

Oklahoma Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German

September 17, 2011

Minutes from meeting:

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Angela Novak at 2:03pm.

Attendance : Lindsay Manduano, Marianne Segner, David Nagle, Jennifer Holt, Sasha Johnson, Marion Williams, Gerald Loveless, Angela Novak, Joseph Sullivan, Karin Schestokat, Gabriele Barwig, Caty Hawk, Sabine Lewis and Ursula Mueller.

Introduction: OKAATG members introduced themselves. The members represent secondary and post-secondary German programs across Oklahoma and north Texas.

Draft Constitution: Angela Novak is preparing a draft constitution for OKAATG and will bring it to the Fall OFLTA conference on October 1. Members will have an opportunity to read it at that time.

Treasurer's Report: Currently OKAATG has about \$1,000 in funds. The treasurer was absent from the meeting , but Angela Novak reported on our current status in her place.

Future plans for the St. Crispins retreat: Ideas for presenters for the 2013 retreat should be sent to Angela Novak (anovak@bixbyps.org). We can get more money from AATG more quickly if we decide early who we want to have present.

Youth Immersion Weekend: We are seeking input from OKAATG members about organizing a youth immersion weekend or day for high school and middle school students. Members favored a Saturday rather than a school day. Joe Sullivan noted that professors would need plenty of time to plan ahead for this kind of event. If it took place in the spring of 2012, we could use the German-American Society building in Tulsa, but that might be too soon for the university members. It was decided that the fall of 2012 would be a preferred time frame, provided that we organize differentiated instruction for beginner students, such as German songs, history and culture. It was suggested that we approach the German consulate in Houston about funding for our youth immersion weekend.

German National Exam: Karin Schestokat is still the testing chair. Members were encouraged to have their secondary students take the National Exam (<http://www.aatg.org/NGE>) . The deadline to apply is October 28th and the exam period is between December 6th and January 20th. Outstanding secondary students can compete for a trip to Germany and participation in tours. The exam costs \$5.00 per student. German is the only language in Oklahoma that has a state contest (Deutschfest), a national exam and (potentially) a youth immersion weekend.

German Film Festival: The German Embassy is bringing 4 films to the Oklahoma Museum of Art. See the OKAATG website for details under **upcoming events**.

Creation of Secretary/webmaster position: Sasha Johnson volunteered for and was confirmed in the position of secretary/webmaster for OKAATG.

Tulsa Community College Events: TCC will be hosting Todos Juntos this fall

(<http://www.tulsacc.edu/31630/>) and the Frühlingsfest in the spring (<http://www.tulsacc.edu/32270/>), both of which offer opportunities to enjoy German culture. There will be free food and the German-American Society will be bringing an authentic Maypole to the April festival. TCC is also hosting Christmas in Europe (<http://www.tulsacc.edu/32255/>), which offers a German focus.

German-American Society: Tuesday nights at the German-American Society dancehall are an opportunity to learn traditional German folk dances. They are looking for more members and increased participation.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:00pm