Saludos / Saudações from Parthena Draggett, AATSP President

How wonderful to greet you all, for a beautiful start to the new academic year and opportunities for continued great teaching and learning of our wonderful Spanish and Portuguese languages and cultures! Of course, the AATSP has much to offer to support our members, united in our dedication to our profession and students. I am very excited to share this information with you.

But first, I would like to reflect on our memorable 105th AATSP Annual Conference in historic Salamanca, España. It was a great honor to represent you as President during the plentiful sessions, workshops, panels, plenaries, and many special events, all with the spectacular backdrop of la Ciudad Dorada as we explored Nuevos horizontes para la comunicación y la cultura/Novos horizontes para a comunicação e a cultura. We honored our outgoing Executive Director, Dr. Sheri Spaine Long, with a surprise tribute to showcase her service to the AATSP and our profession. Please click here to view Sheri’s recognition. In addition, we officially welcomed our new Executive Director, Dr. María Carreira, who has taken up the reins
so wonderfully. Thank you to la Junta de Castilla y León and la Universidad de Salamanca, along with our dedicated Board of Directors, and to our record-breaking number of members, who attended and presented for making our Congreso a great success. Check out the 2023 Conference Wrap Up (PDF) prepared by our accomplished Mary-Anne Vetterling. Make sure to read the introduction for the many countries represented in this truly international conference!

Now, I am very excited to share our special programs and events designed to support our membership:

- Yes, it’s time to plan for our exciting 106th AATSP Annual Conference in Portland, Oregon, June 29-July 2, 2024. Be watching for our call for proposals to be announced soon!
- The Sheri Spaine Long Professional Development Series is a new opportunity, free to AATSP members, along with certificates of participation. If you haven’t already done so, register here for the first in the series.

![Free Webinar](image)


- I am also very happy to be presenting as part of the fall lineup. Please tune in for A Great Year for AP Spanish Language and Culture: Guiding Priorities, Practices, and Procedures on Thursday, September 14, at 7:30 pm EST. Click here to register for my talk. Also in this series, just in time for Yom Kippur, Christina Chavarría will be giving a talk on Sept. 19th on Spanish language resources for teaching about the Holocaust. Register here to register for that talk.
- Join us for National Teach Spanish Week, from September 24-30. This year’s theme is Unlocking the Power of Spanish for Our Students: Connections and Opportunities in the Classroom and Beyond. Click here for details about special events for this exciting week of collaboration. Consider participating in this call for videos: Teacher Testimonials: Using the National Spanish Assessment as a Formative Assessment Tool, by submitting a
testimonial of how you have used the National Spanish Assessment to inform planning and teaching. Click here for guidelines.

- Also, there are plans in the making for National Portuguese Week, from November 1-8. The link will soon be updated with news about exciting events for this year’s celebration.

And, let's not forget our core programs, many of which also engage our students. Visit our website and search the “Programs and Activities” tab for links. Here are a few highlights:

- **National Spanish Exams (NSE) and National Portuguese Exams (NPE):** Be watching for awards for teachers, such as a new SHH/SHA Award; and opportunities for students, such as Concordia, Junior Travel, Virtual camp, Senior Scholarships, Shout Outs, and Concurso Colorido. Look for more new below, under "NSE News".
- **The Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica (SHH):** Sponsors, please note that the SHH is still accepting nominations for Directors for Regions I and II. Visit the links above for soon-to-be announced updates, including Senior Scholarships and Junior Travel Awards. Look for more news below, under "SHH News".
- **Hispania:** Make sure to read our special issues. In 2023, Guest Editors Javier Muñoz-Basols, Craig Neville, Barbara Lafford and Concepción Godev curated the special issue on "Applied Translation in Spanish and Portuguese. For publication in 2024, Guest Editors Uju Anya, John T. Maddox IV, and N. Nichelle Murray are curating a special issue on "The United Nations International Decade for People of African Descent: Reflections, Challenges, and Future Directions," with publication in mid-2024.

In closing, I hope that you will engage in many of the programs and activities offered for all members, teaching from Pre-K to post graduate levels, both to enrich your professional lives and also to extend learning experiences for students. I wish you an amazing year, filled with successes and marvelous adventures in teaching and learning!

