



**Board of Directors Meeting  
Saturday, March 2, 2023, via Zoom**

**Elected Officers:**

- President:** Brandon Fitzsimmons (Sycamore School)  
**1st Vice President:** Megan Worcester (Union County High School)  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:** Ye Sun (Lafayette Jefferson High School)  
**Immediate Past President:** Judith Carlstrand (IUPUI)  
**Secretary:** Melinda White (Purdue University)  
**Treasurer:** Kazumi Matsumoto (Ball State University)

The Board of Directors for the Indiana Foreign Language Teachers Association, Inc. met on Zoom at 10am on March 2, 2023. A quorum was declared by President Brandon Fitzsimmons.

- I. Call to Order: 10:05 Present:** Brandon Fitzsimmons, Megan Worcester, Ye Sun, Judi Carlstrand, Melinda White, Kazumi Matsumoto, Glenn Carlstrand, Natalie Hendrix-Evans, Joanna Witulski, Liu Li, Sayuri Ogiuchi, Yingling Bao, Madeline Hennessey, Charlene Heinzman, Christopher Hindsley, Kazumi Matsumoto, Ana Bowman, Israel Herrera, Kate Spanke
- II. Secretary's Report** – Melinda White – minutes sent to the board, no corrections were submitted, Megan Worcester moved to approve minutes, Kazumi 2<sup>nd</sup>, all approved
- III. Treasurer's Report** – Kazumi Matsumoto
  - Current Account Balance: \$13,497.13**
  - Checking- \$10,920.36**
  - Savings- \$2,576.77**
  - 2024 Year to Date Income: \$1,325.00**
  - 2024 Year to Date Expenses: \$39,716.75**
  - 2023 Revenue: \$39,307.43**
  - 2023 Expenses: \$58,140.55**
  - 2023 Conference Expenses: \$36,812**
  - 2023 Conference Revenue: \$34,669.32**

Operating at a loss, so we need to increase fees for conference. Charlene moved to accept treasurer report and Megan 2<sup>nd</sup>, all approved.  
Discussion: Raise fees (was \$145) to \$180? What is the % of the current registration fee that is just for food? Is there a way to give a discount to first-time attendees to encourage membership? Is there a way to charge for just one Constituent Workshop and not go to full conference? Hard to police, maybe make different colored badges for partial attendees? Pay a daily cost instead, full day attendance, food, etc. Judi Carlstrand moved to table the

discussion until a budget committee can meet to look at individual costs based on current projections/contract. Megan seconded. Approved.

**Committee for Budget/Fee Review: Brandon, Judi, Megan, Kazumi, Ye, and Charlene**

Suggestion that we look at alternative options for paying yearly membership fees like PayPal, Venmo, CashApp, etc. Is there a waived fee for any of these for a not-for-profit?

#### IV. **IFLTA Fall Conference updates -**

a. **Update on 2023 Conference Finances/Payments - Ye Sun**

2023 Conference is much better than the 2022 Conference since we focused on getting hotel expenses down. Meeting Connection listed too many free registration spots.

b. **2024 Conference Proposal Form and Process - Megan Worcester**

First email blast has been sent out for conference proposals, more will be sent

c. **Registration and Presentation deadlines - Megan Worcester**

Proposed cut-off date for submissions-June 15

Discussion: Flexibility for later submissions, teachers busy with State mandated testing/end of year/etc. so leave enough time for them to think about it at end of year, etc.

Newly proposed cut-off date June 30, Judi moved that we vote on it. Melinda 2<sup>nd</sup>, approved

d. **Keynote Speaker - Brandon Fitzsimmons**

Contract signed (\$2000, agreed on keynote, workshop and session)

e. **Pre-conference and New Teacher Workshop - Leslie Phillips - absent**

f. **Exhibits Report - Candis Carey - absent**

g. **Teacher of the Year Report - Liu Li**

TOY chairs have been emailed with deadline for nominations April 26, and candidate eligibility changes (no active board member and 6 years experience- not 8-to qualify.

h. **Poster Contest Report - Yi-Chun LeFaure - absent**

i. **Creative Projects Report - Christopher Hindsley/Kathy Darnell**

Currently refining guidelines and working on ways to encourage teachers to share projects and way to promote the contest in general

