

8th edition of the 2017 Newsletter

of the California Community College Foreign Language Council

CCCFLC Conference: Saturday, October 21, 2017, 9:00 a. m.-3:30 p. m. at College of the Canyons, Valencia Campus

Oct. 17, 2017

- **0.** You can register late online or in person at the door (see 4. below).
- 1. Can you really afford to miss Géraldine Lepère?
- 2. Get together with/make old friends at our conference.
- 3. Which of these presentations would you like to see?
- 4. Map, parking, driving directions, site info & procedure for registering late.
- 5. We will be electing new board members at the conference.

1. CAN YOU REALLY AFFORD TO MISS GÉRALDINE LEPÈRE?



Géraldine Lepère is unique in the constellation of didactic stars. She honestly believes that we language teachers are here to teach our students how to speak the target language, not to master the grammar, nor the spelling, nor the accent marks; those are of lesser importance to her. Can our students truly use the language in real life after they leave our classes? That is a question at the heart of Géraldine's perspective, in my opinion. Ideally, we should all be self-reflective enough to ask ourselves that question. I sincerely hope that our keynote speaker Géraldine Lepère will help us all stop and rethink how we approach the teaching of conversational skills and their relative importance in our overall teaching.

GET TOGETHER WITH/MAKE OLD FRIENDS AT OUR CONFERENCE

I know it sounds strange, "make old friends at our conference," but that's what those of us who have been faithfully attending year after year did at the end of our first CCCFLC conference: we made lasting, professional friendships that have endured for more than two decades. Just knowing that everyone there has gone through all the trials and tribulations that you've gone through in the classroom makes you feel like you're among old friends, even when you meet someone for the first time. And every year you see a lot of familiar faces, mixed with a few new ones. We encourage you to get to know everyone at the breakfast and lunch tables, in the interest sessions you attend, and those sitting near you during the keynote address. We're not only about professional development, but also networking and mutual support. We can't wait to see you there on SATURDAY, October 21, 2017.

The conference will begin promptly at 9:00 a. m. with registration, a classic continental breakfast consisting of the chef's daily selection of muffins, danish, bagels, and cinnamon rolls, served with all accompaniments, and an Artisan seasonal fruit platter. Coffee service will be flowing (wake up!), along with orange juice, and spa water. Lunch will be Greek themed this year and will feature stone-oven naan flatbread served with chicken shawarma and crispy falafel, yellow rice, greek salad, hummus, pita chips tzatziki, tomato cucumber salsa, feta cheese, and kalamata olives, so come hungry. The cost of the conference for those registering by October 12, 2017 is \$50.00 for full-time instructors and \$40.00 for students, part-time faculty, retired faculty, and other attendees. Colleagues from Central and Northern California are encouraged to attend. Our conference is scheduled to end promptly at 3:30 p. m.

WHICH OF THESE PRESENTATIONS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE?

We sincerely hope that many of the following interest sessions will "call you" to attend them. As of press time, the following are the nine breakout presentations we have lined up for you:

1) Rosalind Latiner Raby will share information on education abroad at California community colleges by focusing on the history as well as on current offering. Emphasis will be placed on best practices, current trends, and future concerns for the field.

2) Tammie Tran will talk about how low enrollment and its effects on foreign language

courses have been of great concern in community colleges and universities in recent years. The presentation is a platform for us to review/share experiences about the enrollment situation and its consequences in our institutions in Southern California. Please join her to discuss some possible strategies to grow enrollment and increase diverse student populations from administrative and pedagogical perspectives.

3) Solène Halabi and Serena Ott will demonstrate how tapping into students' creativity and playfulness can benefit language learning. The activities presented range from initial engagement exercises to review exercises and require either no prep or minimal prep. Much emphasis is placed on the importance of speaking in the target language. Activities can be adapted for all levels of language and require no access to technology. Come ready to play!

