CONGRATULATIONS DR CAROL PADDEN!

Dr Carol Padden is the first Deaf person to be awarded one of the prestigious “genius grants” (a $500,000 no-strings attached fellowship) from The MacArthur Foundation.

Carol Padden, who is a professor at the University of California, San Diego, is famous for her work in American Sign Language and Deaf Culture. To read more about Carol Padden, check out http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carol_Padden.

In 2010, The John D & Catherine T MacArthur Foundation awarded 23 scholars MacArthur Fellowships. These fellowships offer support for a 5 year period – without reporting requirements! – in order to provide the most supportive and creative environment possible for the recipients.

The fellowships, by the way, are decided in secret. It’s not something you can apply for. It is something you are awarded because other people find your work is so notable!

The MacArthur Foundation views these awards as an investment in the future – not a reward for past accomplishments.

If you’d like to read more about Dr Carol Padden and the MacArthur Fellowship, check out http://www.macfound.org/site/c.ilkLXJ8MQKrH/b.6241263/k.7598/Carol_Padden.htm. The video is captioned.

News Article:

ASL NOW!
Teaching to the Next Level

WA ASLTA proudly hosts

ASLTA 2011 CONFERENCE
6th National Professional Development Conference

June 29 - July 3, 2011
Renaissance Seattle Hotel

www.aslta.org • www.facebook.com/ASLTA2011conference
Top 10 ASL New Year’s Resolutions for L1 & L2 Groups

E. Lynn Jacobowitz, Ph.D.  
ASLTA Professional  
Frederick, MD  
&  
Adonia K. Smith, Ed.D.  
ASLTA Professional  
Woodbine, MD

With the New Year upon us soon, this is a good time to share ASL Rose’s resolutions for 2011, focusing on those who learn ASL as a first language (L1) and those who learn it as a second language (L2). ASL Rose has such passion and respect for ASL that a long list of resolutions exists—but the top five resolutions for each group have been selected.

L1 Group

1. **We want no Deaf baby or child to ever be discouraged from learning ASL.**

   It is a strange twist that Deaf learners are not widely encouraged to learn ASL whereas hearing learners are strongly encouraged to learn ASL. Even though linguists have recognized ASL as a true language, ASL continues to experience resistance, especially among parents of deaf children and educators. ASL is such a crucial tool to language acquisition, and it is up to us to demythologize misconceptions about ASL. Deaf children should be encouraged to learn ASL at the very least.

2. **We want to remove ASL linguicism and audism.**

   ASL has been neglected and de-valued in deaf education. Other spoken languages often are presented as superior to signed languages. ASL linguicism (the oppression of language in favor of another language), and audism (oppression based upon the ability to hear), exist everywhere within the deaf education systems. We want to see ASL and education prioritized. ASL linguicism and audism are problems that have prevented the creation of positive educational settings.

3. **We want ASL Language Arts, ASL literature and Deaf history to be mandatorily included in all curricula.**

   Spoken English has been offered as the language of instruction for Language Arts classes. ASL, a signed national language, should be considered equal to spoken English in similar modalities. In that school of thought, ASL must be offered as the language of instruction for Language Arts among deaf learners. Furthermore, since ASL has been passed from generation to generation, ASL literature...
must be recognized in educational settings for deaf learners as well. History is a crucial part of any curricula. Deaf learners must know their people and history for all the same reasons that any other history curriculum is offered. ASL Language Arts, ASL literature and Deaf history are essential for deaf learners and should be built into existing curricula.

4. **We want teachers of deaf and hard of hearing students to be required to hold ASLTA certification at the professional level, have a teaching license, and to receive a rating of 4+ or higher for the ASLPI.**

Many Deaf learners who do not have ASL as their first language until it is much too late, struggle with learning English. Therefore, teachers in deaf education need to model the language of instruction—ASL—and be fluent. Too many are not fluent and cannot effectively serve as language models for deaf learners. This then leads to some deaf learners’ reading difficulties. To have deaf learners’ language acquisition be delayed because a teacher’s signing skills are equivalent to a third-grade level is unacceptable. Instead, teachers should be required to have ASLTA certification, have a teaching license, and score well in the ASLPI.

5. **We want ASL to be valued, respected, preserved and appreciated.**

Language choice for Deaf children must center on ASL. With ASL, language development among Deaf children will be normal or even exceed standards among hearing students. To value, respect, preserve and appreciate ASL, higher standards must exist across the board for both teachers and students. Students must also be taught about ASL, its history and its properties. Finally, curricula must be fully accessible in ASL in every way possible.

**L2 Group**

1. **We want administrators to stop eliminating ASL courses and programs from academic settings, and to offer ASL classes in elementary, middle and high schools.**

Whenever budgetary or other constraints emerge at schools, ASL courses and programs are usually the first to be eliminated. This must discontinue. The benefits of ASL courses are countless. ASL is supported through the offering of heritage (foreign, second, world) language classes at colleges, universities and high schools; however, very few schools offer ASL at the elementary and middle school levels.
ASL classes must be offered during school hours from early elementary classes all the way to the highest college levels. Administrators must understand the intricate value of ASL courses both short-term and long-term, and change their mindset that ASL classes can be eliminated at little or no harm to the community. Additionally, ASL courses and programs must be offered at all levels of academic settings.

2. We want ASL teaching positions to require ASLTA certification at the professional level, along with ASL licensure.

ASLTA certification at the professional level is as essential as any other teaching licensure. ASL teachers should have only the very highest qualifications in ASL teaching skills as well as ASL fluency.

3. We want all stores, websites, and other businesses to post, “ASL is used here” or “ASL-friendly.”

At many museums and even ATMs around the nation, there are buttons people can press to listen to the information in other languages. Yet ASL is not provided. At fast food restaurants, many do not provide equal access in the drive-through lanes. Google provides translation for multiple languages, but not for the written word and signed language. Stores often have signs saying, “Habla Español,” yet it is very rare to see “ASL is used here” or “ASL-friendly.” We want all businesses to provide equal access to language by providing ASL access.

