



Stephen Van Orden
UFLA President

Dear UFLA Friends,

This is my last President's Message in the UFLA Newsletter before my time as president comes to an end. After the SWCOLT Conference in February, Jo Carmiol will take over as president, and we will have a new president-elect. I want to use this final President's Message to highlight the various ways we can participate in UFLA: come to the annual conference, present at the conference, nominate a colleague for an UFLA award, apply for a grant, or serve in an UFLA leadership position. One of the main reasons that any of us might not participate in one or more of these ways is that we don't know about the possibility, or we don't know where to start. Here are some explanations and clarifications that I hope will inspire you to participate in UFLA in new ways.

Come to the Annual Conference

Every year on a Thursday in February, UFLA sponsors a professional conference. The presenters at the conference are predominately members of UFLA, language teachers here in Utah just like you and me. Sometimes we have presenters from out of state as well. In past years we have had around 50 presentations and 400-500 attendees. COVID did get us out of our regular rhythm, but we did have a great conference last year with over 300 attendees even though it was held on a Saturday. The conference is held on one day (nearly always a Thursday) at one of our universities along the Wasatch Front. Weber State, UVU, the University of Utah, and BYU have been locations in the last 20 years. Dates for the annual conference are published in the UFLA Newsletter and posted on the UFLA website, ufla.net.

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Our annual state conference is outstanding when compared to the other states in our SWCOLT region (Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Texas, Hawai'i, Nevada). We have many high-quality sessions and strong attendance. The cost of our conference is very reasonable and worth every penny. The UFLA Board makes it a priority to keep the conference affordable. I have been attending the conference for 26 years, and it keeps getting better and better.

The SWCOLT conference is our regional conference that comes to Utah every nine years or so. Other years it is held in other states in our region. When Utah hosts the SWCOLT conference it replaces the annual UFLA conference. Hosting and attending SWCOLT in Utah is always a stretching experience that comes up only a few times in a career. This year is one of the years that we get to host the SWCOLT conference. There is still time for you to register to attend (swcolt.org). Make plans to come with your department if you have not yet done so. Your district supervisor supports your attendance and can help you resolve any administrative concerns that might come up.

Present at the Conference

After you have attended the annual UFLA conference, I hope that you would be inspired to share your expertise and experience with your fellow UFLA members by presenting a session at the conference. This idea might seem scary at first, but if you decide to do it, I am sure that you will end up feeling very positive about the experience. UFLA is the perfect place for you to present your first session at a professional conference, and hopefully the experience is so positive that you present again in the future or even branch out to presenting at SWCOLT or ACTFL. UFLA is also a great venue for graduate students to present their research. Ultimately the quality of the conference is up to us. We, the UFLA membership, put on the conference for each other. As a state-level professional conference it is an awesome place for us to connect with colleagues, get new ideas, be inspired by the work and research of others, and integrate the efforts of our outstanding DLI, Secondary, and University language teaching.

In 2019, Blair Bateman and I presented a [session entitled “Proposing, Preparing, Presenting: How to Give a World-Class Session at UFLA.”](#) The presentation can be viewed by clicking on the linked text.

Nominate a Colleague for an UFLA Award

We have so many great teachers and programs here in Utah. UFLA provides three ways for us to recognize the great work being done by our colleagues:

- 1. UFLA Lifetime Achievement Award**

Awarded to Utah world language educators who through their careers have shown dedication to their students, their craft and the teaching profession.

- 2. UFLA Friend of the Profession Award**

Awarded to individuals who are not language teachers, yet who have advanced the study of world languages in Utah or helped teachers improve their effectiveness.

3. **UFLA** awards exceptional teachers each year as **Teacher of the Year**. Three annual awards for DLI, Secondary and University level teachers may be awarded. One of these teachers will be nominated by the UFLA Board to represent Utah as nominee for the SWCOLT Regional Teacher of the Year.

