

California Community College Foreign Language Council **News**

May 27, 2010

CCCFLC Sets Dates of Fall Conferences

The dates for our fall meetings are now set as follows:

- Friday, Oct. 15 at College of Marin in Kentfield, spotlighting the language program at College of Marin, and our first time north of the Golden Gate
- Friday, Oct. 22 at Los Angeles Valley College in Valley Glen. This conference is in conjunction with a special lecture and concert on the 20th anniversary of German Reunification. As an added attraction, attendees may attend the 20th Anniversary Commemoration of the Reunification of Germany Symposium. There will be a banquet starting at approximately 5:30 pm, that evening, followed by a keynote address. The speaker will be Justinian Jampol, Executive Director and Founder of the Wende Museum in Los Angeles, scheduled from 7:00 - 7:45 that Friday. This will all culminate in a concert by the Valley Philharmonic Orchestra, which will feature music important to the history of Germany.

Please mark your calendars now. Reasonably priced lodgings near LA Valley College are at the Miyako Motel.

We are also requesting presenters to let us know their topics now. Please return the enclosed presenter form to Tom Blair by August 1.

Website Highlights Languages and Global Studies

A recent website provides videos and support for languages and global studies from the federal perspective: www.usglobalcompetence.org The site features prominent state department and academic people discussing the need for language study and global competence. This might be used in conjunction with the report from last year: Learning World Cultures and Languages in California to present to administrators and Boards of Trustees.

Technology Ideas for your Summer Consideration

Language teachers are known for creativity and inventiveness. And it is no different in the world of educational technology. Here at City College of San Francisco, instructors from our Foreign Languages Department and our colleagues in the ESL Department are using technology in a variety of fun and engaging ways. The tools used and the purpose of them are as varied as our teachers and the languages they teach. Some of our language teachers are using free online tools to engage their classes. "VoiceThread"

(<http://voicethread.com/>) allows instructors and students to share sound, video, and images. Some instructors are using the online comic strip creator, *Comix*, to create comic strips. (<http://www.makebeliefscomix.com/Comix/>). Others are using Wikis for group work and peer editing (one free wiki creator is: <http://www.wetpaint.com/>). Still others are using Facebook to create community in the target language, and distribute information to students “where they live”. ESL students create audio files and their instructors correct them using the free sound editor, Audacity. The French club, “Cercle Français” uses a blog to disseminate information about meetings and French events in the Bay Area.

At CCSF, we use Moodle , the open source course management system for our online language courses, but also to enhance some face to face language courses. Besides quizzes, discussion forums, a place to upload homework, and the other standard tools available in most course management systems, we also benefit from the availability of Wimba Voice Tools in our Moodle instance. California Community Colleges have special pricing, allowing us to use this terrific suite of tools. Included are: a voice discussion board, voice email, an easy to use podcast creator, and more. Teachers can assign listening comprehension assignments, students can easily access audio vocabulary lists to carry around on their ipods.

Another exciting resource that all teachers can use, even those of us with very limited resources, is the free suite of Google applications. Google Docs (word processor, presentation tool, spreadsheets) allow teachers to create and share documents, and presentations. You can allow students editing privileges for peer editing assignments, while the instructor, the “owner” of the document can see all the changes and who made them! Google Talk allows real time audio and video chat, and Google Sites allow instructors to make terrific interactive websites where they can bring together all the Google tools they are using. Be sure to understand all the privacy settings in all of these tools before you use them, to protect student information.

The Southwest Association of Language Learning and Technology (SWALLT) offers support to teachers using technology by hosting conferences and frequent online meetings. Presentations are interesting and varied. The group is friendly. Participants are instructors as well as technologists. Although most members come from four year colleges and universities in our five state region (Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah) SWALLT is especially interested in providing assistance and support to K-12 teachers. Plan to attend the SWALLT/NWALLT joint meeting at Reed College, in Portland, Oregon in October. No travel money? Membership will put you on the list to participate in the frequent online meetings during the semester. For more information, please see the SWALLT website: <http://swallt.org/>.

--Carol Reitan, Instructor of French and Technology Learning Coordinator, City College of San Francisco

Our next issue will appear in August. 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 \$50.

Presentation Proposal for the CCCFLC Fall 2010 Meetings

___Northern Meeting at College of Marin, Oct. 15

___Southern Meeting, at Los Angeles Valley College, Oct. 22

Name _____

College _____ -

Language _____ Email _____ -

Phone _____

Topic:

Brief description:

Audio-visual needs???

Please return to Tom Blair, 424 Dorado, San Francisco 94112-1753 by Aug. 1.