

American Sign Language Teachers Association

POB 92445

Rochester, NY 14692-9998

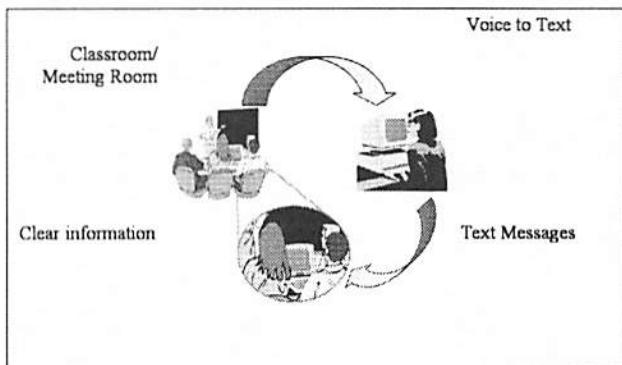




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• (718) 392-3576 Fax
• (877) 275-3447 Toll-Free



President's tidbits

Leslie Greer

It is the Fall and as we prepare for a new school year, it is also time to review our curricula. Our ASL and Deaf Studies courses must be taught at the highest quality. We must always strive for better ways of teaching and better quality education. Also we should strive for standardization of ASL as a language.

I would like to congratulate Thomas Riggs for being elected to a second term as ASLTA Vice President. I also congratulate Glenna Ashton for election as our new treasurer. Glenna is the first K-12 teacher to be on the ASLTA Board.

After the CIT Convention in September, Bill Newell will retire as ASLTA Secretary. He has been a board member since 1985. Bill has moved to Valdosta, GA and has taken a position at Valdosta State University teaching ASL, Deaf Education and Interpreting. We wish him the best of luck and happiness in the warm and sunny climate of the South. Judie Cronlund of Arizona will be our new secretary until new elections.

I have some concerns about membership to ASLTA. Since ASLTA is now independent from NAD, ASLTA members must make checks out to ASLTA. NAD membership, address and fees are separate and distinct. If a check is made out to NAD/ASLTA or mail to NAD, ASLTA may not receive the money or the member's information. There has been a recent decrease in ASLTA membership. I think there may be some confusion as stated above. Please renew your membership and encourage new members to join. Please check our website for the correct address and membership forms.

I would like to share an experience a friend of mine recently had as an ASL teacher. My friend was hired as an ASL teacher at a college recently. My friend visited to other colleges to share ASL curricula and resources in the same state. One ASL teacher at the college told

my friend that ASLTA was not an important organization. The teacher would not share the ASL curriculum with my friend. At another college, an ASL teacher became mad at my friend because my friend wasn't ASLTA certified, yet. This other teacher wouldn't help my friend either. This situation made me sad. We, as ASL and Deaf Studies teachers, are not in competition with each other. We need to support each other, sharing curricula and resources and we encourage ASLTA membership, certification and membership in our organization. ASLTA is an important organization for ALL ASL and Deaf Studies teachers. One reason that ASL is a recognized language and that ASL teaching is so widespread today is because of the tireless work of ASLTA (and SIGN in the past). Our profession can only grow and become stronger through the support of ALL ASL and Deaf Studies teachers.

Lastly, just a reminder that our next ASLTA Professional Development Conference for 2005 will be held in November 6th, 7th and 8th in Las Vegas, Nevada.



Treasurer
Glenna Ashton

ASLTA's Investments as of
7/1/04 - \$81, 670.06

Checking Account as of 8/21/04 - \$6392.20
Savings Account as of 8/18/04 - \$1941.01
Balance Total as of 8/21/04 - \$90,003.46
(cash on hand as of 8/21/04) - \$8333.21





Evaluation Chair

Keith Cagle

We had several important functions related to ASLTA evaluation at the NAD convention in Kansas City, Missouri during July 6th thru 8th. We had the Professional-level interviews for seven candidates. Four

new evaluators, Glenna Ashton, Judie Cronlund, Rachel Stone and Christine Wood were trained. The ASLTA Evaluation System Review committee under the charge of Cindy Campbell had the meeting.

We are planning our next Professional-level interviews at the CIT convention in Washington DC during Sept. 30th - Oct. 2nd. If you have the Qualified certification and has met another

requirement of 150 hours for professional development and 240 hours for teaching experiences, you may be ready to take the interview. You will need to contact me at evaluation@aslta.org First come, first serve.