For the Lifetime Achievement and the Friend of the Profession award, a proposal making the case for giving the award can be made to the UFLA Board. The Board will then consider the merits of the proposal and vote on the award. UFLA can recognize more than one person (or no one) per year for each of these awards. If you are interested in nominating someone for one of these awards, contact a current UFLA President and send them your proposal to be considered at a future meeting.

For the Teacher of the Year (TOY), the nominee needs to put together and submit a portfolio. The portfolio includes a letter of recommendation from the nominator as well as a teaching statement, student work samples and commentary, a curriculum vitae, and a letter of recommendation from a supervisor. There is work involved for the nominee, so you should discuss your desire to nominate your colleague with them and see if it fits into their current life situation. The UFLA TOY committee keeps quality portfolios that are not chosen for possible selection in future years. We want to have a high standard for our UFLA TOYs, so please commit to helping your colleague to put together the best possible portfolio so that the experience is positive for all nominees whether they end up being named TOY or not. Follow the instructions on the website carefully (<https://ufla.net/Awards/Grants.html>).

Apply for a Grant

UFLA offers two different grants to its members each year. Some years the grants go unawarded due to a lack of applications. If an inadequate application is made, the UFLA Board can ask the applicant(s) to make changes, improve, and resubmit the application. Here are the two grant possibilities:

1. [The Teacher Vitality Grants](#)
Three annual grants may be awarded for the purpose of research, study, workshops, or projects for improving the quality of teaching. Award amounts will typically range from \$500 to \$1000.
2. [The Pat Buckner Collaboration Grant](#)
One award of up to \$1000 is given annually to facilitate collaboration between two or more language teachers in the same department, school, or in different schools, districts or across the state.

Follow the instructions on the website (<https://ufla.net/Awards/Grants.html>) and apply for a grant. I have applied for and received both in the past, and both grants have led to significant professional progress for me and increased opportunities for my students. Think about a project you want to work on and apply for a grant.

Serve in a Leadership Position

There are several ways you can serve on the UFLA Board. We have two elected positions, president and secretary. The president serves for three years, one as president-elect, one as president, and one as past president. The president should be a seasoned member of UFLA who is willing to offer three years of significant (but not overwhelming) service to UFLA by attending/leading monthly meetings (second Thursday of each month from 4:00-5:00), serving on various board committees, and fulfilling various board assignments.

The secretary serves for one year. After the one-year period the secretary can be re-elected for additional terms if the secretary is willing and able to continue on in the position. The secretary attends the monthly UFLA Board Meeting (second Thursday of each month from 4:00-5:00) and takes minutes at the meeting. After the meeting, the secretary sends the minutes to the rest of the board. Serving as secretary is a great way to get involved with the Board and become more acquainted with inner workings of UFLA. It is a great steppingstone to future service and leadership.

Each of our state language AATs (chapters of national language teaching associations) has a president who also serves on the Board. If you are not a member of your language AAT, I strongly encourage you to join. Over my career, I have found my decision to join AATG to be my best professional development engine and opportunity creator. If you are not a member, please follow the link for your organization below and join. As member of your AAT chapter, you will have multiple leadership opportunities. When you serve as president in the future, you will be on the UFLA Board.

AATSP (Spanish & Portuguese)

<https://www.aatsp.org>

AATF (French)

<https://frenchteachers.org>

AATG (German)

<https://www.aatg.org>

CLTA (Chinese)

<https://clta-us.org>

AATA (Arabic)

<https://aataweb.org>

ASLTA (ASL)

<https://www.aslta.org>

AATJ (Japanese)

<https://www.aatj.org>

ACTR (Russian)

<https://www.actr.org>

Each of our universities and colleges in the state have a representative on the UFLA Board. Some of our universities are always exemplary in making sure they have representation on the Board. We currently have two universities with no representation. You can check the UFLA

website to see who the representative from your university is and see if your institution needs to find a representative (hopefully you) who can serve on the board (<https://ufla.net/board.html>). The university representatives on the board are integral to the success of all of our UFLA activities, and strong leadership from our universities is the backbone of UFLA.

