

Florida Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of French

# *Le Bulletin*

## *A note from the president...*

**URGENT!** Although more than 7,800 teachers achieved National Board Certification last year, only 32 did so in World languages other than English in Florida, and less than one-third of those were in French. Unfortunately, nation-wide statistics for French are low, and the National Board will cancel certification in French unless there are a minimum of 50 national candidates by December 31st of this year. **NEW!** Call the National Board about the new extended-payment plan and expanded due dates at 1-800-22-TEACH (228-3224).

For our part, FAATF members interested in becoming a National Board Candidate may apply immediately to the chapter officers for financial aid, but funds are limited - so remember to apply early.

Public-school teachers must complete the following in order to receive the fee subsidy from the State of Florida:

1. Complete and submit the candidate NB application.
2. Complete the Florida promissory note.
3. Pay \$250 (10% of the \$2,500 NBPTS application fee), plus the \$65 application fee, to NBPTS (limited scholarships to cover the state subsidy gap of \$315 are available through FAATF - apply soon).
4. Complete and submit the online application and promissory note, and pay all related fees by the September 30, 2007, state deadline.



Please note: all of these steps must be completed online. The Florida Department of Education will no longer accept paper applications or forms. In addition, all payments must be submitted directly to NBPTS. Public-school teachers' deadline is September 30, 2007 (some districts require you to go through their offices and may have an earlier deadline, so please check).

In addition, independent-school teachers are eligible for up to \$500 in financial aid to become a National Board Candidate.

In order to apply for an AATF Florida Chapter National Board scholarship, please submit your curriculum vitae to [schefferd@episcopallhigh.org](mailto:schefferd@episcopallhigh.org), [tveler@hotmail.com](mailto:tveler@hotmail.com), and [Mary-Virginia\\_Fisher@stjohnscds.com](mailto:Mary-Virginia_Fisher@stjohnscds.com). Note: FFLA will offer a full-day workshop called "Are You Certifiable?", given by four of the people who train the people who score National Board Candidate work.

A group of more than ten Florida teachers has just returned from the National AATF conference in Baton Rouge. From our own Dr. Tara Ellsley, University School of Nova Southeastern University, who conducted an excellent workshop ("From Jacques Brel to MC Solaar: Using Popular Music in the French Classroom") to the kick-off of the AATF/French embassy PR campaign, there was much to learn and enjoy. Many thanks go to Pat Killian and the 2006-2007 French Teacher of the Year, Pat Lopez, who attended the assembly of delegates along with the chapter president and vice-president. The 2008 AATF conference will take place July 16-19 in Liège, Belgium.

In addition to many workshops and our annual business meeting, FAATF will announce the 2007-2008 French Teacher of the Year. Please send your nominations to [schefferd@episcopallhigh.org](mailto:schefferd@episcopallhigh.org) by the end of September.

Important: the first 2007-2008 FAATF Bulletin will be mailed to principals and headmasters of schools offering French. All other *Bulletins* for the year will be sent electronically. Please let chapter officers know if you have not received your copy by mid-September. If you have email addresses for new French teachers, please let us know!

Mark your calendars for:

- FAATF business meeting and luncheon - Friday, October 19th; guest speaker--attaché M. Ashok Adicéam
- FFLA conference October 17-20, Omni Rosen, Orlando (<http://www.flla.us/conference/index.htm>)
- Séjour Sans Souci (immersion weekend for French teachers) - Martin Luther King weekend (Friday evening - Sunday lunch)
- Le Grand Concours - the first week of March. New this year - three scholarships were given to Level 4 and 5 seniors for some of their freshman French coursework. Upcoming...a competition for public-school participation in Le Grand Concours.
- Congrès 2008: April 3-5 at the Doubletree Universal. This is the same hotel where we stayed last year. The theme - La Mode!

*Deanna Scheffer*

President, Florida chapter

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# France Florida Forum report

- by Becky Youngman

From June 13th through the 15th, 2007, several meetings were held between the Consulat Général de France and selected panel members from across the state of Florida. FFLA and FAATF were represented by Becky Youngman. The purpose of the meetings was to obtain input from all interested parties on the review, expansion and enhancement of the France-Florida Memoranda of Understanding between the French government and the Florida Department of Education.

The meetings were organized and facilitated by Ms. Lisa Saavedra, executive director of the Bureau of Academic Achievement through Language Acquisition of the Florida Department of Education, and Mr. Ashok Adicéam, cultural attaché of the Consulat Général de France in Miami. The following is a summary of the topics discussed at each of the panel meetings.