4. We want all written materials—including textbooks, worksheets, printouts, and the like—to have ASL versions.

Written materials translated into ASL would ensure full language access and improve literacy rates among bilingual (ASL-English) individuals.

5. We want to remove any instance of ASL linguicism and audism.

ASL linguicism and audism have persisted for centuries. All equal opportunity employers and comparable entities should have language that reflects the prohibition of linguicism and audism among with sexism, racism, and other types of discrimination.

Help ASL Rose achieve these resolutions in 2011 and beyond. ASL Rose wishes you a grand new year with ASL-English bilingual-bicultural success!
Dear Deaf Artists,

WA-ASLTA is proud to host ASLTA 6th National Professional Development Conference in June 29 – July 3, 2011 at Renaissance Seattle Hotel. The conference’s theme is “ASL Now! Teaching to the Next Level”. We are giving you an opportunity to contribute your work at our art auction. We want to recognize the importance of deaf artists, at same time, celebrate our language, ASL. Also we want to raise awareness of Deaf culture, identity, and education through your work.

By participating in this event, you will receive free publicity through video/text interview, FaceBook, newsletter, and website.

Your artwork will be exhibited Thursday to Saturday and will be in the art auction on Saturday evening, July 3, 2011. There is no specific theme required for this auction.

We hope to receive your submission of one or more high quality, complete works with substance and passion. We are seeking visual artworks within certain dimensions: 30 inches by 30 inches. If you are interested, please send a picture of your work to art4aslta@gmail.com with the subject line: “art submission”, before April 1st, 2011. If chosen, we will contact you for further instruction.

We will cover your shipping/handling. Your work will be stored safely until the auction. Your work will be part of the art tour led by a docent. From our gratitude, you will receive a gift certificate from an art supply store to continue your creative pursuits.

If you have any questions, please contact us at art4aslta@gmail.com. We look forward to hear from you!

ASL yours,
Jena Floyd & Patty Liang
Curators for ASLTA art auction
The Question Was: Who’s Teaching ASL in Florida?

Alysse Rasmussen, MA
ASLTA Qualified
Orlando, FL


The article, written by Alysse Rasmussen, President of Florida ASLTA and owner of TeachASL (a listserv for teachers of ASL), examined the historical roots of teaching ASL and reported demographic data on current teachers of ASL in Florida.

One thing the article notes is that as the demand for American Sign Languages classes increased over the past 20 years, the challenge of meeting those demands became more and more difficult.

“The obvious linguistic role models – the Deaf – often lacked the academic credentials required by the hearing world. The irony here, of course, is that the lack of academic success within the Deaf community was largely, if not fully, engendered by the lack of comprehensible communication provided to young deaf children, whose primary caregivers and instructors had little or no functional ability in the languages of the Deaf community.”

The article goes on to say that “The people who possessed the requisite academic credentials … often lacked fluency in the natural/native language of the Deaf community. This … was not always common knowledge to those who were in charge of locating and hiring “sign language” teachers. Nor did it even seem like common sense when so informed. …

What is even more unfortunate is that many of these academically qualified, but linguistically naïve signers did not realize that the manual forms of communication that they used were not, in fact, those used by members of the Deaf community.”

As those of us who are members of ASLTA know, one of the key goals of ASLTA has been to encourage the professional development of instructors of American Sign Language (ASL).

Currently there are 3 levels of certification: Professional, Qualified, and Provisional. Certificates are only valid if membership is current.

As of June 2010, 210 individuals held valid ASLTA certificates. As of that date, ASLTA’s membership records showed valid certificates were held by 67 (32%) at the Professional level, 56 (28%) at the Qualified, and 88 (42%) at the Provisional level.

While there is not certificate for teaching ASL in Florida, the Florida Department of Education (FL-DOE) does require a
special ASL endorsement which is only available to a fully certified teacher. For more details on this, check out the article published in the FFLJ or go to the FL-DOE website: (http://www.fldoe.org/edcert/rules/6A-4-02431.asp).

While FL-DOE states that either ASLTA Professional Certification or the completion of 6 specific, 3-credit courses, totaling a minimum of 18 semester hours is required, the article goes on to state that “FL-DOE has permitted local districts to use teachers with a HOUSSE plan for ASL. (HOUSSE is a national, portfolio-based plan that denotes a “highly qualified” teacher.)”

In the past, Florida it was thought that there were as many as 100 ASL K-12 teachers (personal communication, Glenna Ashton, October 2010). However, in 2009, all ASL K-12 teachers were required to have their Florida ASL K-12 endorsement. At the time of writing the article, there were only 41 teachers who held the FL-DOE ASL K-12 endorsement.

According to the article, TeachASL, an informal non-profit established to encourage interaction and the exchange of ideas among teachers of signed languages, launched a pilot research study in June 2010 to see who was teaching ASL in Florida. Thirty-eight (38) individuals completed the survey. The survey asked questions about educational settings, how each participant satisfied the endorsement requirement, current teaching assignments, and professional affiliations.

Of the participants who responded to these questions, 22 individuals belonged to ASLTA and 31 were Florida ASLTA (FASLTA) members.

The article went on to state that while the pilot survey did not ask about hearing status, of those respondents who shared their names (34), the researcher recognized 19 as hearing and 6 as Deaf, leaving 3 whose hearing status was unknown to her.