Congratulation many following new candidates who accomplished their evaluations and renewed their certifications in past four months.

Now we have 354 ASLTA certified members.

Breakdown of level categories are: 62

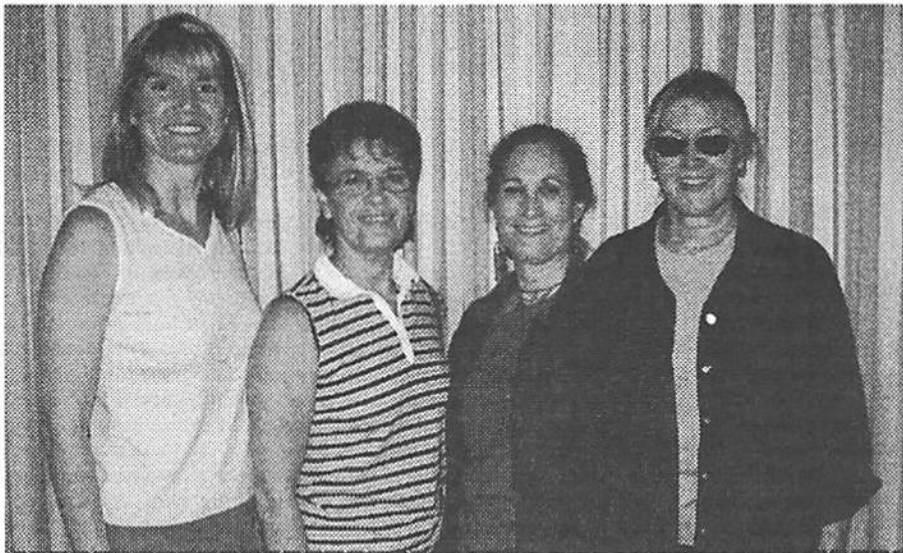
Professional, 72 Qualified and 220 Provisional.

Finally, we would like to thank both Dr.

Bill Newell and Dr. Cindy Campbell for donated their evaluation services worth of \$945.00 and \$220.00 to ASLTA.

For more information about ASLTA Certification and Evaluation, please look at our ASLTA website at <http://www.aslta.org>

New and renewed certification with their signed consents				As of July 2004
Level	Last name	First Name	State	
Prof (renewal)	Eldredge	Bryan K.	UT	
Prof (renewal)	Pouliot	Colleen A.	NY	
Prof (renewal)	Greer	Leslie G.	NY	
Prof (renewal)	Monikowski	Christine	NY	
Prof (renewal)	Naiman	Alec	NY	
Prof.	Bice	Joni	OK	
Prof.	Lybarger	Kimberly	KS	
Prof.	Carlstrand	Glen	IN	
Qual.	Winter	Kristi G.	DC	
Qual.	Sofoniski	Bruce A.	VA	
Qual.	Slobodzian	Jean	NJ	
Qual.	Brothers	Ivy I.	NC	
Qual.	Powell	Faith Georgia	GA	
Qual.	Sheneman	Naomi	CA	
Qual.	Fraychineaud	Kathy	AZ	
Qual.	Clark	Stephanie M.	MA	
Prov.	Pillans	Bonnie K.	IN	
Prov.	Spurlin	Caroline Joy	NM	
Prov.	Lyons	Brenda Ann	CA	
Prov.	Masi	Carla E.	AZ	
Prov.	Vinson	Terry Lee	NM	
Prov.	Steinberg	Lynn D.	VA	
Prov.	Nash	Albert Arlon	OH	
Prov.	Kutcka	Jennifer Ann	NJ	
Prov.	Bradley	Sandra P.	NY	
Prov.	Gabel	Paulette A.	NY	
Prov.	Slate	Athony A.	TX	
Prov.	Sheneman	Naomi	CA	
Prov.	Rivera	David A	NY	
Prov.	Novack	Julie A.	ME	
Prov.	Crouch	Susan Lynn	CA	
Prov.	Kupcha	Jennifer Lynn	IN	
Prov.	Henry A.	Michael	FL	
Prov.	Halischak	James M.	OH	
Prov.	Baumer	Dawn Watts	OH	
Prov.	Debes	Paula M.	VA	



These four just became our new evaluators and I would like to congratulate them. However, I need your help. What are their names? The first people to answer correctly will win prizes! Please email the answer to editor@aslt.org.



