Conference WRAP-UP

Open Doors
Portas Abertas
Puertas Abiertas

Miami Marriott Biscayne Bay Hotel

Editor
Mary-Anne Vetterling
# Conference WRAP-UP

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Dear colleagues,

Our 98th Annual Conference took place in Miami, Florida, on July 8–11, 2016, at the beautiful Biscayne Bay Marriott. The hotel staff went out of their way to make us feel welcome, and it was great to be in a city with such a strong Hispanic presence. The views of the bay were spectacular and conference attendees were able to socialize and make valuable connections with one another between sessions.

We had approximately 550 in attendance. Presenters came from approximately 40 different states and from Canada, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Oman, Taiwan, and more! During the conference, sessions of interest to teachers of Portuguese were offered in every time slot. There was also an amazing array of sessions with topics of interest for all teaching levels, from pre-K through graduate studies. Evaluations were overwhelmingly positive, including words like “great,” “excellent,” “amazing,” “wonderful,” “useful,” “enlightening,” and “engaging.”

Between sessions, exhibitors also offered a wide range of items and services of interest to AATSP members. In addition, there were receptions and the annual awards banquet where members had many opportunities to talk about what they had been learning. For more information, please click here to access the online conference program.

The AATSP gave awards and scholarships to people from 23 states and the District of Columbia: Alabama, Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and Wisconsin. One of the highlights of the conference was the inspirational Keynote Address by Alberto M. Carvalho (Superintendent, Miami-Dade County Public Schools) on “The Importance of Dual Language and International Studies Programs in Promoting Bilingualism.” In perfect English (with only a very slight, almost undetectable Portuguese accent), he told us his own story of immigration to the United States from Portugal and his persistence and determination to work hard and be successful in his new country. He mentioned the importance of being exposed to other languages early on and how foreign language study fosters greater empathy and higher-order thinking skills. He stressed how we need to “propel kids” with knowledge of a foreign language so that they are better suited for the new economic global reality. He stated “you always have the money to do what is right” and told us how he was able to save a student from an unjust deportation and help him become so successful that he went on to study at Harvard University. AATSP members left that session energized and inspired to do more to help promote our profession.

In this document, you will find lots of pictures from the various receptions, meetings, sessions, workshops, exhibits, and the awards banquet at the conference. We have also included an interview with Professor Gene Bell-Villada of Williams College, who has been an active member of AATSP for over thirty years. It was a wonderful conference and the weather, although hot, was delightful. Evenings were pleasant on the terrace just outside the hotel, where a number of members gathered to socialize after a busy day at the conference. When you go through this publication, I think you will be able feel the excitement and energy of all members present.

This Conference Wrap-Up would not exist without the help of many of you who posted pictures on Facebook. Additionally, the staff members at the AATSP National Office (Debra Nigohosian and Tracy Miller) were most helpful with providing information. I would also like to thank David Wiseman (AATSP Director of Communications), who is responsible for the layout of this document, for his many hours of hard work in putting it all together. I hope you enjoy the pictures taken throughout the conference and that, especially for those of you who attended, they bring back many memories of the great wealth of information to be gathered at the annual meetings of the AATSP. Our next conference will take place July 6–9, 2017, in Chicago, Illinois. I hope (with cameras ready) to see many, many AATSP members there!

Sincerely,

Mary-Anne Vetterling

Mary-Anne Vetterling
Editor, Conference Wrap-Up
Professor of Spanish & Associate Dean of Undergraduate Academic Affairs
Regis College; Weston, MA
During the conference this past July in Miami, several AATSP members interviewed Professor Gene Bell-Villada of Williams College. A frequent presenter at AATSP meetings and member of the association for 33 years, Professor Bell-Villada was delighted to entertain questions from Professors Dora Álvarez (University of Massachusetts-Boston), Patricia Pogal (Morehouse College), Joy Renjilian-Burgy (Wellesley College), and Mary-Anne Vetterling (Regis College).