Discussion: Send to all constituent presidents, add to constituent newsletters (AATG contact [jonathan.gigler@gmail.com](mailto:jonathan.gigler@gmail.com)) include descriptions of past projects for examples, send info to Attia Youssef to put on socials, suggest as a sub-day lesson plan idea. There isn't a deadline because teachers just bring the projects on Friday of the conference,

j. **Attendance Grants Report - Sibel Crum**

At the 2023 IFLTA conference, we had two grantees, a graduate student and K-12 teacher. While we've typically received numerous applicants in the previous years, there was a notable decline this time around. This shift may be attributed to the fact that the board modified our grant to cover only conference registration.

#### V. **Committee Reports**

- a. **Advocacy** - Megan Worcester  
Last week was Language Advocacy Days, virtually met with 2 senators and 4 Representatives, 7 participants, Megan allowed to go with new participants to their zoom with Representative to support them. Megan was newly voted onto the JNCL/NCLIS board!!!
- b. **Newsletter** - Susan Luo – Absent, but Winter Newsletter was a success
- c. **Awards** (incl. Central States) - Israel Herrera  
Award: Vesna Dimitrieska 2024 recipient of the Paul Simon Award (Central States) which is for oneone who supports, promotes and guides language teachers
- d. **Spring Conference/Professional Development** - Israel Herrera  
Proposes that we have our Spring Conference at IUPUI to combine with their World Languages Conference (10-2?), have one session where TOYs can present (invite them to present). Lunch taken care of by the IUPUI activity, subsidized by the Embassy of Spain. Speaker from Argentina (presenting in English) on pedagogy, Parking is approximately \$10/day, look at possibilities of giving participants a voucher or get a grant for free parking? Can we have a separate registration for our members? Charge them \$35, non-members \$45, students free? Melinda moved that we accept this proposal, Megan 2<sup>nd</sup>, all approved.
- e. **Election** (Next 2nd VP & **Secretary**, Tech and Public Relations & Publication/Research Chairs) - Ye Sun Rising Star Teachers Portfolio  
Melinda will not be able to continue as secretary for next year. Email needs sent out to constituents to call for applicants to the positions.  
\*Megan will include that in her next email blast for Conference session proposals.
- f. **Dual Language Immersion and Heritage Language** - Vesna Dimitrieska updates for DLI, here are several:  
\* 2024 Fall DLI Workshop took place at IU on Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup>  
\* IDOE has set the date for the in-person DLI Networking Day on March 6th. This will take place in Franklin Township  
\* IU's 2024 DLI Summer Institute is scheduled to take place from June 3th- 7th, 2024
- g. **Technology and Public Relations** - Thomas Maxwell – Will need to keep it at 8 rooms, and he will need to set up technology early at conference-- ideally around noon. hoping that the conference is willing to pay for a hotel room for me this year given the nature of the technology job. Will not be able to take tech with him, so next tech person will need to have a location for storage. **Really** need to have a hard cut off date for changes to the schedule so hours aren't spent on updates to app. Yearly cost of app is \$599, maybe save that money and just use a QR code?  
Discussion: QR code could link to a Google doc (or Google Sheet) that could allow schedule to be updated instead of using a pdf. App was cheaper than printing off booklet of conference info, but some people aren't using the app still and are

printing off before coming. Klett sponsorship could pay? Brandon will contact Thomas for discussion on # of attendees using the app, his suggestions on how feasible it is to use Google options instead of app, etc. Also talk with Brian Gross about taking his place as Technology and Public Relations chair and get his suggestions on app vs. Google. Charlene moved to table discussion until May mtg. Megan 2<sup>nd</sup>, approved unanimously.

**h. Membership and Outreach** - Nicci Carney – no updates

**i. Less Commonly Taught Languages** - Sibel Crum

Collaborated with an LCTL colleague to co-organize a workshop where we presented and discussed our empirical study involving 420 college students. These students were divided into two distinct groups: those learning less commonly taught languages, such as Arabic, Slavic, Altaic and Niger-Congo, and those learning more commonly taught languages, such as Spanish. The main goal of the workshop was to share insights into the factors that influence students' decisions regarding enrollment and continuation in language programs. Our discussion was enriched by the participation of attendees representing diverse languages, including ASL teachers. We are hoping to have another workshop this year.