The article concluded with the following summary: “… the 38 Florida ASL teachers who completed this survey represent 60% of the 41 individuals who hold FL-DOE ASL K-12 endorsement. The majority belongs to one or more professional teaching organizations and teaches in the public school system, most often in high school settings. Only one respondent held ASLTA Professional Certification, but 9 had completed all six endorsement courses and another 15 were endorsed through a combination of coursework and other measures (i.e. HOUSSE). “

For copies of “Who’s Teaching ASL in Florida?”, please contact: Dr. Betty Nielsen Green, Managing Editor, Florida Foreign Language Journal, 771 West River Oak Drive, Ormond Beach, FL 32174-4641, bngreen@fastmail.us or Gudrun Martyny, Executive Director, executive_director@ffla.us
If you or anyone you know has had a stroke, we can provide you with information about stroke and aphasia. Please contact us!

- Get more information about stroke and aphasia
- Provide your contact information to participate in future studies

Did you know?

- "Aphasia" is a language and communication disability caused by brain damage that affects 1 million Americans.
- Stroke is the most common cause of aphasia.
- Stroke can affect the ability to use sign language.

Our Goal

- To understand the effects of stroke on sign language ability so that Deaf people with aphasia can receive better care.

Who we are

- We are a team of Deaf and hearing researchers who have been studying sign language for more than 20 years.

SIGN UP IN ADVANCE WITH THE SALK RESEARCH TEAM!

Videophone: 858.768.0476

Cindy Batch - cbatch@salk.edu or Erica Parker – eparker@salk.edu

Cindy Batch, Senior Research Assistant

Erica Parker, Research Assistant

IRB Approval 092810
ASLTA PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Larry Forestal, Ph.D.
ASLTA Professional
Surprise, AZ

16% Surge of ASL in Class Enrollment at Colleges and Universities

I highly commend the Modern Language Association (MLA) on the news release of “New MLA Survey Report Finds that the Study of Languages Other Than English is Growing and Diversifying at U.S. Colleges and Universities.” This survey report will be made available on the ASLTA website.

Recently, one important article printed by The New York Times about the 16% surge of class enrollment in ASL at colleges and universities is worth reading. Spanish, French and German increased only modestly between 2006 and 2009 according to the Modern Language Association (MLA). Another article printed by USA Today reported that ASL is close to surpassing German as the 3rd most studied language at colleges and universities.
I understand that there are few people who have difficulty in understanding why ASL has been considered as a foreign language. For example, the New York State Education department accepts ASL as well as French or Spanish as a language other than English. Many of colleges and universities approve ASL as a legitimate language today. The term foreign can mean something different within the United States or outside the US. We can call ASL a legitimate language which is a language other than English. ASL is also of the different language status equivalent to a foreign language in the United States.

**ASL Standards**

Vice-President Ashton recently reported that on December 17-19th she, Keith Cagle, Kim Brown Kurz, Rico Peterson, Bill Newell, and Jason Zinza nearly completed their work on ASL Standards in Charlotte, North Carolina. Our standing ovation will go to these hard working people who have achieved the objective of having the American Council on Teaching Foreign Languages (ACTFL) publish ASL Standards in the spring of 2011. In this respect I believe that ASL will earn the highest recognition ever.

**National Deaf History Month**

The ASLTA enjoys the first honor of declaring its strong support for the intent of the National Association of the Deaf in the pursuit of the National Deaf History Month concept on March 13-April 15 similar to the Black History Month. I urge all other national organizations serving the deaf to commit themselves to the National Deaf History Month proposal.

National Deaf History Month is now the NAD’s priority (see below). NAD CEO Nancy Bloch and the NAD Culture and History Section will make contacts with people in the Congress to get it proclaimed by President Obama. It should be on March 13- April 15 every year.

[Priority Code: 2010-PA-PUB-001 -- 2010-2012 Priority: Deaf History Month - NAD shall research and identify Congressional members to sponsor a federal bill to proclaim March 13-April 15 as National Deaf History Month (NDHM), with an emphasis on ASL.]

**Bylaws and ASLTA Certification**

As you know, the Bylaws of the ASLTA were ratified by the membership on Au-
gust 31, 2010. As reasonably expected, we can anticipate several necessary amendments to the Bylaws in 2011.

There will be a proposed amendment to the position of Certification Committee Chair by replacing it with a Board Member at Large. One reason is that it will encourage us to pay our future certification chair who is fully responsible for planning evaluation and certification of our ASL teachers and specialists. Our future certification chair will also train and add new evaluators periodically. Furthermore, it will attract a greater number of our evaluators to the certification chair position.

ASLTA will provide four or more new evaluators with technical support and expenses needed for a two-day training seminar at Charlotte, North Carolina in May 2011. ASLTA needs to add new evaluators. Training will strengthen our certification system in the long run. Please let Keith Cagle know if you are interested in serving as an evaluator provided that you hold your current Professional-level certification.

Keith Cagle, Glenna Ashton, Rachel Stone, Leslie Greer, Bill Newell, and one new evaluator will serve on our newly developed committee on Revision of the ASLTA Evaluation and Certification System Committee. They will start working together via email and video communications, and then meet in person for two days prior to the 2011 Seattle Conference.

Vice-President Glenna Ashton is currently Bylaws chair. If you have suggestions as to how we could best amend our Bylaws, please let her know as soon as possible. She will post timelines for Bylaws revision proposals in our newsletter as well as on the web site. Please keep in mind those Bylaws amendments will be voted upon by the membership through a mail ballot prior to the 2011 conference at Seattle.

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ASL Honor Society

Scholarships for Students

Scholarships for Teachers

Fun for One & All

www.aslhonorsociety.org/
American Sign Language Teachers Association  
6th National Professional Development Conference  
June 29 - July 3, 2011  
Renaissance Seattle Hotel in Seattle, Washington

Call for Papers due  
Dec. 15.

ASL NOW!  
Teaching to the Next Level

ASLTA Members, ASL-Deaf Studies Professors and Instructors, Program Directors, Linguists, Researchers, Interested Individuals, Sponsors, and Friends  
this conference is for you!!