ASLingo: A New, Unique Board Game for American Sign Language Users

Austin, TX - In addition to videotapes, DVDs, and books on the market about American Sign Language, people now can also play ASLingo, a new board game that combines handshapes and English words for a fun, lively game. "ASLingo offers an ASL teacher the opportunity to utilize an effective means to motivate the students in a fun-filled way without the regular classroom pressure. The ASL students do not have to memorize the handshapes or signs, but can learn ASL in an indirect way that comes naturally to the eager learner," said Becky Gage, creator of the game.

ASLingo is similar to the game Bingo, using handshapes in place of the traditional numbers to represent various signs such as ROLLERBLADES or WISE. Gage, who is Deaf, came up with the idea during the 1996-1997 academic year as a Deaf Studies teacher at the Metro Deaf School in St. Paul, Minn. "I had to think of a game to keep the kids and families entertained during the Deaf Awareness Week. All of them loved the idea and encouraged me to convert it into the real thing! I never had the time or money to do it until now," explained Gage, who is now a math teacher at the Texas School for the Deaf.

Gage contacted MJS Creations of Las Vegas, a leading game maker, who agreed to produce the game. ASLingo comes in an attractive, sturdy box that includes black tokens, playing cards and game boards illustrating various handshapes. Instructions and samples are clearly shown on the back of the game box.

Marcus R. Myers, director of Del Mar College's Interpreter Preparation Program in Corpus Christi, Texas, played the game and visualized how it would help his students at different levels. "ASLingo is a practical breakaway activity for ASL classes to build rapport and provide practice in mastering the handshape parameter," he stated.

"As a professional involved in the ASL field, I am always looking for new ideas to bring to the ASL classroom," said Amy June Rowley, coordinator of ASL Programs & Clinical Associate Professor University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. "I played this game and thought it was fantastic. It is a great way for the novice signers to learn ASL signs and a great way for native signers to play a game in their own language."

"ASLingo is also an age-friendly and family-friendly game for deaf and hearing players," added Gage. "I am looking forward to it coming out in October! It is like a dream come true."

Distribution of ASLingo will begin in October, although pre-orders are being accepted now. The game is being sold at a special introductory offer of \$24.95, good until October 1. For ordering information or more details,



**From the Chapter
Affiliation/ByLaws
Chair**

Laura J. Thomas

Where has the summer gone? Seems like it comes and goes with the wind each year!

Welcome to the '04-05 academic year and may this one be a productive one for all of you teachers.

CHAPTERS

Our chapter roster stands as having 29 affiliated chapters. The following have applied for affiliation and received affiliation materials: Iowa, Dallas/Fort Worth, TX, Hawaii, Sacramento, CA, South Carolina and Maine. Please contact chapter@asla.org if you need assistance with the affiliation application process. We are here to work with you and encourage you to complete the application, so your group may become affiliated with National ASLTA!

By this time, each Chapter President will have received a Chapter Manual in the mail. Let chapter@asla.org know if you have not received one or have any questions.

All affiliated chapters are to continue sending their workshop announcements and attendance information to Trix Bruce, professional Development Chair at: POB 92445, Rochester, NY 14692-9998. She will be tracking your chapter's workshop hours (minimum of 12 per year).

Each time there is an election of new officers, or a change in officers, remember to inform chapter@asla.org and webmaster@asla.org for updates on the ASLTA website.

If you know of an interested group of teachers/individuals who want to establish a chapter, please inform them to contact chapter@asla.org for an application packet.

National Bylaws and Chapter Bylaws

It has been brought to our attention we need to revise our National ASLTA bylaws to be in compliance with 501(c)3 application regulations. Once National ASLTA receives legal advice regarding protocol, the National ASLTA bylaws will

be revised and submitted for approval by the general membership. Again, once we have the approved revisions, we will be able to revise the Chapter bylaws. We regret the inconvenience and trust this will be resolved soon.

ELECTION of Vice President and Secretary

THANK YOU for submitted your postcards for the VP and Treasurer election - a huge response! We are proud to announce the re-election of Tom Riggs to another four year term of Vice-President and Glenna Ashton to her first four year term as Treasurer. Welcome aboard!

Soon, we will need to submit nominations for the President and Secretary positions. In the next newsletter, you will find a nomination form. We will also need to submit nominations for ASLTA's awards and Chapter Excellence, to be announced at ASLTA's Professional Development Conference in Las Vegas in November 2005.