There are other appointed members of the board like ACTFL Representative, SWCOLT Representative, JNCL-NCLIS Representative, Newsletter Editor, and Historian. These appointments are made by the board and are typically chosen from seasoned board members and former board members.

If you want to become more active in UFLA leadership, there are several things you can do. Talk to a board member about what their experience has been like. Join your AAT and take on leadership roles. Put your name on the ballot for secretary or president (send the current president an email: stephenv@provo.edu). Come regularly to the annual conference, present at the conference, and network with your UFLA colleagues. UFLA needs to have strong, vibrant, and diverse leadership. Plan on being a part of our leadership in some way or other during your career and start to make connections and develop relationships now. There will be a space for you. You are needed!

It has been a pleasure for me to serve as your president for 2022-2023. I look forward to serving as past president next year. In my career it has been my relationships and interactions with colleagues in UFLA that have strengthened me and buoyed me up throughout my professional progression. I owe a great debt of gratitude to you all and to our organization for the positive influence you have had on me over the last 26 years.

Stephen Van Orden
UFLA President

A promotional poster for the Southwest Conference on Language Teaching (SWCOLT) 2023 in Utah. The poster features a blue background with a yellow border. At the top left, it says "Come experience SWCOLT 2023 February 23-25 UTAH" with a small image of a mountain range. To the right, it says "Southwest Conference on Language Teaching - Utah Foreign Language Association". Below this, there are two website URLs: "https://www.swcolt.org/" and "https://ufla.net/". There are also social media handles for SWCOLT (@SWCOLT, @swcoltlanguages, @swcoltorg) and UFLA Utah (@ufla_utah). At the bottom left, there are logos for SWCOLT, Utah Foreign Language Association, Immersion, Bridge Program, and Utah State Office of Education. At the bottom right, there is a large, stylized image of a natural rock arch. The tagline "Life & Languages Elevated" is written in a script font. The location "Marriott City Creek, Salt Lake City, Utah" is listed.

Come experience
SWCOLT
2023
February 23-25
UTAH

Southwest Conference on Language Teaching
Utah Foreign Language Association

<https://www.swcolt.org/> <https://ufla.net/>

Facebook: @SWCOLT, Utah Foreign Language Association
Instagram: @swcoltlanguages, @ufla_utah
Twitter: @swcoltorg

Life & Languages Elevated

Location: Marriott City Creek,
Salt Lake City, Utah

Logos: SWCOLT, Utah Foreign Language Association, Immersion, Bridge Program, Utah State Office of Education

SWCOLT

EXPERIENCE *Utah*

ELEVATE YOUR SWCOLT 2023 EXPERIENCE!



Nature

Bonneville Salt Flats
Hogle Zoo
Loveland Living Planet Aquarium
Spiral Jetty
5 National Parks
9+ Ski Resorts



City

Breweries, Distilleries & an Exciting Nightlife
University of Utah
Utah State Capitol Building
Utah Jazz Basketball
World Class Shopping & Dining
Park City



Art & History

Golden Spike National Historic Park
Musicals, Theater and Concerts
Thanksgiving Point Museums and Garden
This is the Place Heritage Park
Utah Museum of Natural History
Church History Museum



JOIN US!

EARLY REGISTRATION: NOV. 30TH

www.swcolt.org



Language News

INTERMOUNTAIN

AP Summer Institute | Davis School District, Utah

SESSIONS

- ☐ ART AND DESIGN
- ☐ BIOLOGY
- ☐ CALCULUS AB
- ☐ CALCULUS BC
- ☐ CHINESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE
- ☐ COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES
- ☐ ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION
- ☐ ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION
- ☐ ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
- ☐ FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE
- ☐ GERMAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE
- ☐ GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS-US
- ☐ HUMAN GEOGRAPHY
- ☐ PHYSICS 1
- ☐ PSYCHOLOGY
- ☐ SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE
- ☐ STATISTICS

CREDIT

2 semester hours Masters credit through Weber State University, \$30

2 hours of USBE credit, no cost



Tuesday-Friday

July 11-July 15, 2023

8:00am-4:00pm

Farmington High School
548 W Glovers Lane,
Farmington, UT 84025

WEBSITE

REGISTRATION & DETAILS

tinyurl.com/intermountainapsi2023

CONTACT

Julie Sargent, Institute Registrar

intermountainapsi@dsdmail.net

801-402-5145

TUITION

All sessions \$700.00

Art and Design materials fee \$50

Science Courses lab fee \$50

(Tuition increases if registering after May 30, 2023.)

