and their work in a new feature of our newsletter: “Meet Our Special Compañeros/Companheiros.”

Finally, if the last days of vacation find you already yearning for summer 2024, it’s never too early to start thinking about the wonderful scholarship opportunities available to AATSP teachers and their students. I invite you to look at Cara Bucciarelli’s beautiful story map of her recent trip to Guatemala. A Spanish teacher in the Chicago Public Schools and an NSE teacher, Bucciarelli is a 2023 winner of a travel scholarship from the Pulsera Project.

For me, the start of this school year will be the first time since the age of five that I won’t be heading back to school. To be sure, I will miss the familiar wonder of it all. But I can’t think of more rewarding work to be doing at this time in my life than to serve as the
Executive Director of your AATSP.

Here’s to a wonderful new school year!

¡Todos a una! Todos por um!

María

MEET OUR SPECIAL COMPANHEROS/COMPAÑEROS:
PLATINO EDUCA

Platino Educa is a catalog of 330+ Spanish language films, curated for education, by educators. Their films are selected to illuminate Spanish and Latin American history, culture, literature, and important social themes. These are the films you have been searching for.

Here is a little more about Platino Educa and their educational resources:

- Largest collection of feature length Spanish Language films for education.
- Teaching guides with activities, questions, and resources to go deeper.
- Spanish and English subtitles.
- Preselected scenes for use in class (no more trying to que up a DVD).
- Voted “Best New Product 2022” at Charleston Hub Library Conference.
- Purchased by over 100 prestigious colleges and universities in the first year!
- FREE 30-day access to explore our films and resources.

Find out more or explore their catalog.
MEET OUR SPECIAL
COMPAÑEROS/COMPANHEIROS:
JNCL-NCLIS

For over 40 years, the Joint National Committee for Languages and National Council for Languages and International Studies (JNCL-NCLIS) has united a national network of leading organizations and businesses to advocate for equitable access to language learning opportunities. AATSP is a Sustaining Benefactor Member of JNCL-NCLIS and holds an important position on our Board of Directors. As an individual member of AATSP, you have access to JNCL-NCLIS language advocacy events, trainings, and resources. This fall, join JNCL-NCLIS leadership for Advocacy Action Day, a one-day in-person world language education advocacy and networking event in Washington, DC! We are excited to announce that the Ambassador of France to the United States, Mr. Laurent Bili, will give opening remarks during the Multilingualism Matters Networking Reception at the Planet Word Museum. Ambassador Bili will discuss the importance of language education in the 21st century and how other countries can work together to support the development of language education in the United States.

Don't wait, space is limited! During registration, you will also be able to access a discounted combination rate when you register for both in-person Advocacy Action Day on October 16, 2023, and the virtual Language Advocacy Days 2024 events on February 27-28, 2024.
RENEW YOUR AATSP MEMBERSHIP

You can now renew your AATSP membership for 2024. You won’t want to lose your many member benefits. Visit aatsp.org to renew now!

Please note our new remittance address for payments:

160 Rail Road, Suite 3
Chesterton, IN 46304

GET TO KNOW YOUR 2023 CANDIDATES FOR AATSP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The 2023 AATSP Board of Directors elections is around the corner! Voting will open on October 1 and close on October 30. We have ten great educators running for a position on the AATSP Board of Directors. Click here for a preview of your candidates and their statements, videos, and CVs.
THE NSE WELCOMES TEACHERS TO THE 2023-24 ACADEMIC YEAR

This year opens with a brand-new National Spanish Examinations (NSE) website! We invite our teachers to visit, browse, and get re-acquainted with our programs at nationalspanishexam.org. Please note that our phone number has also changed to 219-295-1491.

NATIONAL SPANISH ASSESSMENT OPENING SOON

Registration for the National Spanish Assessment (NSA) begins Tuesday, August 15. The NSA is an online, standardized assessment tool for teachers who wish to determine their students' progress throughout the school year. The assessment can be administered up to three times during the school year. Teachers state that they use the NSA to “prepare students to take other standardized tests such as AP, IB, SAT II, and college placement exams.” Administrators state that they can use data from the National Spanish Assessment to “create reports to show how their schools have improved over an academic year.”

We invite NSE teachers to submit a five-minute video on how they use the NSA to support teaching and learning.

To learn more about the NSA and how to register, visit our brand-new website.

LEARN ABOUT AATSP-MEMBER BENEFITS WITH IDIOMA EDUCATION & CONSULTING
Idioma courses are

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*See the AATSP Partnership page on our website for details. Use code AATSP23 at checkout.

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GET READY FOR THE 2024 AATSP ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN PORTLAND, OREGON
For the 106th AATSP Annual Conference, we are returning stateside: Portland, OR (June 29-July 2, 2024)! This year’s theme is El español y el portugués como lenguas globales: conexiones y oportunidades más allá del aula or O espanhol e o português como línguas globais: conexões e oportunidades além da sala de aula. Stay tuned for more information coming soon on our website and social media platforms.

CHECK OUT MORE 2023 AATSP POSTER CONTEST WINNERS

We continue to highlight the winning entries to the 2023 AATSP Poster Contest. Today we are showcasing the first-, second-, and third-place posters of the 4th-5th Grade (Hand Drawn) Category. Congratulations to Lucy Katz & Emma Escaravage of the Maryland Chapter, Luna Alvarez of the Florida Chapter, and Alexandra Genser of the Maryland Chapter. ¡Enhorabuena! Parabéns!
Nuevos horizontes para la comunicación y la cultura

Lucy Katz & Emma Escaravage, Maryland Chapter
Luna Alvarez, Florida Chapter
NUEVOS horizontes PARA LA comunicación Y LA Cultura

Alexandra Genser, Maryland Chapter

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105th AATSP Annual Conference
Universidad de Salamanca
Salamanca, Spain
June 26-29, 2023

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