4) Hagit Arieli-Chai will show us how using technology in a second language instruction allows students to reach global competency and meet ACTFL (American Council of the Teaching of Language) competency standards the five Cs (Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities). Communicative competency, according to ACTFL, is comprised of three modes of communication: interpersonal, interpretative and personal. The interpersonal mode can be attained by conversation or writing; its purpose is to interpret written texts in either visual or auditory manner. Another goal of the interpersonal mode is to foster aptitude in writing, speaking, and presentational formats. In her presentation, Prof. Arieli-Chai will show us how various technological tools can enhance activities designed to achieve global competency in the L-2 environment.

5) Kurt Kemp and Serena Ott will be co-presenting an overview of a topic of interest to many adjuncts: How to maximize the probability of obtaining a full-time tenure-track position at the community college level. They will go over all phases of the process, such as where to find open positions, the application process, meeting deadlines, how to get that first interview, the topics and questions you can expect in it, the teaching demonstration, the finalist interview, the topics and questions you can expect in it and what is required of you to obtain tenure after you've gotten the job.

6) Lynn Vogel-Zuiderweg and Mary Ellen Eckhert: This session provides an opportunity for attendees to discuss how language teachers might implement strategies for optimizing student learning in our classes. Topics include the potential of open access to courses and materials in order to remove financial barriers and integrating performance-based assessment into our teaching. Presenters will share ideas and observations gleaned from applying principles of task-based learning in our French courses.

7) Denise Cabanel-Bleuer: OMG, OER, e.g., AB 789, is so COOL4Ed! If that makes little to no sense to you, come learn about Open Educational Resources, the College

Textbook Affordability Act of 2015, and both benefits and concerns regarding application of OER to language learning.

8) David Pardess: First day in Romanian! Come be a student for an hour or so and experience a fun and satisfying intro to Romanian that can be used as a template for the first day in any language. Discussion to follow immediately.

9) Adrienne Merlo: This is a fun lesson plan that uses the signs of the zodiac to expand vocabulary. More importantly, I use this activity to show my students that there are other resources for practicing the language other than studying vocabulary and grammar via the textbook. It is a fun lesson plan that is easily adaptable to any romance languages because it is based on cognates between the languages.

As you can see, we have some exciting offerings to share with you. The thing about language teaching is that there are so many diverse ways to engage our students. Why pass up the opportunity to refresh your skills and knowledge? Our hope is that you leave our conference with a couple new tools in your didactic tool box.

MAP, PARKING, SITE INFORMATION, DRIVING DIRECTIONS & PROCEDURE FOR REGISTERING LATE

As I've mentioned before, the 2017 CCCFLC Conference will be held at the Valencia campus of the College of the Canyons in Santa Clarita, CA, not too far from Magic Mountain. We'll be in the UCEN University Center, which is at the southernmost end of the following map:

https://www.canyons.edu/Offices/PIO/Pages/ValenciaCampusMap.aspx

You will not need a parking permit and we will all park in lot 14 (see map above). Our conference will be on the second floor of the UCEN Center, in Room 258. Look for the signs. The exact room numbers of the breakout sessions will be listed in our program, which we will pass out to you when you check in and get your nametag.

As for driving directions to the College of the Canyons Valencia campus, it is located in the City of Santa Clarita just off the I-5 freeway at Valencia Boulevard. It is 35 miles north of the City of Los Angeles and 40 miles east of the Pacific Ocean.

It is located at: 26455 Rockwell Canyon Road, Valencia, CA 91355

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

From the South: Take I-5 north to Valencia Boulevard. Turn right onto Valencia Boulevard. At the third stoplight (counting the off-ramp light), turn right onto Rockwell Canyon Road. Enter the college at University Center Drive (at the only traffic signal on Rockwell Canyon Road and the fifth parking lot entrance on the right). Drive all the way to the south most end of the parking lot. You will be in lot 14 and it is recommended that you park as close as you can to the UCEN Center. Look for our signs, go up to the 2nd floor and look for room 258. See you there! We'll have lots of coffee to wake you up!

LATE REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Late registration for the 2017 CCCFLC Conference is \$60.00 for full-time faculty, and \$50.00 for students, part-time faculty, retired faculty, and other attendees. Below is the procedure to register online (before Oct. 21) or at the door:

1) Go to cccflc.org and click on the link for the Conference page. There you'll find detailed registration and payment information. Click on the link for the conference registration form.