¡Todos a una! Todos por un!

Parthena
THE AATSP WELCOMES NEW PROGRAM COORDINATORS AND RECOGNIZES OUTGOING COORDINATORS

By María M. Carreira

Photo Contest (Higher Ed)

The Photo Contest was created to showcase students’ original digital photography from their language-learning experiences in Spanish and Portuguese classrooms or from their experiences with Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking people or cultures domestically or abroad. We thank the outgoing Coordinator of this program, Barbara C. Schmidt-Rinehart, Ph.D. (Ashland University, Emerita) for her groundbreaking work both during the inaugural year of this initiative and the 2022-2023 school year. Barbara’s work included setting up the procedures and getting the contest off the ground. The beauty of the winning pictures for the 2023 Photo Contest attests to the quality and the success of this project.

We welcome Mary-Anne Vetterling, PH.D. (Regis College, Emerita) as the new Interim Coordinator of the Photo Contest. Mary-Anne is the talent behind the popular Conference Wrap up. She has served for many years as the editor of this beautiful publication as well serving as the official AATSP’s conference photographer. Take a moment to admire Mary-Anne’s beautiful work over many years and through it, reminisce about past AATSP conferences. And if you haven’t already done so, take a look at the recently released 2023 Conference Wrap Up (PDF). Besides her photography work, Mary-Anne’s contributions to the AATSP are extensive and include serving as President 2003-2004.

Poster Contest (K-12)

Each year the AATSP sponsors the Poster Contest for K-12 Spanish and Portuguese students whose teachers are current AATSP members. We thank Anthony “TJ” Troche (Spring Valley High School) for serving as the Interim Coordinator of this popular program, which engages the enthusiasm of our youngest students and serves as a program-advocacy tool for teachers. Under TJ's
leadership, the contest’s application and submission process was digitized, a development which significantly increased participation and access. In 2023, the Poster Contest committee awarded prizes to 21 students in Pre-K through 12. Enjoy the work of these talented students here.

We welcome the new Interim Director of the Poster Contest, Andrea Nazelli, (District-level World Languages Department Chair and Spanish Teacher at Detroit Country Day School (DCDS) in Beverly Hills, MI). Andrea is 2023 recipient of the AATSP Elementary (PreK-8) Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award. She is also the Elementary/Middle School Representative of the National Spanish Exam (NSE) Leadership Council, a member of the NSE’s scholarship selection committee, and an NSE contributing editor and writer. Learn more about Andrea’s many accomplishments and her inspirational ideas about education here (PDF).

**Sociedad Honoraria de Amistad (SHA)**

The Sociedad Hispánica de Amistad (SHA) is a society for Pre-K through 9th grade students of Spanish or Portuguese to encourage the study of languages in the lower grades, as well as to promote ambassadorship, service to community, and service to school. We thank Beth Gaunce (Senior Director of Education for Kentucky Public Television, former Spanish teacher) for her tireless work as the Coordinator of the SHA. Beth’s tenure as the SHA Coordinator is distinguished by her passionate promotion of the SHA as a feeder to the SHH (Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica, the AATSP’s high school honor society) and visionary leadership of teachers of early language learners. These and other efforts by Beth have gone a long way to create community among the AATSP teachers that work in early language learning.

We welcome the SHA’s new Interim Coordinator, Haydee Taylor-Arnold (Spanish teacher, Ladue Horton Watkins High School, St. Louis, MO). Haydee’s extensive record of service at the AATSP includes chairing the 2021 National Teach Spanish Week, chairing the 2021 Awards Selection Committee, serving on the SHA Committee, and being the Missouri NSE Coordinator from 2016 – 2020. In addition, Haydee is also active in organizations such as ACTFL, CSCTFL (The Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages), and FLAM (the Foreign Language Association of Missouri), where she currently serves as president.
Active Retirees SIG

We welcome Kevin Cessna-Buscemi as the Director of Communications for the new Active Retirees SIG. Kevin has been an active AATSP member since 1983 and he worked for the AATSP from 2001 - 2020, serving first as Director of Test Development (2001-2006), and then as Director of the Exams (2006-2020). During his tenure at the NSE, the AATSP became the first of the AATs to put exams online, and two important programs came into being: The National Spanish Challenge for elementary students and the National Spanish Assessment for secondary students. Between 2007 and Kevin’s retirement in 2020, enrollments for the NSE programs grew from slightly under 75,000 to 170,000.

