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NYSAFLT

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News

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The President's Corner

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The end of the year school calendar includes field tests, field trips, state exams, final exams, band concerts, chorus concerts, parties, movies, sports games ...oh, and that's right, we are still teaching! Stop. Take a deep breath. Acknowledge what you and your students have accomplished this year. I know my negatives; I didn't teach as much content as I had wanted, didn't use the Target Language as much as I had planned, some ideas worked and others bombed, students smiled when they understood and scowled when they didn't. We are all human and we can snap when we are tired. But, in spite of it all, these students can do more in their new language in June than they could do in September. Some can do a lot more.

So, in the end of the year chaos, look back on your school year. Be proud of what you and your students have accomplished together. Smile, and enjoy your summer.

Mary G. Holmes

Register now for:



Summer Institute

&

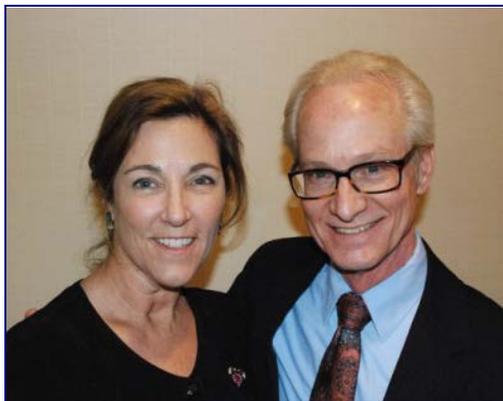


A Celebration of Diversity

Annual Conference!



NYSAFLT Spring Colloquium 2012



NYSAFLT President-Elect **Deb Carlson**
with Paul Sandrock of ACTFL.
Photo by: **Ken Hughes**/NYSAFLT

NYSAFLT's 2012 Spring Colloquium, "*Expectations for Language Learning: Looking through the Les of Assessment*", was held in Binghamton **April 27-28**. Attendees walked away with new perspectives on assessing students using interpretive, interpersonal and presentational modes. The keynoter, Paul Sandrock (ACTFL Associate Director of Professional Development), was both informative and inspiring. Saturday's panelists (Paul Sandrock, **Al Martino**, **Jennifer Eddy** and **Abbe Guillet**) each presented unique perspectives on assessment from their areas of expertise. Participants actively engaged in discussion groups on various issues with NYS LOTE assessment and brought their insights to the group summation. For those members unable to attend this worthwhile and productive gathering, the colloquium will be available for viewing on the

NYSAFLT website and summarized in a future article in the NYSAFLT journal. Many thanks to those who helped with and participated in this successful collegial experience.

~**Deb Carlson**, 2012 Spring Colloquium Conference Chair

NYSAFLT Summer Institute 2012

August 7-10, 2012

The Morris Conference Center
SUNY Oneonta

"A K-16 Seamless Program: Inspiring Our Language Learners"



Francesco Fratto,
Conference Chair



The 2013 Summer Institute will be held on the campus of SUNY College at Oneonta, **August 7-10**. This year's theme is "*A K-16 Seamless Program: Inspiring Our Language Learners*". With new State mandates in place, it is now more important than ever to ensure that our programs are vertically and horizontally aligned so that we can move our learners seamlessly through our programs. The 30 hours of professional development workshops include topics such as Common Core, best practices in item writing,

APPR, Student Learning Objectives, Multiple Intelligences, movie making, target language usage, and so much more! How do we implement each of these topics at the different levels of instruction so that we inspire and retain our learners? For more information and to register, please [click here](#).

I look forward to seeing and meeting you, but more importantly, working with you in Oneonta!

~**Francesco Fratto**, 2012 Summer Institute Conference Chair



NYS AFLT 95th Annual Conference 2012

October 5-6, 2012

Saratoga Springs, New York

"Many Cultures, One World: A Celebration of Diversity"



William Anderson,
Conference Chair

**MANY CULTURES
ONE WORLD**
A Celebration of Diversity



Keynote speaker **Bill Heller**, a former Spanish teacher at the Perry School District and now methods instructor at SUNY Geneseo, is one of the most sought after presenters in the country.

The 95th Annual Conference will be held in beautiful downtown Saratoga Springs, **October 5-6**. This year's theme is *"Many Cultures, One World: A Celebration of Diversity"*. The keynote address is scheduled for Saturday morning (which is a change from previous conferences) and will feature **Bill Heller**, from **SUNY Geneseo**. **Bill**'s knowledge and expertise on the conference theme will surely impress. The Annual Conference Planning Committee has worked hard to put together a conference program that will more than meet your professional development needs. This year's line-up of workshops includes Common Core Standards, LOTE assessments, TPRS, AP updates, FLES, best practices and, of course, culture. Please [click here](#) for more information and to take advantage of early bird registration rates.

I am looking forward to seeing and meeting you in Saratoga Springs!

~**Bill Anderson**, 2012 Annual Conference Chair

Regional News

New York City / Long Island Region

Fall 2012 Professional Conferences: LILT will hold its 2012 Annual Conference on **Saturday, November 3** at the SUNY College at Old Westbury. NYCAFLT will have their Fall Annual Professional Conference on **Saturday, October 27** at the UFT in Manhattan.

Spring Workshops: On **April 21**, many New York City LOTE Teachers dedicated their Saturday to attending the NYCAFLT/UFT Spring Annual Professional Conference at UFT Headquarters in Manhattan co-sponsored by NYS AFLT.

Welcomed by Workshop Chairperson, Kate Scullari, and NYCAFLT President, **Irma Evangelista**, participants enjoyed breakfast and had the opportunity to attend workshops on two sessions. Topics included *"Managing the FL Classroom"*, *"Building Literacy in the Spanish Classroom"*, *"LOTE Checkpoints & Assessments: Path to Proficiency"*, *"Introduction to Using Understanding by Design"*, *"Danielson Framework and Best Practices in Foreign Language Teaching"*, *"Grant and Fellowship Writing for Teachers"*, *"SMART-board/Project-Based Learning"*, *"Differentiated Instruction for Native and Non-native Speakers of LOTE"*.



