

California Community College Foreign Language Council **News**

August 22, 2008

Fall CCCFLC Meetings Set

Please register now for the CCCFLC annual conferences this fall:

The southern meeting will take place on Friday, Oct. 10 at [Orange Coast College](#) in Costa Mesa, CA, in Orange County. You may wish to spend Thursday night at the [Westin Hotel Rooms](#) at the South Coast Plaza Shopping Center, near the College. Call the hotel to reserve a room.

The northern meeting will take place on Friday, October 24, at [City College in San Francisco](#). The meeting will be held at the main campus off the 280 Freeway at Ocean Avenue. You may also reach the campus by BART, exiting at the Balboa Park Station.

We can still accept presentations at each location. Please contact Tom Blair or Patricia Scarfone with your proposals.

Title V Changes to Exclude Repetition of Language Courses

Colleges whose language classes, such as conversation courses, were repeatable have been told not to allow repeats for such courses. We all know that some students do benefit from repeating certain courses, and we also know that physical education courses are repeatable. It is curious that no one from the CCCFLC was asked our opinion as to whether language courses should be repeatable. Anyway, this would seem to be another example of how educators pay lip service to internationalization and languages.

Presidential Candidates and Languages

Both Senators Obama and McCain seem to be true Americans in that they have no fluency in languages other than English, alas. When asked about language study, Obama said that he thought American were put to shame by multi-lingual Europeans and said that more Americans should be learning Spanish, at least. The McCain campaign then took the comment and tried to turn it into a negative, by saying that Obama thinks—isn't it terrible?—that Americans should learn languages. It is also true that Obama spent several years of his childhood in Indonesia without picking up the language.

Our next issue will appear in September. Please send your articles to Tom Blair, 424 Dorado Ter., San Francisco 94112-1753. Membership is \$10 for part-time and \$15 for full-time. CLTA membership is \$45.