**ASLTA's PDC in Las Vegas, NV -
November 2005**

Many of you have expressed an interest to have a half-day training session for Chapter Presidents during the PDC. Further information is forthcoming. We will have training, a Chapter Presidents' meeting, and Chapter Luncheon.



**FROM PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT CHAIR**
Trix Bruce:

It was GREAT seeing several of you, members at the NAD Conference.

Thank you for stopping by our ASLTA exhibit booth. We know how exciting we are to attend another conference coming: CIT/ASLTA in Washington DC. Here are the presenters and titles that are planned to present in our coming conference. Please mark down your calendar for our upcoming National Professional Development Conference: November 6 - 9, 2005 in Las Vegas, NV. Hope to see you all there!

Looking forward to continue working with you all.

ASL 4 Us

Midwestern Conference



Indianapolis, Indiana
June 4-6, 2005

www.asl4us.com

Come to this exciting local conference to learn,
enhance your skills, network, and have fun!

RID CEUs are offered (25 clock hours, 2.5 credits).

Participate in interactive workshops, see dynamic presentations,
meet experts in the field! If you're a teacher, student, trainee,
advocate, or ASL enthusiast, this conference is for you.



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Our motto is "Making the world a better place
for the next Deaf generation—and for Deaf people now!"

WE'VE MADE YOUR JOB EASIER!

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■ NO JARGON

■ ENJOYABLE

■ FAIR-MINDED

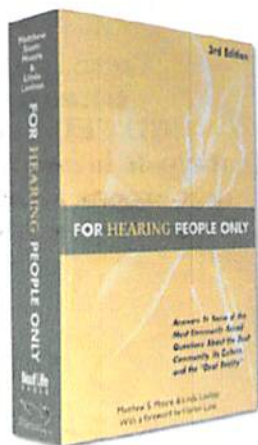
■ ENLIGHTENING

■ UP-TO-DATE

For Hearing People Only: Third Edition

Many beginning students enroll in Deaf Culture-oriented courses with similar questions. Using a handy Q/A format, **HPO-3** answers 130 of the questions you're most likely to encounter. This book makes a perfect core or supplementary text for your Introductory ASL, Deaf Studies, Basic Sign Language, or Beginners' ITP classes. For details on ordering, visit the **HPO** Booksite. Wholesale orders can be placed through your college bookstore.

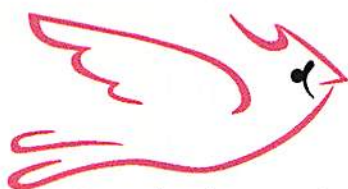
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salutes

ASLTA

American Sign Language Teachers Association

on its 30th anniversary.

We are proud to have worked with ASLTA on four conferences, and to show our support for its mission through monetary and in-kind contributions:

- ★ *Signs 'R' Us: Teach All Kids ASL, Third New York Statewide Conference for Sign-Language Instructors, October 8-11, 1992, Rochester, NY, in conjunction with Lilac Chapter of SIGN (ASLTA)*
- ★ *First National Professional Development Conference: Study Today, Teach Tomorrow, October 7-11, 1999, Rochester, NY, in conjunction with ASLTA*
- ★ *Second National Professional Development Conference: Put ASL Teachers in the Winner's Circle, April 10-13, 2003, Indianapolis, IN, in conjunction with ASLTA*
- ★ *ASL 4 Us: Teach All Kids ASL/Midwestern Conference, slated for June 4-6, 2005, Indianapolis, IN, in conjunction with Willard Chapter of ASLTA...*

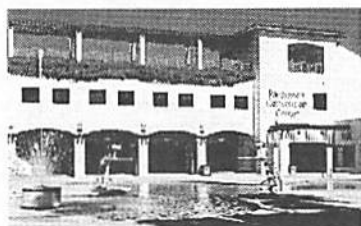
...and more to come!

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NEWS FLASH NEWS FLASH NEWS FLASH

SAVE THE DATE:

**ASLTA Professional Development Conference
November 6 - 8th, 2005
at
Alexis Park Resort, Las Vegas**



**2004 CIT Convention
Silver Anniversary**

CIT: Still Shining After Twenty-Five Years!