For those new to the profession or unfamiliar with his work, we would like to list some of the major books that Professor Bell-Villada has published. Please note that these include literary criticism, a personal memoir, and works of fiction:

- *García Márquez: The Man and His Work* (1990; revised and expanded in 2010)
- *The Carlos Chadwick Mystery: A Novel of College Life and Political Terror* (1990)

Now we would like to provide you with some of the highlights of our discussion with this distinguished AATSP member.

The interview began with a leading question on everyone’s mind: What is Professor Bell-Villada working on now? It turns out that he is about to publish a book entitled *García Márquez in Retrospect*. This is a collection of essays on Gabriel García Márquez in the wake of his death, with an emphasis on his later works. The book was commissioned by a publisher who was impressed by one of the professor’s talks at a meeting of the Modern Language Association. For this volume, Professor Bell-Villada has written the introduction and also an article on names in *Cien años de soledad*, and has translated essays written by non-native speakers into English. It will be published by Lexington Books, a branch of Rowman & Littlefield, and is approximately 350 pages long with availability both in print and as an e-book.

Professor Bell-Villada proceeded to tell us more about García Márquez (Gabo), one of his favorite authors. He described to us a very special moment in his life when he had the privilege of interviewing Gabo in 1982, shortly before the novelist won the Nobel Prize (after which he would have been impossible to reach). That interview was already extremely difficult to secure and was granted only after a series of persistent and very tactful phone calls before our North American professor was able to schedule a visit with him at his home. Finally, he was able to talk with the future Nobel laureate for approximately 90 unforgettable minutes.
Subsequently, Professor Bell-Villada wrote a book on García Márquez, published in 1990 and revised in 2010 to include the Colombian’s later works. He told us that after 1990, García Márquez’s leftist became less important and he appeared less in the public eye. Today, some graduate students and Latin American writers of realist fiction see him as “old fashioned,” although Professor Bell-Villada said that his undergraduate classes love Gabo, especially for his humor, his historical perspective, and his take on Gringos. In the end, Professor Bell-Villada believes that García Márquez is a classic writer whose popularity will endure the test of time.

Not only has Professor Bell-Villada written books and taught courses on García Márquez, but he was actually on the Oprah Show in 2004 when her book club chose Cien años de soledad as their selection of the month. Because all flights to Chicago were booked when the interview was scheduled, Oprah’s crew went to Williams College and interviewed the professor for 2½ hours. From that interview, however, just about 45 seconds were aired, yet overall the fifteen minutes dedicated to García Márquez were enough to put the novelist once again in the public eye. Oprah’s focus on the Colombian writer helped spark interest in him among her fans and followers. Professor Bell-Villada has also published articles on García Márquez in journals like the Los Angeles Times Book Review, the Boston Review, and the Boston Phoenix, helping to promote this author to a wide range of readers in the United States.

His first book on García Márquez sold 12,000 copies and the new edition has been translated into Spanish and Turkish. Another book of his, Art for Art’s Sake and Literary Life, was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award in 1997 and has been translated into Serbian and Chinese.

According to Professor Bell-Villada, some Colombians, it is said, don’t like García Márquez. They feel that he has not done enough for his hometown of Aracataca. He was even invited to run for President, but turned down the offer. What people don’t understand is that García Márquez was shy. He was not a political activist; he was just a writer. In reality, he did have a lot of influence on Colombian culture; for instance, he and Álvaro Mutis founded a journalism school that sponsored the journal known as Cambio and in that way he helped improve the lives of his countrymen.

García Márquez has had a strong impact on Professor Bell-Villada throughout his life. When, as a graduate student, he first read Cien años de soledad, he was totally overwhelmed by the greatness of that book and has been writing about Gabo and his works in some capacity ever since.

Professor Bell-Villada’s favorite story by the Colombian laureate is “Rosas artificiales.” It is a tale about a girl jilted by her boyfriend, and yet neither he nor the word él ever appears in the story. In addition, it is narrated from the point of view of the abuela who is ciega. The climax is unique. At that moment, the grandmother asks the girl what she is doing and the young grandchild answers with an obscenity, something that jolts the reader into the full realization of what has happened to the girl. When a bad word emanates from the mouth of an innocent young person, it indicates not only anger but also rebellion. In this way, García Márquez indicates the intense feeling of a young adolescent who has experienced this type of rejection for the first time.