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Registration Includes:
- Program book
- Reception
- Keynote speakers
- Booth exhibits
- ASLTA luncheon Thursday
- Breakfast Saturday
- Banquet dinner Saturday
- Unlimited participation in a variety of professional growth workshops

Hosted by the WA ASLTA Chapter

www.ASLTA.org  
www.facebook.com/ASLTA2011conference
HOW TO CONTACT ASLTA BY MAIL

Did you know that ASLTA now has three (3) different mailing addresses to ensure that we can respond to your needs quickly and efficiently?

#1. Please use the Florida PO Box address for membership dues, donations, checks, or bills from now on, effective on March 10, 2010:

ASLTA Treasurer
PO Box 20823
St. Petersburg, FL 33742

#2. Please use the Rochester PO Box address for letters for any information, inquiries, and requests, effective on March 10, 2010.

ASLTA Correspondence
PO Box 92426
Rochester, NY 14692

#3. Please use the North Carolina address for all evaluations and certifications as usual.

ASLTA Certification
PO Box 39
Newell, NC 28126
VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Glenna Ashton, M.Ed.
ASLTA Professional
Valdosta, GA
Boca Raton, FL

ASL National Standards report

Committee members: Glenna Ashton (chair), Kim Brown Kurz, Keith Cagle, Bill Newell, Rico Peterson, Jason Zinza

The committee had five face to face meetings plus numerous e-mails and VP calls over a three year period. We appreciated the assistance of several sponsors to help with the costs such as NCIEC, CPCC, NTID, SMI, DSP, FASLTA, and ASLTA.

We were fortunate in having many people willing to review the documents as it went through a few versions.

We are now finalizing the document to be reviewed by a person from the Standards Collaboration Board before it can be included in the next publication.

The next publication will be sometime in 2011 in the form of CDs since many more languages will be included.

We hope to present workshops on the using the standards at the 2011 ASLTA conference.

ASLTA Secretary

Dorothy M. Wilkins
ASLTA Professional
Rochester, NY

We, the ASLTA Board members, met during the Conference on Interpreter Training (CIT) on October 28 to 31, 2010 in San Antonio, Texas. We all went to CIT’s plenary presentations on Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings. They were excellent. We met for dinner on Thursday night for a social call. Then, we met all day on Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 5 p.m. We discussed various topics such as revised Bylaws, 501 c 3, the upcoming ASLTA Professional Development Conference in Seattle, NAD National Deaf History Month with an emphasis on ASL, ASL Standards Committee, ASLTA financial report, and many more. The standing committees from ASLTA Evaluation, Chapter Affiliated, Professional Development, and ASL Honor Society submitted their reports as well.

During the board meeting, we made the following motions:

Motion 1: Betti Bonni made a motion to accept the November 9, 2009 Board Minutes in Phoenix, Arizona read as accepted. Carried.

Motion 2: Glenna Ashton made a motion that we ASLTA board members accept
the financial report as corrected. Carried.

Motion 3: ASLTA will send a representative to those organization conferences with limited budget. (Referred to the 5-year plan).

Motion 4: ASLTA will be the first organization to support the NAD’s proposal on Deaf History Month. Carried.

Motion 5: ASLTA will replace a new webmaster (Bob Herbold) from the old webmaster (Leslie Riggs) with the payment of $75 an hour. Carried.

Motion 6: ASLTA approved to increase the hourly rate to $12 from $10 for L. Phillips, Membership Coordinator, effective as of October 28, 2010. Carried.

Motion 7: ASLTA will have info@aslta.org as a “headquarters” to send to ASLTA secretary. She will make appropriate referral. Carried.

Motion 8: ASLTA will need to revise the Bylaws about the 7th Board member and omit the Certification/Evaluation System or a Public Relations Chair as an independent committee. Carried.

Motion 9: ASLTA will use the Camfrog that will cost $50 per person for a lifetime for us to communicate through the Internet all at the same time. Carried.

Please look up www.aslta.org. ASLTA General Business Meeting Minutes from Phoenix, Arizona from October 2009 will be posted. If you have any questions or comments about the Minutes, please contact me.

ASLTA Treasurer

Betti Bonni, MA
ASLTA Professional
Pinellas Park, FL

No report at this time.

The most user-friendly ASL curriculum just got even better!
LAST DAY TO REGISTER

Feb. 28, 2011

If you want to schedule a Professional Interview in Seattle

Questions?

Contact Dr. Keith M. Cagle, Evaluation Chair at asltaevaluation2003@yahoo.com

ASLTA Evaluation Chair

Keith M Cagle, Ph.D.
ASLTA Professional Newell, NC

The pace of ASLTA evaluation applications has been slowing. It may be correlated to the recession along with the state and local budget cuts began to feel across many schools and programs. For examples, one ASL program at a university was closed, the hiring of new teacher in another university was frozen, and a local school district laid off a number of teachers, assistants and administrators which made it impossible to propose ASL classes in high schools any time soon. Another university cut the money for its faculty’s professional development travel and expenses. If economy turns better in 2011, we may see a better atmosphere for 2011-12 budgets and start to see a growth in our field across the country once again.

I have been serving ASLTA voluntarily as its Evaluation chair for 11th year now. We have been asking some qualified people to consider taking my position. Most of them are hesitant to assume a huge responsibility. Some ideas have been discussed. One idea is to change the By-Laws and move the position of Evaluation chair away from the board. So the new chair can be compensated for his/her work. Current By-Laws explicitly explains that the board
member can't be compensated. The pay for Evaluation chair would be a great incentive for more people to come forward and express an interest to serve as a new chair.

Through the review from some re-evaluations and failures on ASLTA evaluations, it has been showing that there is a great need for more workshops focusing on how to write a syllabus (e.g. course description, goals/objectives, evaluation criterion) and lesson plan, different teaching methods for vocabulary/grammar and culture, and how to evaluate ASL students. I hope there will be a good number of workshops focusing on those topics at our next ASLTA conference in Seattle.