**j. Mentoring** - Leslie Phillips – absent – no updates sent

**k. Publication and Research** - Julia Baumgardt sent message that it would be good to look for someone who could attend meetings and be more active. Israel Herrera will work on finding a replacement and explaining the needed duties of the position. If no one can be found consider removing the position and adding a special call for publication updates and research information to be included in our newsletter. Discussion tabled until May meeting; moved by Israel and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Charlene.

**l. The Indiana Language Roadmap** - Eli Konwest

Funding in support of the [Certificate of Multilingual Proficiency](#). High schools enrolled in the Certificate of Multilingual Proficiency are eligible to apply for funding to cover the assessment fees associated with attainment of COMP. School may apply for funding of up to ten students. A flyer with more information is attached and the nomination form is here: <https://bit.ly/NominateaStudent>.

We are also pleased to launch the next round of [Community Project Grants](#). Indiana organizations and schools can apply to this competitive grant for up to \$1,000 to support projects that align with Indiana Language Roadmap priorities. More information in the attached flyer. Application here: [go.iu.edu/5DKI](https://go.iu.edu/5DKI).

**m. Indiana Dept. of Education** - Chelsea Isley - absent

Megan reported that new list of approved tests for CoMP will be coming out. Still looking at alternate ways to assess students that speak languages for which we do not have a test. Hoping that after a new State Superintendent of Education is appointed we can attempt getting a World Language Specialist in the IDOE so we have a seat at the table.

**n. Social Media** - Attia Youseif – no update, just keeping it active and accurate

## VI. Old Business

- a. none
- VII. New Business**
  - a. 2024 2024 and 2025 Conference - Hotel contracts signed
  - b. TOY discussion
  - c. Summer PD ??? Nothing planned so far
- VIII. World Language Affiliate Reports (time-permitting)**
  - a. AATF Madeline Hennessy
 

Searching for a new treasurer for the organization, Kate Spanke joined zoom and explained Spring plans of conversation events, saving money on website changes, working on TOY nominations, and announced that her family would be in Norway next school year for her husband's Fulbright Scholarship (Congratulations!)
  - b. AATF-NW Mary VanRoosendall
 

Continuing with our monthly immersion dinners and hoping to implement activity shares via zoom as a form of PD in the future . Blandine Baldwin and I really enjoyed helping out with the Congrès in Franklin, IN and are hoping to organize something similar for our chapter down the road.
  - c. AATG Charlene Heinzman
 

German Staatskongress had almost 400 students in attendance, they have planned Spring regional get togethers, and have been having Winter "Vitamin B" (Beziehung) zoom meetings to build relationships. They are still hoping to fill the open German teaching position in Converse, IN at Oakhill H.S.
  - d. AATSP Ana Boman – present at meeting, but unavailable at this time
  - e. AITJ Sayuri Ogiuchi – Last Saturday they had their Japanese Quiz Bowl at Ball State University. 9 high schools attended last year, but this year it was 10 schools and over 120 students. Next year is at DePauw University. Already completed TOY nomination and working on Rising Star
  - f. CLTA-IN Yingling Bao – They have been having many New Year events which are posted on their webpage. The Indianapolis Community Center held a New Year Festival and over 1500 local residents attended. They will have Spring online workshops in April on Assessment. Their applications are out for TOY nomination and Rising Star
  - g. ICC Charles Campbell – absent, no update
  - h. GLAC Jill Woerner - the dates of the final 2 meetings this year are March 6<sup>th</sup> and April 30<sup>th</sup> both from 4:00-5:00pm via Zoom. There have been a lot of opportunities for all IFLTA teachers/members to learn about scholarships for themselves and their students, travel opportunities, virtual exchange programs, professional development, and so on.
- IX. Final Comments/suggestions of items for following meeting**
- X. Adjournment: Charlene moved and Megan 2<sup>nd</sup> that we adjourn, all in favor @1:07**

**Upcoming meetings: Saturday, May 18, 2024 from 10am – 1pm**