Sept 29 - October 3, 2004

**Kellogg Center
Gallaudet University
Washington, DC**

Visit the CIT website at www.cit-asl.org for more information

CIT Convention Coordinator

Brenda Schertz

Conference of Interpreter

Trainers Convention, Still Shining After 25 Years is fast approaching! The convention will take place from September 29 to October 3, 2004 at Gallaudet University Kellogg Conference Center.

We are still accepting registrations!

Our sponsors are major contributors to the success of the convention.

Dawn Sign Press, Sorenson Video/Gallaudet Interpreting Service and Visual Language Interpreting are our Platinum sponsors. Department of Interpretation at Gallaudet University is our Gold and newest sponsor.

Harris Communication and Sign Media Inc and are our silver sponsors. Bronze sponsors include ASLTA, Clear View Innovations, Isoprime Corporation, Gallaudet's Graduate Program, Modern Signs Press, RID and Sign Language Interpreting Media.

At this conference, CIT celebrates its 25th year. The organization's co-founders, Anna Witter-Merithew and Becky Carlson, are the keynote presenters. They will present a video montage of CIT's accomplishments the past 25 years, stories about the present and hopes for the future. Workshops are being offered in three tracks: a) Educators Teaching ASL; b) Educators Teaching in Interpreting programs and c) Educators in Short-term In-service (Workshops). We have a GREAT program in store! The convention program was planned in partnership with ASLTA and can be seen at www.cit-asl.org/events/html.

We will have over 30 vendors at our open exhibit space. Other marketing opportunities still remaining are conference bag inserts and the deadline has been extended to September 10th. Application and registration registration forms can be downloaded at www.cit-asl.org/events/html.

For more information please contact Brenda Schertz at bschertz@usm.maine.edu. See you at the convention!



Secretary: Bill Newell

In February, 2004 when Cindy Campbell was selected as our first Interim Executive Director, President Greer asked

if I would serve temporarily until she could find another person to assume the position of Secretary. At this time, I was functioning in my role as Liaison to the Board assisting the President and other board members with various duties and serving in an advisory role. At the recent ASLTA Board Meeting in Kansas City I requested that I be relieved of duties as Secretary and return to my role as Liaison to the Board. As of this time, President Greer has accepted my resignation as Secretary and is seeking to appoint another very capable member in my place.

I requested to resign as Secretary only because I am going through a significant life transition at this time. As some of you may know I retired from NTID effective June 30 and my wife and I are moving to Valdosta, Georgia on August 5. In retirement I will continue to work at Valdosta State University in the Department of Special Education. Given this big move and the time I need to focus on setting up our house, getting acclimated to a new university, I thought it would be best if I cut back on some of my involvements in national organizational work. I have served ASLTA since 1980 in various capacities from newsletter editor of the Sign On/Sign Off newsletter to President of the Association for two terms to Chairperson of the Evaluation and Certification system for 10 years to my current position(s) as Liaison to the Board and Secretary.

I will continue to work "in the background" without having an official role as an officer but for the time being I think it is best if another person has the opportunity to serve on the ASLTA Board. I have enjoyed my work for 24 years with ASLTA and will continue to be very active in assisting where I can. Best wishes to all members of ASLTA.



Editor-in-Chief
Michael Kaufer

Summer is over! For many of us ASL teachers, it's back to the classroom, rolling up our sleeves, and

teaching ASL to eager students.

With all the students looking to us to teach them, many of us are thinking, wow, another year of hopeful students. Therefore, we feel the need for more workshops to learn more about teaching ASL, not only to hearing students, but to Deaf students as well.

However, there isn't a curriculum in the USA for ASL teachers to teach Deaf students American Sign Language. Why is that? All ASL books are designed for hearing people.

There are also some other concerns among ASL teachers as well, and I would like to share them with you. I would appreciate your feedback, so I can share your thoughts with others in the next issue.

Many chapters of ASLTA in the USA are facing these issues.

1) Who can give high quality workshops? Many are dying for new ideas and for people to give workshops.

2) Should ASLTA develop a listing of workshops and present by who and their fee in the website so all chapters can look up to see what interested them?

3) Those who give great workshops charge high fees. How can we justify that this person deserves a higher fee than others? Or should we?

4) Those who give workshops sometimes allow participants to ask "off the point" questions or get carried away with other information and or other topics.

5) How can chapters afford the fee, especially when many teachers cannot afford to pay the high admission fees?