Please join me in a round of applause for these dedicated AATSP colleagues. And though Thanksgiving is still months away, it is never too early to also give a shout out to the many other individuals who help make our organization a success, including the directors and coordinators of our other AATSP programs, our journal editors and staff, the members of the Board of Directors, past, present, and future AATSP Presidents, the movers and shakers of our State and local Chapters, our army of hardworking committee members, our partners, sponsors, and supporters, our loyal AATSP members, and last but not least, our attentive, steadfast, and highly capable AATSP staff: Eliécer Almaguer, Lisa Berry, Lisa Greenam, Nayeli Guillen, Patrick Hauth, Megan McLean, Lauren Ridley, and Wendy Simms.

¡Todos a una! Todos por um!

MEET OUR SPECIAL COMPANHEROS/COMPANHEIROS: SIGMA DELTA PI

Just two years after the founding of the AATSP, Sigma Delta Pi, the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society, was born on November 14, 1919 at the University of California, Berkeley under the leadership of a junior undergraduate student named Ruth Helen Barnes. Nearly 104 years later, Sigma Delta Pi boasts 641 chapters nationwide in every U.S. state except Alaska, and continues to recognize the outstanding academic achievement of students in Spanish language and Hispanic cultural studies at both four-year and two-year colleges. Furthermore, Sigma Delta Pi provides its
members opportunities for local and national leadership, financial support for noteworthy chapter projects, stipends for undergraduate study abroad and internships, grants for graduate student research, and dozens of recognitions for outstanding faculty advisers and members, among other benefits. Of its current ten partners, the AATSP is the longest standing: since 1938 when Sigma Delta Pi held its first triennial convention at the then AATS annual meeting in New York City in December. Eighty-five years later, Sigma Delta Pi’s partnership with the AATSP continues to flourish with various projects of collaboration to include the joint Mario Vargas Llosa Award, founded in 2011 and granted yearly to one exemplary undergraduate Spanish major or minor.

MEET OUR SPECIAL COMPAÑEROS/COMPANHEIROS: XPERITAS

Xperitas works with teachers to provide their students with outstanding language and cultural immersion experiences. They believe that when students have an authentic experience outside of the classroom, using their language skills in a different culture, they make a deeper cultural connection. Their programs are designed to inspire students to make personal connections with communities worldwide and gain greater cultural awareness.

Benefits reported by teachers, parents, and the students themselves are as follows:

- A better understanding of language and the nuance of dialect
- An understanding of language within the context of the culture
- A greater awareness of different perspectives
- A sense of increased independence, self-sufficiency, and cultural competence
This video shows the amazing impact that an Xperitas program makes in the lives of language teachers and their students.

NSE NEWS

Registration for the National Spanish Assessment Is Now Open

The National Spanish Assessment (NSA) is an assessment tool for Spanish teachers to help determine their middle-to-high school students' progress throughout the school year. Registration is open until June 28, 2024. Click here to register.

NSE September Shout-Out

The September NSE Shout-Out goes to teacher Samantha Carraher from Oak Park, IL! Mrs. Carraher was nominated by one of her students, who expressed that “Mrs. Carraher has a true passion and love for teaching students the Spanish language and everything that makes Hispanic culture beautiful.” This year, Mrs. Carraher is teaching Spanish 1 and 2 Honors, is the World Languages Department Chair, runs Friar Mentors (a peer-to-peer mentoring program) and is the moderator for the HOLA Club (Hispanic Outreach and Latino Awareness). Thank you, Samantha, for everything that you do for your students!

Learn more about Mrs. Carraher and what her students shared in their nomination on our blog.

¡Todos a una! Todos por um!
The NSE Has A New Phone Number

The AATSP | National Spanish Examinations office has updated their number to: 219-295-1491. Questions? Email us at nse@aatsp.org.