We are interested in seeing our evaluations becoming more green and environment-friendly. We would like to see our evaluations to be conducted more through online (e.g. filling out the forms online, sending documents and videos as attachments). I am not a computer whiz. If any one of you who is a computer whiz could help with the development of online forms and system, please do let me know.

Reminder for those Qualified-certified members who want Professional-level interviews at our next ASLTA conference in Seattle, the deadline is February 28, 2011. Go to www.aslta.org and click on the tab of Certification. Then click on Professional. Scroll down until you see “download the packet” and then click on it. The packet will come. You can print and start working on it.

Have an optimistic and productive year in 2011.

Chapter Liaison

Colleen Evenstad
ASLTA Professional
Rochester, NY

No report at this time.

WA ASLTA (Washington State ASLTA) Chapter Report:

The ASLTA 2011 Conference committee has been working hard to assure that the next ASLTA conference will be as exciting and rich as possible. The Washington State ASLTA Chapter is hosting the 6th Biennial National Professional Development Conference at Renaissance Seattle Hotel, June 29 to July 3, 2011.

Our theme for the conference is “ASL NOW! Teaching to the Next Level”. This academic conference will include two major ASL curriculum pre-conference
seminars and 32 workshops representing the latest in ASL teaching strategies, methodologies and technology. The newly developed ASL Standards, to be adopted by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages in early 2011, will be presented. Our exhibit hall will feature the wide array of existing and new resources that our brilliant, professional presenters, researchers and teachers have developed.

The 2011 conference and ASLTA organization are dedicated to the improvement and expansion of the teaching and learning of American Sign Language. Participants will have the opportunity to earn Clock hours and CEUs from experts in the field. They will also be able to network with other teachers from around the country, supporting one another in their efforts to achieve and maintain ASLTA certification requirements.

Please go to [www.aslta.org](http://www.aslta.org) for more information. You will find our “Conference” details on the right side of the top menu.

2010 NC ASLTA Conference News

The biennial NC ASLTA conference was held on November 4-6th in Flat Rock, North Carolina. It began with the board meeting on Thursday morning. Later in afternoon, we had the statewide meeting with ASL and interpreter teachers from community colleges, universities, high school and schools for the deaf. Thursday night was kicked off with a reception. Fifty-five people registered for the conference. The conference was built with many workshops on Friday. The workshops were Creative Lesson Plan by Robert Moore, Teaching Fingerspelling Part 2 by Sharon Lott, ASL Teaching Methods by Dr. Keith Cagle, and ASL Classes through Distance Education by Anne Condrey.

On Friday night, we had the North Carolina-style BBQ dinner and ASL literature show.

On Saturday morning, Dr. Kim Kurz of NTID gave an awesome 3-hours workshop on 5 Cs and ASL standards.

On Saturday afternoon, we had the election, the winners are:

President - Sharon Lott of Morganton
Vice President - Cindy J. Decker-Pickell of Wilson
Secretary - Cory L. Parker of Asheville
Treasurer - Linda Nelson of Raleigh
Professional Development Coordinator - Beverly Fletcher Woodel of Morganton
Member at Large - Daisy Rivenbark of Wilmington

The board is widely diversified from western part to eastern part of North Carolina.

On Saturday night, we had the keynote speakers and award ceremony. Dr. Kurz gave her impressive keynote speech about the ASL curriculum and future.
Afterward Dr. Cagle gave a short show about the lexical borrowings among Cistercian sign language, Langue des signes française and ASL from his doctorate work. Then the awards were presented. The winners are:

Dr. William C. Stokoe ASL Education Award: University of North Carolina at Greensboro
George W. Veditz ASL Leadership Award: Sharon Lott Hurley
Marie Jean Philip Bilingual/Bicultural Education Award: Glenda Dinyari
NCASLTA President's Distinguished Service Award: Kathy Apperson, NCASLTA SLPI:ASL Coordinator
Certificates of Recognition: Ann Condrey, Tim Apperson, Francie Nazloo, Pam King

And an award was created and named in honor of Keith Cagle to be presented at all future conferences: Dr. Keith M. Cagle Teaching Excellence Award

The outgoing president James W. Wilson sailed the board meeting, general meeting & election and banquet/award ceremony through the conference very efficiently. He will lead the NC ASLTA's 2013 National ASLTA conference committee.

**Florida ASLTA (FASLTA) Chapter Report**

Florida will host its annual conference, *Make it Real!* in Jacksonville, Florida at the Ramada Inn, Mandarin February 25-27, 2011. It is an election year. If you are interested in serving on the board, please contact Glenna Ashton, Nomination Chair.

Our keynote speaker is Patty Durr, of NTID in Rochester, NY who will be screening 4 films and teaching a 3 hour hands on workshop on filmmaking for the classroom.

Other workshop topics can be found at [www.faslta.org](http://www.faslta.org).

**Professional Development Chair**

Arkady Belozovsky
ASLTA Professional Framingham, MA

**NOTE:** Extended call on papers deadline till Jan 15th, 2011.
Sign Media, Inc. is proud to announce these new products!

**The Elephant Game**
by Jason E. Zinza and Kim Brown Kurz
Introduce students to the game while expanding their language skills and understanding of Deaf culture through 22 different activities focusing on classifiers, numbers, fingerspelling, storytelling, parameters, graphs, geography, science and more. Includes an activity book plus a DVD.

**SignMaster: A Master ASL! Vocabulary Review Game**
by Beverly G. Stokem
Players move through a full color game board advancing when they correctly sign vocabulary words, make sentences and show facial expressions. Challenge cards enable a player to question another player’s sign production. Three to eight players.

**The Unlearning Curve: Learning to Learn American Sign Language**
by Rico Peterson
This is one of the few books to focus on helping students to learn American Sign Language. It details many of the common obstacles that students face and offers practical suggestions to improve their study of ASL.