## Educational, cultural and economic studies and exchanges

1. Citizen diplomacy – sister cities, tourism and trade event recommendations
  - Synchronize sister-city programs with educational programs through joint projects
  - Provide internship programs
1. Cultural exchanges – French/American projects and youth-exchange recommendations
  - Use youth-council programs such as “Culture Shock” program in Miami
  - Encourage participation in DELF exams, FACE cultural exchanges and the Alliance Française programs
1. Business education – magnet and business program recommendations
  - Create internships
  - Promote awareness of international businesses

## University exchanges

1. K-20 continuum recommendations
  - Better use of university resource centers (FFRI and Linkage Institute)
  - Double degrees and joint certification equivalencies
  - Internships and funding (even for non-French-specific majors)
2. Accreditation recommendation: offer a choice of certificates to accompany students, providing mobility and international opportunities

## K-12 education policies, programs and the teaching of French

1. Recommendations for students
  - Student exchanges (virtual, short-term, all grade levels)
  - DELF and DALF exams
  - Immersion programs and summer institutes in Florida and in France
  - After school programs (Alliance Française)
  - Student competitions (Allons en France, Congrès de la culture française et Francophone en Floride)
3. Recommendations for teachers
  - Website link with resources
  - Online professional development and distance learning
  - Best practices and ‘training kits’ such as previously occurred with the Bus Pédagogique
  - Summer institutes in Florida and in France
  - Visiting teachers
4. Recommendations for schools and systems
  - Pilot projects incorporating all levels
  - Sharing of curriculum and pedagogy between France and Florida
5. Recommendations for research
  - Professional development for teachers
  - Curriculum development
  - Increase collaboration and coordination among K-12, universities and colleges
  - International studies – recommendations for certification and issuance of high school diplomas
  - Assist in the development of common assessments in French
  - Provide access to language support outside of the classroom (Alliance Française, TV5, Le Monde, etc.)
  - Joint professional development
  - Visiting teachers up to six years
  - Flexibility for issuance of Florida teaching certificate
  - Expansion of international studies programs
  - Correlation of French and Florida curriculum
  - Pilot projects with sister cities

The discussions and recommendations made will be taken into consideration as France and Florida continue to negotiate the renewal of the Memoranda of Understanding, which will be finalized in October of this year.

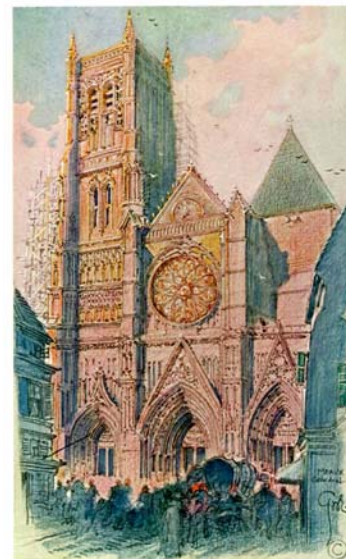
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Additional information provided during the three days of panel meetings included discussions of legislative changes at the state and national level. Eric Graham of Governor Charlie Crist's office also discussed multiple state organizations, such as the French Education in Florida Association (FEFA), the France-Florida Foundation for the Arts, the Enterprise Florida website (which contains a list of French companies in Florida), the Napoleonic Institute at FSU, and the French-American Chambers of Commerce in Miami, Naples & Tampa, which might serve as useful resources or partners.

Sophie Loy, director of education and French of France's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, also noted a number of projects and programs that might benefit French teachers in Florida; these included an online distance learning teacher training program called PROFLE and a program called FLAM (Français Langue Maternelle) whereby French speaking children up to ages 10-12 (and now non-French speaking

students as well) have access to after-school programs. There is also a traveling secondary exhibit that connects French to science and the Allons en France! competition, in which 200 students can win a one-week trip to France.

Adam Steg, cultural attaché from New Orleans, also presented information about media available to all French teachers through the websites [www.frenchmedia.org](http://www.frenchmedia.org) and [www.espacefrancophone.org](http://www.espacefrancophone.org). These websites are copyright-free and many of the programs they offer can be downloaded online.



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## Meet Judy...

'Judy' Dharini Charudattan, French teacher of Blue Wave ASP at the P.K. Yonge Developmental Research School at the University of Florida, has been a member of the AATF National FLES Commission since 1996. In her presentation in the 'Session de la Commission sur le français précoce', she spoke about organizing a French summer camp for elementary grade level students with creative ideas including fun games, cuisine, culture and enacting fairy tales with simple French dialogues.



Among several other publications, her research and work on this topic were published under the title of 'FLES\* Works, New Trends in FLES,' and released in the 80th AATF Congrès held in July in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. She received national recognition in 2002 with the 'AATF

Dorothy Ludwig Excellence in Teaching French Award' - Elementary Schools. She is an inductee of 'Teachers' Hall of Fame' by the Florida Foreign Language Association in the same year. She is also the founder/director of École française, the French language school in Gainesville.