This AP Summer Institute
has been endorsed by



CollegeBoard

Advanced Placement
Program

Language News

Save the date

<https://l2trec.utah.edu/>



UTAH
SECOND LANGUAGE
TEACHING & RESEARCH CENTER
THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

2023 L2TReC Summer Teacher Workshops

c.scott@utah.edu

French

Instructors: Dr. Anne V. Lair
and Mme Michèle Harward
Topic: TBA
Date: July 31 - August 3, 2023

Spanish

Instructors and Topic TBA
Date: July 25-28, 2023

Teacher Workshops at the University of Utah

The language department at the University of Utah will once again be hosting summer workshops for French and Spanish teachers! This is a great opportunity to brush up on your language skills, work collaboratively with other teachers, and to develop your pedagogical toolbox. More information is available at <https://l2trec.utah.edu> or by sending an email to Catherine Scott at c.scott@utah.edu.

ASL Competition

The Utah High School ASL State Competition is taking place at Davis High School on Saturday, March 18, 2023 from 9 AM - 1 PM. Registration closes March 4th. For more information about the events, costs, and rules, please visit: <https://aslcomp.wordpress.com/> or contact Elisha Jones (elijones@dsdmail.net).

ARRRRE YOU READY?



UFLA News

UFLA needs YOU

To find out more about how to become more involved in our UFLA organization, complete this survey. (click here)



Would you like to nominate a Teacher of the Year? As a reminder, applications are accepted on our website at ufla.net.

In addition to [Teacher of the Year](#), UFLA also awards the following grants:

[Teacher Vitality Grant](#)

[Pat Buckner Collaboration Grant](#)

Thank you for the many nominations for the UFLA Teacher of the Year Award. Our state is blessed with an abundance of exceptional world language educators. We will announce this year's Teacher of the Year winners and other award recipients during the upcoming SWCOLT conference.

UFLA Mission

The Utah Foreign Language Association exists to promote the learning of world languages and cultures in the state of Utah and beyond. Specifically, the mission of UFLA is to:

- Support world language teaching and acquisition at all academic levels, including traditional instruction and dual language immersion programs
- Disseminate information and provide opportunities for the exchange of ideas and resources to support language teaching and learning
- Offer professional development opportunities for language teachers
- Recognize excellence in language teaching and learning
- Collaborate with regional and national language teaching organizations
- Advocate for public policy that promotes language learning and supports the needs of language teachers and students

UFLA WEBSITE

The UFLA Website has now moved to

<http://ufla.net>

It's a new name, but with all the content we have always had on the site. If you only visit once a year to register for the conference, come see what else we have on ufla.net (including copies of the newsletters going back over twenty years.) We will also post handouts from presentations at our upcoming conference on the new UFLA website.

We also hope you will join [UFLA on Facebook](#) and on our new Instagram account ([@ufla_utah](#)). Come participate in the conversation!



EXECUTIVE BOARD

President	Stephen Van Orden	stephenv@provo.edu
Past President	Mike Kraniski	mckraniski1@graniteschools.org
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USBE Liaison	Karl Bowman	karl.bowman@schools.utah.gov
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Advertising Information

The UFLA Newsletter is published three times each year in September, January and May. All issues are distributed via e-mail to UFLA members as well as posted on the UFLA website.

Advertising rates are available at:
[UFLA Sponsorship Opportunities](#)

Contact Branden Lansing at blansing@dsdmail.net with any questions or to place an ad.