$64.95

$49.95

$24.95

To order these exciting new products, please go to our website at signmedia.com or phone 1-800-475-4756
COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ASL Honor Society
National Coordinator
Jason E. Zinza, MA

Here’s what the ASLHS is offering for the 2010-2011 school year.

First, the ASLHS is a program administered by ASLTA to encourage higher academic expectations and longer student retention for ASL students at all levels, and to assist teachers in the art and science of teaching ASL.

We offer:

- Scholarships for high school seniors / college students. Each scholarship award is at least $1,000.00, and who in their right mind would turn down free money in this economy? Students majoring or minoring in ASL, Deaf Studies, Deaf Ed., and Interpreter Training can apply. Application deadline is May 6, 2011. Here’s a link: [http://aslhonorsociety.org/Honor_Society_scholarship.html](http://aslhonorsociety.org/Honor_Society_scholarship.html)

- Financial grants for ASL teachers. Want free money to pay for a guest speaker, or DVDs, video recorders, or field trips? Applications are accepted only during the school year, and it's a first-come, first-served system. The ASLHS mini-grant program helps bridge that gap between your great ideas and the cost of getting those ideas to happen. Here’s a link: [http://aslhonorsociety.org/Grants.html](http://aslhonorsociety.org/Grants.html)

- Annual ASL Literature Competition. Unless you live and teach in an insular bubble, you know the pressure teachers are under to "engage the community", "apply learning to the outside world", and an endless litany of other catch phrases. They all mean that students should put into practice what they learn in class. The ASL Literature Competition does this, giving students the opportunity to show what they've learned. For 2011, the competition categories are "Personal Narrative: The Perfect Day Off" and "Create an Original ABC Story." Students can earn cash prizes for participating. Entry deadline is March 25, 2011. Here’s a link: [http://aslhonorsociety.org/Literature_Competition.html](http://aslhonorsociety.org/Literature_Competition.html)

- Graduation recognition, such as honor cords and medals for high academic performance in ASL studies. They are a great incentive to encourage students to do well, raises the visibility of ASL programs, and what parent doesn't like seeing their child recognized? Many of you remember to join ASLHS just in time to get the cords and medals but this year we're doing things a little differently, so last-minute rush orders might get left
out. Here’s a link: http://aslhonorsociety.org/Graduation_Honors.html

DO-DO? Fill out the ASLTA and ASLHS membership forms and send them to Tricia McCarthy on the address listed on the form, and start taking advantage of what we offer!

Questions, comments, feedback, and complaints can be directed to my inbox.

TeachASL
www.teachasl.org

Encourages free exchange of ideas
Maintains an archive

To Join
http://listserv.valenciacc.edu

Select the list you want (TeachASL)
Select “Join or Leave”
Add your name; pick your settings!

We recommend:
Subscription: Regular or Digest
Mail-Header: Listserv-style
Acknowledgements: Receive copy

ASLTA News

Is actively seeking

Articles
Announcements
Chapter Notices
Research
Spotlights on … Teachers
Schools
Teachers

Send you material to our Newsletter Editor, AlysseR@aol.com using the subject header ASLTA News Submission.

Send advertising donations to our ASLTA Treasurer, BBonni2@aol.com.
Looking for Work?

Teaching Positions

The University of Georgia is currently seeking a full time ASL professor to begin as soon as possible.

For more information please contact: Judi Oliver judiasl@uga.edu

American Sign Language Interpreting Studies Program
Department of Modern Languages
Tenure-Track --Assistant Professor

The Department of Classical and Modern Languages at the University of Louisville invites applications for a tenure-track position of Assistant Professor in the newly established BS degree program in ASLIS (American Sign Language Interpreting Studies) for the fall of 2011.

Consideration for this position will be limited to candidates with a Ph.D. or Masters Degree in applicable fields, including linguistics. The successful candidate must have demonstrated teaching excellence and show strong potential for research. In addition, candidates must have training and experience in interpreter education; fluency in ASL (ASLTA Certified) or; ASL Interpreter Certification (e.g. CDI, CI, NIC and/or RID), knowledge of and experience in working with the Deaf community, and willingness to take on an administrative role. Responsibilities will include teaching undergraduate classes in ASL and ITP, performing departmental and community service, and publishing research.

Send letter of interest, c.v. and three letters of recommendation to Dr. Alan Leidner, Chair, Search Committee:

Department of Classical and Modern Languages
University of Louisville
Louisville, KY 40292.

All applicants must also apply online at http://louisville.edu/jobs. Please select Job ID # 26525. For full consideration, applications must be completed by January 14, 2011.
New Feature: Spotlight on ….

ASLTA would like to know what you and/or your schools are doing to promote professionalism in our field.

If you’ve got something to share, send it in. You can email these announcements to the ASLTA News Editor at any time during the year, but issue deadlines are March 1st, June 1st, September 1st, and December 1st.

Email your article to AlysseR@aol.com anytime throughout the year. Please write “ASLTA News Spotlight” in the subject header.

The top submissions will be included in the ASLTA news.

Spotlight On …

Valencia Community College
Orlando Florida

ASL / Interpreter Training AA Program
Valencia Community College
Orlando, FL

In addition to their 2 year AA program for training interpreters, Valencia stepped up to the plate and began to offer the course required by Florida DOE for ASL K-12 endorsement.

They offer

1st & 2nd Language Acquisition of ASL,
Methods of Teaching ASL,
ASL Literature, and, of course,
Deaf Culture,
Structure of ASL, and
ASL IV.

Adding to their commitment to increasing opportunities for students, they have also joined the ASL Honor Society.
A CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR
ASLTA VICE-PRESIDENT AND TREASURER

On August 31, 2010, the membership of the ASLTA ratified the Bylaws of the ASLTA revision proposal by a mail ballot.

Under Article VII about Election and Appointment of Board Members, the Nomination Committee composed of three Professional-level certified members will be appointed by the Board of Directors shortly. A call for nominations for the offices of the Vice-President and Treasurer is in effect now.