Professor Bell-Villada has presented at many AATSP meetings, nationally, internationally, and in his local AATSP chapter. In Puerto Rico in 2012, he talked about “Other Ways of Being Puerto Rican.” He has fond memories of that conference where he returned to one of the homes he had lived in as a child (for 12 years) and met for dinner with 6–7 former classmates from his grade-school days in San Juan. He also toured his old neighborhood and saw his former Catholic school. Other recent titles from his AATSP presentations are: “¿Soy gringo o hispano? ¿Los dos, o ninguno de los dos?” “Caribbean Literature, Cultural Hybridity, and Third Culture Kids”; Chair of a panel, “García Márquez: His Life, His Work, His Legacy”; and “Geography and Ecology in the Fiction of García Márquez”.

At several other AATSP meetings, Professor Bell-Villada has seen former students who are now involved in the teaching profession, among them Nancy Christoph, a professor at Pacific University in Oregon. In 2001, during the AATSP meeting in San Francisco, he fondly remembers visiting Berkeley, where he had spent several years as a graduate student. The AATSP conferences are always an opportunity for him to share ideas, learn new things, reconnect with friends and students from the past, and, depending on the location, dance a little salsa at a local nightclub with AATSP members or play some popular Latin tunes on the hotel piano.

He is looking forward to the next AATSP meeting in Chicago and especially the 2018 meeting in Salamanca. We all look forward to reading his new book on García Márquez and to listening to his future talks at upcoming AATSP meetings. It was a pleasure for us to interview Professor Bell-Villada and learn about his continued writing about Gabo and also hear about his involvement with the AATSP. We completed our interview with some of the free “mojitos” they were passing out at the hotel and then went on to various sessions taking place at the conference.
AATSP Banquet
Presenters & Award Speeches

Anne Fountain
AATSP President
“Where AATSP Can Take You”

Cheryl Fuentes-Wagner
President-Elect

Kelly Scheetz
SHH Director
"Raise your hand if you're a member of Sigma Delta Pi."
Pamela Gemmer
Chapter of the Year
Indiana Chapter

Claudia A. Kechkian
Xperitas Language Matters Award

Justin White
Outstanding Scholarly Publication Award
Josie M. Walker
Teacher of the Year
Secondary Level (9–12)

María F. Paredes Fernández
Teacher of the Year
University/College Level

Frank Nuessel
Outstanding Service Award

Eduardo Zayas-Bazán
Robert G. Mead Distinguished Leadership Award
Award Winners

Megan Jeanette Myers
Marina Escámez Ballesta
Pamela Gemmer

Frank Nuessel
Ariel Zach
Diana Gómez

Justin White
Boris Yelin
Claudia Kechkian
Click the following links to view all of the award and scholarship winners!
Board of Directors & Officers

Current & Former Presidents

Board of Directors

Directors, Editors, Coordinators, Managers, & Staff
Click here to view the Business Meeting minutes!
Learn more about the AATSP at www.aatsp.org
Candidate Presentations

President-Elect

Domnita Dumitrescu
Bill VanPatten

9–12 Representative

Sheila Cockey
Cynthia Flax
Community College Representative

Irma Bjerre

Susanna Williams

College/University Representative

John Maddox

Paul Mandell
Chapter Assembly

2016 Chapter of the Year
Indiana Chapter
David Wiseman
Director of Communications

Nicky Drake
National Awards

Presentation of Board of Directors Candidates
Exhibits

Thanks to all of our exhibitors!
Hotel & Miami
Meetings

SHH/SHA Board Meeting

SHH Business Meeting

Hispania Editorial Board Meeting

Portuguese Committee Meeting

NSE Board Meeting
Sigma Delta Pi Awards Meeting

Click here to learn more about Sigma Delta Pi
Receptions

President’s Welcome Reception

Sponsored by the Embajada de España / Consejería de Educación en Estados Unidos y Canadá
Signing the MOU!
Thank you Vámonos Tours for sponsoring the reception entertainment!