Judy envisioned a special place for young children in 'Le Congrès de la Culture Française en Floride' held in spring primarily for high schools. Thus was born, in 1992, the elementary program in 'Le Congrès,' where children compete at their own levels with French songs, poems, skits and verb conjugation marathon directed by Judy. Every year since then, more than 60 elementary age students can be proud of their accomplishments when they return to their classrooms with ribbons and trophies.

The Gainesville community also enjoys National French Week celebration: Festival français (coordinated by Judy) at P.K. Yonge School, as well as networking with local French teachers and students. Every year the mayor makes an official proclamation of the event, and everyone relishes exotic food and entertainment.

## The view from Baton Rouge



Tote bags and T-shirts set the festive mood for the AATF national convention...how appropriate, given the location- Baton Rouge, LA. To introduce us to Cajun culture, keynote speaker Barry Ancelet, in his thick Cajun accent, shared with us his experiences growing up in the heart of Cajun country. He discussed the history of Cajuns in America and the influence of the French language on southern Louisiana's culture. Mostly, though, he entertained us with anecdotes and songs. Even though I've been teaching French for over 10 years, I admit I had little knowledge of this incredibly rich franco-phone culture so close to home.

Visiting an interesting part of the United States and attending a variety of workshops on just about every topic related to teaching French proved valuable, yet for me the most rewarding part of this conference was meeting the dynamic, talented teachers who strive for professional growth. I came home with a stack of resources I'm planning to use in my classroom, plus a list of professional contacts who face many of the same successes and challenges I do.

In my presentation entitled "From Jacques Brel to MC Solaar: Using Popular French Music in the French Classroom," I explained different strategies, including vocabulary, grammatical, and cultural topics, I use to address specific curricular objectives. I'd be happy to email you the handout I've prepared on the topic; it includes activity ideas, music resources, and a list of recommended songs. Feel free to email me at [ellsleyt@nova.edu](mailto:ellsleyt@nova.edu).

Tara Ellsley

Tara Ellsley, Ed.D.  
University School of NSU  
Ft. Lauderdale



Don't miss the terrific teaching material about Lafayette's birthday which accompanies this issue!

**FFLA, Inc. conference registration form 2007**  
**Rejuvenating World Language Education by Rejuvenating Teachers:**  
**Mind, Body & Spirit**  
**Rosen Centre, 9840 International Drive, Orlando, Florida**

Name		
Home address		
City/state	ZIP	phone
School /business name		
School business address		
City/state	ZIP	phone
Fax	county	region # (refer to region map)
Email: (work) (home)		
Language(s): check all that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish <input type="checkbox"/> ASL <input type="checkbox"/> German <input type="checkbox"/> Latin <input type="checkbox"/> Japanese <input type="checkbox"/> ESOL <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese <input type="checkbox"/> Portuguese <input type="checkbox"/> French <input type="checkbox"/> Italian <input type="checkbox"/> other		
Position(s): check all that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> teacher <input type="checkbox"/> supervisor <input type="checkbox"/> other		
Level: check all that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> elementary <input type="checkbox"/> middle /junior high <input type="checkbox"/> high school <input type="checkbox"/> post-secondary		
<b>CONFERENCE REGISTRATION - select the applicable category. FFLA membership is included.</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Early registration (postmarked by September 15, 2007)	\$70	
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular registration (postmarked September 16 - October 1, 2007)	\$80	
<input type="checkbox"/> On- site registration	\$90	
<input type="checkbox"/> Early registration – full-time student (proof required) + postmarked by Sept. 15	\$60	
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular registration – full-time student (proof required) + postmarked by Oct. 1	\$70	
<input type="checkbox"/> On-site registration – full-time student (proof required)	\$80	
<b>PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS - THURSDAY- 10/18/07 (OPTIONAL)</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> FLAME district supervisors' meeting and luncheon (1:00 PM-4:00 PM Wednesday, 10/17, and 8:30 AM-1:30 PM, Thursday, 10/18) Luncheon preference: <input type="checkbox"/> chicken <input type="checkbox"/> beef <input type="checkbox"/> fish <input type="checkbox"/> vegetarian	FLAME dues	paid
<input type="checkbox"/> #1 Current Trends in Educational Technology (8:30 AM – 2:30 PM Thursday 10/18); includes transportation to technology lab site and lunch. FULL DAY.	\$50	
<input type="checkbox"/> #2 AP Spanish strategies (8:30 AM - 2:30 PM Thursday, 10/18) – FULL DAY	\$50	
Check half-day workshop choices - \$30 each / two for \$50 (see newsletter for workshop descriptions).		
MORNING SESSION: choose workshop #3, 4, 5, 6 or 7. Indicate 1 <sup>st</sup> choice _____ 2 <sup>nd</sup> choice _____	\$30/\$25	
AFTERNOON SESSION: choose # 8, 9, 10, or 11. Indicate 1 <sup>st</sup> choice _____ 2 <sup>nd</sup> choice _____	\$30/\$25	
<b>LANGUAGE LUNCHEONS – FRIDAY 10/19 (OPTIONAL - RESERVATIONS REQUIRED)</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>FAATF (French)</b> <i>Vous êtes invités!!!</i>	\$28.50	
<input type="checkbox"/> FFLIC – No charge to members – check box at left to make your reservation.	dues	paid
Vegetarian meal option – indicate this preference by checking the right-hand column.		check →
<b>RAFFLE TO BENEFIT THE FFLA, INC. TEACHER GRANT FUND (Pre-order and SAVE!!!)</b>		
I would like to pre-order _____ raffle tickets at three for \$5 (\$2 each during conference).	three/\$5	
I would like to donate \$1 to the teacher grant fund.	\$1	\$1
TOTAL ENCLOSED		

**OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDED IN CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**

<b>TRY A NEW LANGUAGE MINI-SESSION - 30 MINUTES EACH - RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.</b>		
Choose three languages of interest - indicate first (1), second (2), third (3) choice.		
_____ ASL	_____ Arabic	_____ Chinese
_____ Japanese	_____ Latin	_____ Portuguese
_____ French	_____ Spanish	_____ German
_____ Italian		
<b>MORNING REJUVENATION – 7:00-7:30 AM FRIDAY &amp; SATURDAY-RSVP REQUIRED.</b>		
Indicate first (1), second (2), third (3), choices, please.		
_____ Morning walk	_____ Morning stretch	_____ Qi gong
_____ Morning meditation		

Mail completed form and payment (make checks payable to FFLA, Inc.) to:  
Linda Santiago, FFLA, Inc., Executive Director, 5441 87<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, Pinellas Park FL 33782  
Written requests for refunds must be sent to the executive director. Cancellation requests will be subject to a \$5 administrative fee and must be postmarked by September 15, 2007. No refunds will be given on-site.



American Association of Teachers of French  
 Mailcode 4510, Southern Illinois University  
 Carbondale, IL 62901-4510  
 phone: 618-453-5731 • fax: 618-453-5733  
 email: [aatf@frenchteachers.org](mailto:aatf@frenchteachers.org)

### Member application

- \$45 Calendar year 2007 (Jan. 1-Dec. 31)
- \$15 + \$45 Fall 2006 issues + 2007 membership calendar year 2006 (Jan. 1-Dec. 31)
- \$10 2007 Florida chapter dues
- \$55 Calendar year 2008 (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31)
- \$77 Family
- \$32 Student \$22/year (proof of student status or advisor signature required with this form)
- \$10 2008 Florida chapter dues

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

### Optional items

- Fall issues option-Sept.-Dec. 2006 (\$15) + \_\_\_\_\_
- AATF 2007 Membership Directory (\$5) published October 2007 + \_\_\_\_\_
- Contribution to AATF 80th Anniversary Fund for the Future + \_\_\_\_\_
- Contribution to Joint National Committee for Languages + \_\_\_\_\_
- Subscription to *Le Français dans le monde* (2007 subscriptions not accepted after June 1, 2007) + [six issues + two CDs (\$53) OR six issues, two CDs + two Didactique "Recherches et applications" (\$63)] \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

\*Non-US-residents must add \$10.

**Note:** checks should be made out to the AATF and payable in US currency on a US bank. Payment via Visa and MasterCard is also available.

Please bill my credit card: \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_ MC card number # \_\_\_\_\_

cardholder's name \_\_\_\_\_ exp. date \_\_\_\_\_ security code \_\_\_\_\_

name: last \_\_\_\_\_ first \_\_\_\_\_ middle \_\_\_\_\_

home address: street \_\_\_\_\_ city \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP + 4 \_\_\_\_\_ country \_\_\_\_\_

school address: street \_\_\_\_\_ city \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP + 4 \_\_\_\_\_ country \_\_\_\_\_

phone: home \_\_\_\_\_ cell \_\_\_\_\_ school \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail (Florida chapter FAATF Bulletins are usually sent electronically): \_\_\_\_\_

Teaching level (please circle) 1. FLES\* 2. middle school 3. senior high school 4. community college  
 5. college/university 6. administration 7. private/tutoring 8. junior/senior high school 9. non-teaching/retired

For office use: DATE \_\_\_\_\_ NEWE \_\_\_\_\_ MIDC \_\_\_\_\_ CHKN \_\_\_\_\_ FST YR \_\_\_\_\_