Further information will be announced on the ASLTA web site and in the spring issue of the ASLTA Newsletter. Next biennial general business meeting will be held during the sixth National Professional Development Conference at Seattle on June 28-July 3, 2011. Nominations Chair and Committee will be announced on the web site.

Nominations from the membership must be submitted to the Nomination Committee at least three (3) months prior to the biennial general business meeting. It means that the Nomination Committee must receive nominations for the Vice President and Treasurer on or before March 29, 2011. Nominees for the offices of the Vice President and Treasurer will be asked to provide the Nomination Committee with biographical data about their experience, qualifications and signatures.

Elections will take place by email or online ballot at least sixty (60) days prior to the biennial general business meeting on June 29, 2011. All voting members in good standing will have one ballot for the offices of the Vice President and Treasurer on or before April 27, 2011. The voting members must return ballots to the Nomination Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the biennial general meeting which will be on or before May 27, 2011.

Election results will be announced at the biennial general business meeting of the ASLTA in Seattle, in the newsletter, and/or on the web site. Those ASLTA members who currently have the Professional-level certificate are very much encouraged and urged to seriously consider running for the offices of the Vice-President and Treasurer as soon as possible.

Lawrence H. Forestal
President, ASLTA
### 6th National Professional Development Conference

**Renaissance Seattle Hotel**

**Tuesday, June 28**
- Afternoon
  - ASLTA Committee & Volunteers meeting

**Wednesday, June 29**
- 8:00 am - 9:00 pm
  - Conference Registration
- 8:30 am - 9:30 pm
  - ASLTA Professional-level Interview
- 9:00 am - 1:30 pm
  - Preconference workshop 1, Lunch
- 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
  - ASLTA Board & CIT Board Meeting
- 11:30 am - 1:00 pm
  - ASLTA-CIT Boards Luncheon
- 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm
  - Booth Exhibit Setup
- 2:00 pm - 6:30 pm
  - Preconference workshop 2, Snacks
- 6:00 pm - 11:00 pm
  - Welcome Reception, Keynote Speakers TBA

**Thursday, June 30**
- 7:30 am - 9:00 pm
  - Conference Registration
- 7:30 am - 6:00 pm
  - Booth Exhibits,
- 8:45 am - 11:15 am
  - ASLTA General Business Meeting
- 11:30 am - 1:00 pm
  - Chapters Luncheon by invitation only
- 11:45 am - 1:00 pm
  - Lunch on your own
- 1:15 pm - 2:15 pm
  - Breakout Sessions 3
- 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
  - Breakout Sessions 4
- 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm
  - Eval sheets, Clock Hr Verification Forms, RID CMP CEUs
- 4:30 pm - midnight
  - Dine out, shop, on your own

**Saturday, July 2**
- 7:00 am - 8:30 am
  - Deluxe Continental Breakfast
- 7:30 am - 9:00 pm
  - Conference Registration
- 7:30 am - 5:30 pm
  - Booth Exhibits
- 8:00 am - 6:00 pm
  - Gallaudet ASLPI@ASLTA
- 8:30 am - 10:00 am
  - Breakout Sessions 5
- 10:15 am - 11:45 am
  - Breakout Sessions 6
- 11:45 am - 1:15 pm
  - Lunch on your own
- 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm
  - Breakout Sessions 7
- 3:15 pm - 4:45 pm
  - Breakout Sessions 8
- 4:45 pm - 6:00 pm
  - Eval sheets, Clock Hr Verification Forms, RID CMP CEUs, ASLTA Conference Evaluation Sheets
- 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
  - Plenary Session, Keynote Speaker
- 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
  - Exhibits Take Down,
- 6:30 pm - 12:00 am
  - Dinner Buffet / Entertainment

**Friday, July 1**
- 7:30 am - 9:00 pm
  - Conference Registration
- 7:30 am - 6:00 pm
  - Booth Exhibits
- 8:00 am - 6:00 pm
  - Gallaudet ASLPI@ASLTA

**Sunday, July 3**
- 7:30 am - 9:30 am
  - ASLTA Board Meeting
- 9:30 am - 12:00 pm
  - ASLTA Professional-level Interview
15-Month Summer/Online Masters in Sign Language Teaching

Mission Statement
Gallaudet University’s Department of ASL and Deaf Studies is dedicated to providing the most comprehensive, challenging, and productive ASL and Deaf Studies curriculum anywhere in the world. Expert faculty will guide students to explore and understand the complexities of deaf communities through interdisciplinary approaches.

Teaching Philosophy
The Gallaudet philosophy is built on the principles of auditory, oral, and manual educational approaches. It has been our goal to provide an educational environment that is conducive to the development of both auditory and manual capabilities in our students. Our program is designed to meet the needs of students who are deaf and hard of hearing, as well as those who are hearing.

Program Description
The Department of American Sign Language and Deaf Studies offers a M.A. degree in Sign Language Teaching. Students will be introduced to key theoretical and methodological issues involved in sign language instruction, assessment, and curriculum development. Students will undertake a teaching practicum and internship under the supervision of a cooperating teacher. An electronic portfolio is required in the completion of the program, representing the student’s teaching performance.
Masters in Sign Language Teaching

15-Month Summer/Online

**Summer I**
- June 23 – 24
- ASL Media Production (3)
- Sign Language Linguistics for the Deaf and Deaf Education (3)
- Teaching ASL to Deaf Students (3)
- Seminar in Sign Language Teaching (3)
- Sign Language Teaching Preparation (3)

**Fall and Spring Online Courses**
- Fall Semester
- Sign Language Linguistics for the Deaf and Deaf Education (3)
- Teaching ASL to Deaf Students (3)
- Seminar in Sign Language Teaching (3)
- Sign Language Teaching Preparation (3)

**Summer II**
- May 25 – Aug 16
- Spring Semester
- Sign Language Linguistics for the Deaf and Deaf Education (3)
- Teaching ASL to Deaf Students (3)
- Seminar in Sign Language Teaching (3)
- Sign Language Teaching Preparation (3)

Graduates from the Sign Language Teaching Program will:

- Demonstrate theoretical knowledge and display competence in classroom settings regarding methodologies and sociopolitical issues involved in sign language teaching, curriculum development, and assessment.