Click here for video!

¡A BAILAR!
Select Sessions

Individualizing Instruction for Heritage Spanish Learners

A Conversation with Leopoldo Lugones: Reading Quiroga’s *The Artificial Man*

Listening Strategies in the Spanish Classroom

Spanish Textbooks in the U.S.: Enduring Traditions and Emerging Trends

“Hold, Please, Caller”: Google Voice for Digital Assessment
Digital Storytelling and Multi-Modal Conversational Exchange

Editors Present: Publishing Your Work in *Hispania*

Click here to learn more about *Hispania*

La cultura en la clase como herramienta para la comunicación intercultural

Authentic Language and Culture for Communicative Proficiency

AP Preparation for the Speaking Tasks
Cuéntame: Promoting Writing and Self-Expression through Albricias

Click here to learn more about Albricias

Português nos Estados Unidos e a crise econômica do Brasil

Eduardo Lolo y los estudios martianos

Exhibitor Session (Vámonos Tours): Cuba Wonders and Challenges

The Spanish Classical Guitar and Carl Sandburg

Click here to view the complete conference program!
Select Workshops

La pequeña Havana: A Real and an Imagined Community
Ada Ortuzar-Young
Drew University; Madison, NJ

The Centrality of Meaning in Language Teaching: Your 21st-Century Classroom
Bill VanPatten
Michigan State University; East Lansing, MI
Joe Barcroft
Washington University in St. Louis; St. Louis, MO
Paul B. Mandell
University of Houston-Downtown; Houston, TX

Hands-On Technology: Becoming a 21st-Century Language Teacher by Using Technology with Your Students
Jeff Longwell
New Mexico State University; Las Cruces, NM

Lo bueno, lo malo y lo feo: el examen de ubicación para hablantes de herencia
Gabriela Moreno
New Mexico State University; Las Cruces, NM
Patricia MacGregor-Mendoza
New Mexico State University; Las Cruces, NM
Special Sessions

General Opening Session:
Literatura cubana: del terruño al universo

Dr. Eduardo Lolo
Kingsborough Community College of the City University of New York
Keynote Address:
The Importance of Dual Language and International Studies Programs in Promoting Bilingualism

Alberto M. Carvalho
Superintendent, Miami-Dade County Public Schools
**Author Session:**
*El secreto de Artemisia: presentación del autor*

Gerardo Piña-Rosales  
CUNY Graduate Center / ANLE

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**ANLE Session:**
*“Don Quijote en Manhattan” o lo hispano en los Estados Unidos: experimentación lingüística y reflexión identitaria*

Silvia Betti  
Università di Bologna / ANLE  
Domnita Dumitrescu  
California State University / ANLE  
Gerardo Piña-Rosales  
CUNY Graduate Center / ANLE
The Commission on Language Learning: What It Means for AATSP (and World Languages in General)

Bill Rivers  
Joint National Committee for Languages

Marty Abbott  
American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages

Emily Spinelli  
American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese

Sharon Fechter  
Montgomery College

E-Poster Sessions
Twitter & Facebook Comments

Megan Jeanette Myers @MeganJMyers  Jul 10
“Power of communication leads to understanding & understanding leads to tolerance” Alberto Carvalho Superintendent Miami-Dade PS #aatsp2016

Professor Jason @Professor_Jason  Jul 11
Had a great time and learned a lot! Thanks amigos at @AATSPglobal see you next time!!

WCL AAePS @aacpswcl  Jul 11
¡Gracias @ProfeSteiner for my personal tech session at #AATSP16 hoy! Let's stay connected. I can't wait to try @PlayOsmo @Sphero.

Sheri Spaine Long @spainelong  Jul 11
#AATSP16 gracias, Miami! Great AATSP conference!

Stacey @staceymargarita  Jul 11
Social justice in the language classroom. Real teachers laying out activities, examples, results. #AATSP16

Noah Geisel @SenorG  Jul 11
Now this is a sticker I'm excited to rep #aatsp16 #langchat

Jameson Global @JamesonGlobalEd  Jul 11
Enjoyed being a @AATSPglobal exhibitor in Miami this year! Great conference! Thank you!

