



NEALLT Newsletter, Spring 2003



NEALLT '03 Conference

The weather greeted us with the sights and sounds of melting snow and host Mark Knowles, Director of the Language Center, welcomed us to beautiful Union College in Schenectady, New York for the annual NEALLT conference, held March 21-23, 2003. The title of the conference was Project-Based Approaches to Teaching Language and Culture. Michal Krynicki, of Wilfrid Laurier, got us off to a great start Friday afternoon with his very informative workshop, Digitizing VHS Tapes Step by Step. Friday evening's reception took place in Hale House Everett Lounge with Dean Charlotte Borst joining us.

Before sessions got underway on Saturday, we were warmly welcomed in the beautiful Olin Auditorium by Dean Borst and Director of ITS David Cossey. The program on Saturday and Sunday included twelve excellent sessions and panels culminating with Your Turn, which has become NEALLT's traditional open forum for further discussion of subjects generated by the program, additional issues, requests for advice, or general questions. For further details on the program, please see session abstracts at http://lrc.swarthmore.edu/NEALL/03_program.htm.

During the conference we were also treated to a tour of Mark's spacious and well-equipped center as well as some of the gems of Union College: the Nott Memorial, Reamer Center, Jackson Gardens and Schaffer Library where the Language Center is housed on the second floor. Dinner on Saturday at the Sitar in Albany was delicious and we were graced with the presence of Mark's fiancée Jennifer Lee.



Our thanks to Sony, and in particular to Jay Carney of Chester Technical Services, Inc. for sponsoring the reception along with a drawing for a copy of the Sony Vocalist Digital Comparative Recorder software. The happy winner was Dana Hubbard from Hamilton College! Congratulations Dana!

Our thanks go especially to Mark for all his efforts in organizing a successful and enjoyable conference and to Union College for hosting NEALLT. It is always a pleasure to have the opportunity to spend time together, and in particular to welcome newcomers.



Thanks again Mark, and congratulations on being elected Vice President of NEALLT!

Mary Beth Barth
NEALLT Past President

Thanks, Kathleen!

We would like to thank Kathleen Lewis (formerly of Haverford College) for all of her contributions to NEALLT over the years. In addition to serving as Vice President / President Elect and Newsletter Editor, Kathleen was a regular presenter at NEALLT and offered numerous workshops. We miss her and wish her well in her new life in Illinois!

IALLT Conference in Ann Arbor

We hope to see many of your NEALLT members at the IALLT conference in Ann Arbor next month. The conference will take place June 17-21 and it's not too late to register! You'll find online registration at the conference web site:

<http://www.lsa.umich.edu/lrc/iallt/>

This is a great opportunity to meet your colleagues from other institutions and learn from their experiences. There will be regional group luncheons on Friday, June 20th at the conference, so please plan to gather at the NEALLT table.

Membership Initiative

Among the topics of discussion at our annual business meeting (see Minutes below), we did some brainstorming on ways in which we can reach more of our colleagues in the Northeast region. A number of us decided to gather names of language center directors within different areas of our region and will send out information to prospective NEALLT members next fall. If you know of center directors who are not NEALLT members and might be interested in joining, please send me their contact information (cevans@skidmore.edu) and I'll add them to the list. We would also like to hear from NEALLT members who have not attended the conference in recent years regarding topics of interest to you for our next conference.

Cindy Evans
NEALLT President
Skidmore College

NEALLT 2003 Business Meeting, March 23, at Union College

- Approval of NEALLT 2002 minutes
- IALLT wants to bring the regional groups under the IALLT umbrella for tax exempt purposes. NEALLT already has tax exempt status. The group expressed the desire to keep our independence as we like the existing structure; we are concerned about too much standardization. Cindy will follow up with IALLT about its structure.

- Marianne Crusius offered (with some reservations regarding her as of yet not scheduled move to the new LRC) to host NEALLT 2004 at Princeton University – most likely during spring break (March 13 – 21 2004).
- A suggested subject for the conference: “How many faculty proposals do we want?” The instant answer was: “A good mix”.
- “Distributed Media” was proposed as a possible presentation for the conference. Mark suggested talking about Faculty/Lab Director projects.
- Everybody expressed bewilderment at the lack of representation of so many schools in our region. “Where are all the hidden Lab Directors?” asked Michael Jones.
- To broaden the spectrum of conference attendees those present at this meeting promised to contact Lab directors in their local area and promote the conference. This should be done at the beginning of 2004 with a follow up announcing the conference dates and program.
- With Kathleen Lewis’ departure from Haverford College we lost our newsletter editor. Cindy and Mary Beth volunteered to write the next issue.
- Michael Jones recommended annexation of Cuba, Canada, Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico to expand NEALLT’s reach and open up new possibilities for conference locales.
- Marianne asked whether we should forfeit the registration fee for presenters from the host college. This was defeated unanimously.

Marianne Crusius
 NEALLT Secretary / Treasurer
 Princeton University