- Produce graduate level sign language and English tests that demonstrate knowledge of and critical inquiry into key concepts in the Sign Language teaching field.

- Recognize the importance of the ASL teacher as a system change agent and apply this in practice, using effective leadership, advocacy, collaboration with the deaf community, and organizational and systematic strategies.
ASL Rose PRODUCTS
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Hidden Treasure in the Deaf World

Have You Ever Seen...
An American Sign Language (ASL) Book
Have You Ever Seen...
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Florida ASLTA's

2011 Annual Conference
February 25, 26, 27, 2011
www.faslta.org

Ramada Inn – Mandarin
Jacksonville, FL

We’ve done more than 20 conferences over the past years (there’s something nice about Florida in February!). We have great presenters, great accommodations, great food, and a great time – all for a small price. Check us out at www.faslta.org!
ASLTA Conference 2007

DVDs

Missed out on some of the workshops? Get them on DVD!

A lot happened at the ASLTA Conference and you can catch up on anything you missed with these high-quality DVDs of conference workshops and events. Share conference workshops with colleagues and students, or just review highlights at your leisure.

Presented in American Sign Language

DVDs will be shipped in February 2008

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<tr>
<td>About Teaching ASL</td>
<td>4 discs</td>
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For more information contact CSD-TV at 800-642-6410 (V) or 866-273-3323 (TTY)

CSD (also known as Communication Service for the Deaf, Inc.) is a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to providing broad-based services, ensuring public accessibility and increasing public awareness of issues affecting deaf and hard of hearing individuals. Through global leadership and a continuum of quality communication services and human service programs, CSD provides the tools conducive to a positive and fully integrated life. Please visit us online at www.c-s-d.org to learn more about what we can do for you.

Please mail or fax order to:
CSD-TV
102 N. Krohn Place
Sioux Falls, SD 57103
FAX: (605) 367-5958

www.csd.tv

CSD-TV has launched two compelling new programs created by and for the deaf and hard of hearing community, FYE provides investigative reports, interviews, feature segments and profiles of deaf and hard of hearing people in the news. Spice Up takes you into the kitchen of noted deaf chef Jeff Perri as he shares the secrets to creating exciting cuisine. Watch a new episode every week online at www.csd.tv
ASL / Deaf Businesses show your support.
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Deadlines for Articles & Advertisements

- March 1<sup>st</sup>
- June 1<sup>st</sup>
- September 1<sup>st</sup>
- December 1<sup>st</sup>

Looking for a way to generate new customers? Want to keep your products in front of your current clientele? Want to launch something new? Let ASLTA help you increase your sales.

Our quarterly newsletter is read by teachers of ASL from all around the nation in winter, spring, summer, and fall. Our readership consists of 300+ teachers who purchase your products and then pass your contact information on to their students who, in turn, also purchase your products. And, as we all know, word of mouth – or, in our case, sign of hand – advertising is the most effective!

Each issue of the ASLTA News consists of 12-20 pages that measure 8 ½” x 11” per page. The ASLTA News is mailed, first class, not bulk! This puts your company’s name and information right in front of your customers!

Send your camera-ready copy (tiff, jpg, Word document, or Adobe .pdf) to Betti Bonni (ASLTA Treasurer) via email: BBonni2@aol.com. Send payments to Betti Bonni, ASLTA Treasurer, P.O. Box 20823, St. Petersburg, FL 33742.

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** Ads will be updated if received prior to normal advertising deadlines. If not, the last quarter’s ad will be re-run.
American Sign Language Teachers Association

WA ASLTA Chapter hosts 6th National Professional Development Conference

ASL NOW! Teaching to the Next Level
Renaissance Seattle Hotel in Seattle, Washington
June 28 – July 3, 2011

ASLTA Members, ASL-Deaf Studies Professors and Instructors, Program Directors, Linguists, Researchers, Interested Individuals, Sponsors, and Friends

Attention! Early Birds Combo available now! Save extra $$$!

The Early Bird Combo is worth only $350 per person! It is good until November 30, 2010.

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<td>• Booth exhibits</td>
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<td>• ASLTA luncheon Thursday</td>
<td>• One breakfast Saturday</td>
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<td>• Unlimited participation in a variety of professional growth workshops</td>
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The late combo will be worth $400 per person from Dec. 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011.

The very late combo will be worth $450 per person on and after April 1, 2011.

(Cut along the line)

Name ____________________________________________ Date ________________________
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Please make check or money order payable to: 2011 ASLTA Conference

Please mail the form with payment to:
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terrysasser@comcast.net
P.O. BOX 1572, Seattle, WA 98020-1572
Membership Application

2011 Membership Application

To maintain valid certification (Provisional or Qualified or Professional), dues must be paid each and every calendar year.

Dues cycle is based on annual calendar year. Payment is due in January.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!

Member’s Information:

Last: ____________________
First: ____________________
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Main email: (for inclusion in our website news. This email is NOT shared with 3rd parties.)

Other contact info: ____________________

Institutional Affiliation: ____________________

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Important Privacy Notice:

ASLTA maintains a database of all membership information. This database is kept strictly confidential, with access only by members of the Board and the Membership Coordinator. However, when deemed appropriate by the Board, announcements or news may be sent via email to members on this list. If you wish to NOT receive any emails, initial here: ____________________

ASLTA may post a membership directory on our website. Members’ names, state of residence, and certification level may be published. If you do NOT wish to have your information in the directory, initial here: ____________________

Lack of initials implies consent.

For office use only:

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Be sure to visit our webpage often: www.aslta.org