2) Save the conference registration form **to your computer**. Then open it from your computer, complete it, and save it again to your computer.

3) E-mail the completed registration form as an attachment to both Eckherme@elac.edu and dcabanel@occ.cccd.edu.

If you prefer to pay online, please complete your payment at the same time that you email your completed registration form.

4) In-person registration the morning of the conference will be \$60.00 for full-time faculty, \$50.00 for students, part-time faculty, retired faculty, and other attendees; by cash, credit, or PayPal; no personal checks will be accepted the day of the conference.

Since the conference is on a Saturday, **parking is free** and you do NOT need a parking permit. By the way, if you are willing to help us set up and clean up afterwards, please let us know.

WE WILL BE ELECTING NEW BOARD MEMBERS AT THE CONFERENCE

Did you know that the CCCFLC officer positions are for three years? Since the last elections were held in 2014 at Golden West College (remember that conference?), it is now time for us to elect new officers. If you are interested or if you want to nominate someone you think would do a good job, please let us know at the conference.

HERE IS A DESCRIPTION OF THE AVAILABLE POSITIONS:

1) **President:** The President of the organization shall be primarily responsible for working with the CCCFLC representative of the host institution in planning and executing the details of the fall conference. S/he shall function as the face of the CCCFLC at said conferences, welcoming attendees, introducing the guest speakers and presenters, etc. In addition, the President will be in charge of the electronic newsletter and/or blog that will be sent to the attendees of previous CCCFLC conference and will enlist the aid of the other officers to complete it. The President will work in unison with the other officers on the Executive Board and reserves the right to delegate duties as needed.

2) Vice-President: It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to assume all presidential responsibilities in the event that the President is unable to successfully carry out her/his term or duties. The Vice-President shall be primarily responsible in actively supporting and assisting the President as needed. For the CCCFLC conference, the Vice-President is in charge of coordinating with the CCCFLC representative at the host institution in ordering and receiving the food and drink and insuring that the tables are properly set up to display and distribute the food and drinks. The Vice-President will work in unison with the other officers on the Executive Board and reserves the right to delegate duties as needed.

3) Secretary: It shall be the duty of the Secretary to obtain an electronic copy of the text of each presenter's presentation at CCCFLC conferences and send them to the Social Media and Website Administrator in a timely manner thereafter. It will also be her/his responsibility to take the minutes for business meetings at each conference and forward them to the Social Media and Website Administrator. If necessary, s/he will document the minutes from Executive Board meetings and send them to whomever requests them. The Secretary will be in charge of keeping a current list of the contact information of each of CCCLFC conference attendees. The Secretary will work in unison with the other officers on the Executive Board and reserves the right to delegate duties as needed. The Secretary shall protect the privacy of each member's information.

4) Treasurer: The organization's Treasurer shall be in charge of opening and maintaining proper financial records for the CCCFLC bank account, accepting checks, depositing them, updating financial records, documenting all financial transactions 3 related to the CCCFLC and sharing that information with the Executive Board at least once a week when there is financial activity. Specifically, s/he will document the name, email, and phone number of each person paying for conference costs and will be in charge of sending an electronic receipt, and/or a physical one if requested, to each paying member. At CCCFLC conferences, it will be the Treasurer's duty to provide and distribute name tags, handle in-person registration, and provide verification of conference

attendance. The Treasurer will work in unison with the other officers on the Executive Board and reserves the right to delegate duties as needed.

5) Historian: The Historian will be in charge of documenting the history of the CCCFLC and sharing a summary of it at each of CCCFLC conferences. The Historian will work in conjunction with the Social Media and Website Administrator to document the proceedings of the conference. The Historian will work in unison with the other officers on the Executive Board and reserves the right to delegate duties as needed.

Thanks so much and we look forward to seeing you at the conference on October 21,

Kurt

P. S. If you have trouble reading this newsletter, you may be able to see it better in the attached PDF or online link.