Dr. Laurel Abreu @doctorlaurel  Jul 11
@staceymargarita presented a wonderful session on experiential learning! Can't wait to sit down & think more about it. #AATSP16

Yvette Fuentes @yvfuentes  Jul 10
This morning’s keynote by @MiamiSup #AATSP16 was inspirational for all of educators present. Thank you! @AATSPglobal

Megan Villanueva @SrnaVillanueva  Jul 10
Such interesting perspectives shared on varied topics, all important at #AATSP16 in “The Commission on Language Learning”.

Nadia Carmona @NCCarmona1  Jul 10
Bill VanPatten, Paul B. Mandela and Joe Barcroft have great ideas, solutions and a lot of questions to be solved!!! Love them. #AATSP16

Meredith White @PRHSspanish  Jul 10
@lindamarkley says we need to make language learning memorable, not memorized at #AATSP16!

Yuly Asencion @yya2  Jul 10
Tasks assignments for heritage speakers in an intermediate Spanish course. #AATSP16

Krista Steiner @ProfeSteiner  Jul 10
Getting ready for #AATSP16 Keynote with @MiamiSup The Importance of...promoting bilingualism #langchat # CPSReds

Stacy Anling @stacyanling  Jul 10
“The promise of tomorrow cannot exclude our kids” @MiamiSup #aatsp16

Catherine Del Valle @ShtaDelValle  Jul 9
Enjoying and learning at #AATSP16

Mrs. Arnold @Sra_Arnold  Jul 9
La conversación simulada. During class practice, we need to encourage our students to speak the whole 20 seconds to meet the task. #aatsp16

Mary Risner @LangForCareers  Jul 9
National Portuguese Exam (high school level) #aatsp16 http://fb.me/1jlW2lep

Sarah Kapitan @SarahKapitan  Jul 9
@SenorG is awesome! Loved #mobilstorytelling! It was great. Thanks, #AATSP16

Anneke Oppewal @an_oppewal  Jul 8
Great first day at #AATSP16 - field trip workshops are the best!

BF Wilson @model_bfw  Jul 8
It’s presentation day. Excited to network and meet new teachers. Morning in Miami at #AATSP16

faatspsecretary @faatspsecretary  Jul 8
Here we are in #Miami for #AATSP16 GREAT energy, SUPER sessions, RECONNECTING w/old friends, MAKING new ones!

Speaking Latino @SpeakingLatino  Jul 8
Kicking off the day here at #AATSP16 in Miami. Four days of conference, we’re psyched!

Click here to follow the AATSP on Twitter
Language Learning for Business and the Professions
Portuguese dual language immersion in Utah... #aatsp16

Southern Conference on Language Teaching
Linda Markley explains the baby steps and scaffolding to using #authres in the WL classroom at #AATSP16.

Extempore
Having a great time speaking with everyone about speaking practice in Exhibit Hall. #AATSP16

Mi Puente Language Institute
Getting ready for tomorrow’s AATSP Conference here in Miami Marriott Biscayne Bay #MiPuenteUruguay #AATSP16 #uruguaynatural #Lapataia

Costa Rica Frika
International Exchange Trip session a wrap. Great sharing and discussion #AATSP16

Profe Jeff
@ annual #AATSP16 conference in Miami. 8th consecutive year NMSU has been a sponsor@conference. Happy to associate with great organization!

Florida Chapter of AATSP
Entertainment during President's Reception at #AATSP16. ¡FANTÁSTICO!

SpanishBackpack.COM
We would like to say "muchas gracias" to the entire AATSP staff for your extraordinary efforts in making this year's conference such a memorable event. It was a pleasure getting to meet so many wonderful and motivated Spanish teachers and administrators from across the country. Nos vemos en Miami! #AATSP16

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2017 Conference

See you in Chicago!

Creating a Pipeline from Classroom to Career

Hilton Chicago Hotel
Chicago, Illinois

July 6–9, 2017