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**SHH NEWS**

**SHH and Sigma Delta Pi / SHLE Chapter Grants**

The Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica (SHH) and Sigma Delta Pi / Sociedad Honoraria de la Lengua Española (SDP/SHLE) are pleased to announce their chapter grant program.

An SHH chapter and a SDP or SHLE chapter, both of active status, may apply for a joint grant of up to $300 to support a collaborative project that complements the missions of SHH and SDP/SHLE. This grant program aims to promote the collaboration between university and community college chapters of SDP/SHLE and high school chapters of the SHH to help raise the visibility of Spanish honor societies in our communities and to incentivize high school students to continue their Spanish studies at the collegiate level.

Applications are accepted throughout the year, but only two grants may be awarded in a school year. Please click here for full details and the application.

**Call for Nominations: SHH Advisory Board Positions**

The SHH is seeking nominees for the Advisory Board positions of **Region I Director** and **Region III Director**. Each SHH Advisory Board member oversees one of the SHH scholarship or award competitions - coordinating with judges and contacting applicants about results. SHH Advisory Board members must be available to meet in person at each AATSP Annual Conference in the summer (travel reimbursements allowed).

[Click here](#) to see the US states divided by region. To be eligible to serve as Regional Director, a person must have served as an SHH chapter sponsor in a state within the region for at least three years.

Self-nominations are welcome. [Click here](#) for the nomination form.
and further details. The deadline to submit nominations is Friday, September 15, 2023.

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**KLETT WORLD LANGUAGES**

We at [Klett World Languages](https://www.klettwl.com) are dedicated to building the future of world languages by supporting educators and leading a transformative shift in language education throughout the United States. Driven by our passion for educators and the positive transformation they bring, our innovative print and digital programs help educators help their students of all ages to learn and effectively communicate in a new language. We offer materials in Spanish, French, German, and Italian designed to motivate and empower students to become authentic communicators and global citizens. Our Spanish programs include ALBA Y GAEL, REPORTEROS, and MAPAS for K-12 students and PROYECTOS and AULA EN ACCIÓN for higher education students. We also offer a host of readers, supplements, and other resources for your classroom, as well as a variety of professional development opportunities such as online and hybrid events, free webinars, free online training sessions, and more. Visit us at [klettwl.com](https://www.klettwl.com) to learn more about our mission, our programs, and the KWL Learning Community for World Language educators. Join us in building a future where language education thrives and opens doors to endless possibilities.
ABOUT US

Klett World Languages is the Chicago-based arm of the Klett Group, one of the leading educational institutions in the world.

We create K-12 and Higher Education products for the U.S. and international markets. Our portfolio includes materials for Spanish, German, French, Portuguese, and Italian.

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https://klettwl.com/catalog-2023/

A VIBRANT COMMUNITY

We provide a variety of free and premium professional development opportunities such as our upcoming hybrid event “Honing Our Craft,” this October 7-8th.

https://klettwl.com/2023-honing-our-craft-conference/

Sponsored Content

THE PORTUGUESE NEWSLETTER – FALL 2023
The Portuguese Newsletter is accepting your news for the fall edition! Please send us information on your recent publications, lectures, awards, promotions, tenure and promotion, scholarships, fellowships, poems. Also, very interesting: if your university created new programs related to the Lusophone world, started a local chapter for the Portuguese Honor Society, if there will be or there were guest speakers, conferences, academic events; study abroad programs, if you or your students received awards…photos of events…. all this is relevant for the Portuguese Newsletter readers! Check our website for current issue, archived issues, and submission guidelines here.

Please send your news to: moreiral@cofc.edu

Obrigada!

Luci Moreira, The Portuguese Newsletter Editor

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WE CELEBRATE 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 2nd-3rd Grade Category. Congratulations to Harper Ross, Alek Kashdin, and Charlotte Dolcimascado, all of the Florida Chapter. ¡Enhorabuena! Parabéns!
Harper Ross, Florida Chapter
Alek Kashdin, Florida Chapter
Charlotte Dolcimascado, Florida Chapter

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