6) If a person has a "qualified" certification, should this person get a higher fee than a person who has a "provisional" certification, or no certification? For instance, many well respected ASL leaders don't have certification and charge higher than those who have certification. Is that fair?

7) Many say that when we hire the person to give a workshop, we should pay for their air and hotel but not the food. Wh should we pay for their food since they would be paying for food if they were at home? How do you all feel about that?

As you can see, there are many questions. I am sure there are more questions that aren't even mentioned. Please do write an email of your thoughts and email them to editor@asлта.org. It is very important that we all hear your thoughts. If you would rather remain anonymous, mention this and I will remove your name.

Last but not least, please feel free to let me know what you would like to see in the next newsletter. It's your newsletter and we need to hear from you!

Thank you!

The DO IT Center
FRCC @ Lowry Campus
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Distance Opportunities for
Interpreter Training Center

Take advantage of this excellent
opportunity! This is the last
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Center grant funding cycle.

DISTANCE LEARNING & TECHNOLOGY INTERNSHIP

Overview

The DLTI is a two-part program designed to provide interpreter educators and ASL instructors with first-hand experience related to the possibilities of distance education and to explore how these possibilities can positively influence the field of interpreter education. The internship begins with a 10-week online course that introduces you to distance learning terms, technology, concepts, design, and facilitation techniques. This course also gives you real life experience in being both an online student and an online facilitator. The second part of the internship provides you with the opportunity to apply your learning by developing a distance learning project or by observing, discussing and analyzing a live DO IT Center online course.

Critical Information

What: Two-semester program (online course plus internship)

When: Online course: March 21–May 27, 2005
Internship: August 22–December 19, 2005

Who: Interpreter Educators and ASL Instructors

Result: 7 Professional RID CMP/ACET CEUs available
(A minimum of 12 students is required for the student purchase of graduate credit for this course.)

Cost: None (Paid by grant funds unless student purchases graduate credits)

Maximum number of students admitted: 25

Program Highlights

- ✦ 10-week online course - "Distance Learning Technology, Design and Facilitation"
- ✦ Hands-on experience as a distance student
- ✦ Foundation in distance learning concepts, terms, technologies, methodologies, and design
- ✦ Experience facilitating an online discussion
- ✦ Online collaboration with other DLTI interns
- ✦ 12-week supervised online internship experience

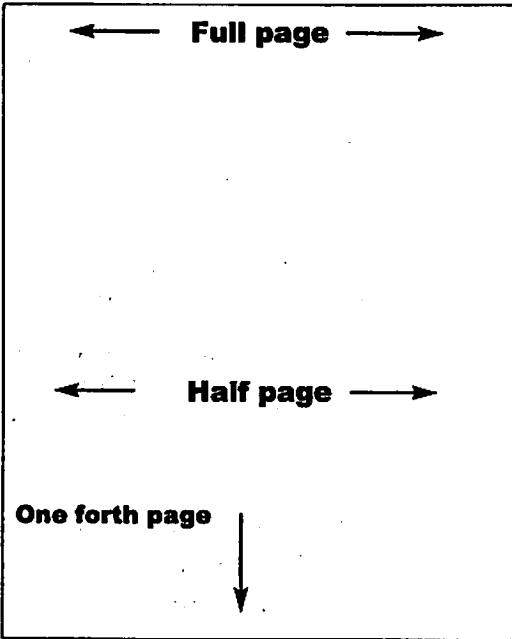
APPLICATION DEADLINE: NOV. 1, 2004

TUITION DUE: JAN. 3, 2005

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO APPLY VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:
<http://au.frcc.cccoes.edu/~doit/>

CONTACT: LaNae Phillips at lanae.phillips@frontrange.edu for additional questions.





Place an Ad in the ASLTA newsletter!!

Ad Deadline:

December 5th

**Send your advertise to
editor@aslta.org**

**Any questions, email at
editor@aslta.org**

**Send attachment (picture-
use jpeg only or draw
with no picture-use gif
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Size	Measurement	Cost
Full Page	8 ½ by 5 ½	\$150
Half page	4 ¼ by 5 ½	\$80
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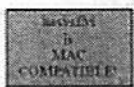


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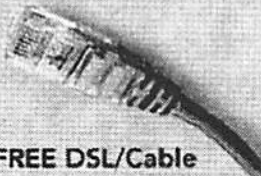
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