The American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese, Inc.

Minutes of the Business Meeting

Saturday, July 7, 2012

The Business Meeting of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese was held on Saturday, July 7, 2012 in Ponce de León C of the Conrad San Juan Condado Plaza Hotel in San Juan, Puerto Rico from 4:15-5:15 PM with approximately 175 members in attendance.

AATSP President Christine Campbell called the meeting to order at 4:15 PM and announced the agenda for the meeting.

The agenda items presented and actions taken were as follows:

1. INTRODUCTIONS
   A. Introduction of Executive Council Members
      Christine M. Campbell; President; Defense Language Institute; Presidio of Monterey, CA
      Laura Zinke; President-Elect; McClintock High School; Tempe, AZ
      Liliana Soto-Fernández; Past President; John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY;
         New York, NY
      Emily Spinelli; Executive Director; AATSP National Office; Walled Lake, MI
      Terry Ballman; California State University-Channel Island; Camarillo, CA
      Kevin Cessna-Buscemi; National Spanish Examinations; Valparaiso, IN
      Stephanie Cuddeback-Salim; Matignon High School; Cambridge, MA
      Cheryl Fuentes-Wagner; Kempner High School, Sugar Land, TX
      Sheri Spaine Long; United States Air Force Academy; USAFA, CO
      Sally Merryman; Smith Middle School; Chapel Hill, NC
      Mary Milleret; University of New Mexico; Albuquerque, NM
      Loknath Persaud; Pasadena City College; Pasadena CA
      Ursula Sihocky; Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica; Buffalo Grove, IL
      Cathy Soud; The Bolles School; Jacksonville, FL
      Phyllis VanBuren; St. Cloud State University; St. Cloud, MN (NOT IN ATTENDANCE)
      Bill VanPatten; Michigan State University; East Lansing, MI

   B. Introduction of AATSP Staff
      Cindy Kendall, Coordinator of Website and Social Media
      Roberta Miller, Director of Financial Services
      Debra Nigohosian, Coordinator of Member Services
      Marcy Novak, Conference Coordinator

   C. Introduction of Coordinators, Directors, and Editors
      ELL Poster Contest
         Coordinator: Crystal Vicente
      Enlace
         Editor: Mary-Anne Vetterling
2. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT
Executive Director, Emily Spinelli, delivered a PowerPoint presentation outlining the various roles and responsibilities of the Executive Director; she provided the membership with information about the presence of the AATSP at conferences and meetings in the United States and abroad. She also provided information about the 2012 Conference and announced that the number of proposals received was a record for recent years and announced that the 2012 conference attendance had surpassed 600 for the first time since 2006.

3. MEMBERSHIP REPORT
Debra Nigohosian, Coordinator of Member Services, presented the report on membership and announced that the AATSP membership for 2012 had surpassed 9500, which represented an increase of more than 200 members over 2011. Debra also provided data about membership categories, languages and levels taught, and compared data from 2012 with that of previous years.

4. COMMUNICATIONS REPORT
Cindy Kendall, Coordinator of AATSP Communications, provided website analytics about the number of visitors on the website, where they are from, and what pages they were visiting. Cindy also provided information about the AATSP presence on social media such as Twitter and Facebook. She announced that for the first time, conference attendees could follow the conference on Twitter and Facebook and learn first-hand about up-coming events, session changes, or presenter cancellations.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT
Roberta Miller, Director of Financial Services, delivered the Report on the finances of the Association including the independent, audited CPA Financial Statement for 2010-2011 and the year-to-date 2011-2012 Financial Report. She announced that the AATSP has recently placed $200,000 into a reserve investment account; this represents the first time since 1999 that the AATSP has been able to place money into a reserve account to help sustain the organization into the future. At its meeting on Friday, July 6, the Executive Council accepted the Financial Statement for 2010-2011 and brought the issue forward to the Business Meeting as a motion. Marco Arenas seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously by all in attendance.
6. **JNCL-NCLIS REPORT**

William E. Rivers, the newly appointed Executive Director of the Joint National Committee on Languages-National Council on Languages and International Studies (JNCL-NCLIS), provided a report on the status of the organization. He also discussed “the language industry” in the United States and provided ideas for future advocacy.

7. **TERM RENEWAL FOR HISPANIA EDITOR**

At its meeting on Friday, July 6, the Executive Council voted to renew the contract for Sheri Spaine Long as Editor of *Hispania* for a second three-year term beginning January 1, 2013 and ending December 31, 2015. The issue came to the Business Meeting as a motion from the Executive Council. Ada Ortúzar-Young seconded the motion. *Motion approved unanimously by all in attendance.*

8. **TERM RENEWAL FOR DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL SPANISH EXAMINATIONS**

At its meeting on Friday, July 6, the Executive Council voted to renew the contract of Kevin Cessna-Buscemi as Director of the National Spanish Examinations for a third term beginning September 1, 2013 and ending August 31, 2016. The issue came to the Business Meeting as a motion from the Executive Council. Marco Arenas seconded the motion. *Motion approved unanimously by all in attendance.*

9. **INTRODUCTION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE 2012 ELECTION**

The Business Meeting concluded with the introduction of the candidates for the 2012 election for President-Elect and Representatives to the Executive Council. Each candidate was introduced and read aloud their statement of candidacy outlining their qualifications for office and what they hope to accomplish if elected. The candidates include:

**President-Elect**
- Sharon Ahern Fechter; Montgomery College; Rockville, MD
- Frank Nuessel; University of Louisville; Louisville, KY

**College / University Representative**
- Deborah Gill; Pennsylvania State University-DuBois; DuBois, PA
- Ada Ortúzar-Young; Drew University, Madison, NJ

**Secondary (9-12) Representative**
- Laura N. Jacobson; Niles North High School, Skokie, IL
- Ann Mar; Alamo Heights High School; San Antonio, TX

**K-8 Representative**
- Crystal Vicente; Athens Academy; Athens, GA

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Marco Arenas moved to adjourn the meeting; Sharon Fechter seconded the motion. *Motion approved unanimously by all in attendance.*

The meeting adjourned at 5:18 PM.