Capital-East Region

The Capital Organization of Language Teachers, COLT, held its winter meeting, “*Beat the Winter Blues*” on **Thursday, February 2** at Mohonasen CSD, in Rotterdam.

On **Saturday, March 24** Mohonasen hosted the COLT/NYS AFLT Regional Conference, “*LOTE and the Common Core Standards: An Easy Match*”. The keynote was delivered by **Nancy Ketz**, Immediate Past President of NYSAFLT. Workshops were presented by **Bill Heller, Corina Baugh, Marisa Bel, Maureen Geagan, Lizette Liebold,** and **Mike Mitchell** on topics including the Common Core Standards, technology, TPRS, differentiated instruction, APPR, and culture.



Anna Collie, Leslie Kudlack, and Lisa Bourassa at the Conference registration table (photo left). Keynote speaker **Nancy Ketz**, Immediate Past President of NYSAFLT presented on the Common Core Standards (photo right).



Mike Mitchell and Lizette Liebold presented workshops on TPRS (photo left).
Jill Dugan and workshop presenter **Corina Baugh** (photo right).

On Saturday, March 31, the regional conference titled “*A Blend of Old and New: Technology and Role Play in the Foreign Language Classroom*” was held at My Greek Kitchen II in Plattsburgh. The morning session included a presentation with the NYSAFLT Updates given by the NYSAFLT’s Director of Social Media and Technology, **Ken Hughes**. Olaf Carlson, a Spanish Teacher at Lake Placid Central School, led a round table discussion about technology in the foreign language classroom. The afternoon session consisted of a Multilingual Murder Mystery Luncheon that took place on a Caribbean Island, during which, participants had the opportunity to use their target language with fellow colleagues.



NYS AFLT members dressed as their characters during the Multilingual Murder Mystery Luncheon: (left to right) **Jenny St. Louis** as Emma Jean, **Sharon Roraback** as Roxy St. Ives, **Miriam Worthington** as Bernie Smith.

For more information about COLT [click here](#).

Mid-Hudson / Westchester Region

The Association of Language Teachers of Orange, Ulster, Dutchess and surrounding counties, ALOUD, held the workshop “*Making the Most of Foreign Films*” on **Wednesday, February 1** at SUNY Ulster. **ALOUD** members shared their professional experiences of using film in the LOTE classroom. We would like to thank Kathy Bruegging for ensuring that ALOUD members are always well-received at SUNY Ulster.



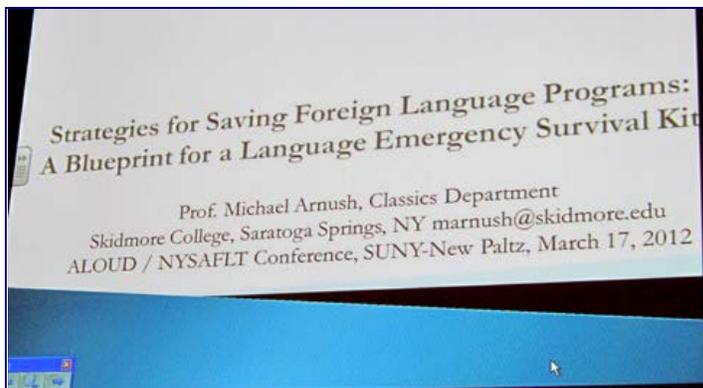
Jim Sullivan (photo left) and **Ana Gatta** (photo right) presented “*Making the Most of Foreign Films*.”

The **ALOUD/NYS AFLT** Regional Conference, “*Lots of LOTE ~ World Languages: Straight to the Common Core*,” was on **Saturday, March 17** at SUNY New Paltz. We were excited to have **Nancy Ketz**, Immediate Past President of NYS AFLT, present “*Aligning Languages Other Than English to the Common Core Standards*.” **Nancy** shared how learning a foreign language incorporates necessary literacy skills for our students and integrates the learning standards.



Nancy Ketz (photo left) informed participants of how LOTE can support the Common Core Standards.

Michael Arnush, Associate Professor of Classics at Skidmore College, presented “*Strategies for Saving Foreign Language Programs.*” Michael asserted, “We need our students to be globally competent and globally competitive.”



Michael Arnush motivated attendees to advocate for LOTE programs.

Both presentations were extremely timely as many of our programs are in jeopardy in the Mid-Hudson region. We are working hard to educate decision-makers about the importance of foreign language learning. Special thanks to the ALOUD planning committee, Marinella Garatti from SUNY New Paltz, the foreign language educators who attended and the exhibitors.



Participants at the ALOUD/NYSAFLT Regional Conference.



On **Thursday, April 26**, Maggi Ackert presented “*Podcasting in LOTE: Create MP3 Audio Files*” to ALOUD members. Maggi is an expert on incorporating technology in the LOTE classroom. She is a regular presenter at ALOUD workshops. We appreciate her sharing her knowledge with us.

ALOUD members honored LOTE retirees and senior essay contest winners at the end-of-the-school-year dinner on **Thursday, May 17**. Congratulations to Rita Herman from Rondout Valley and to Luzmela Schiavone from Pine Bush on their retirement! Seniors wrote about “*What Foreign Language Means to Me and How I Plan to Use It in the Future.*” Congratulations to our essay winners and their teachers.

If you would like more information about ALOUD, please contact or [Diana Zuckerman](#) or [Ana Gatta](#). We hope to see you at all or some of our events!

The Westchester regional took place on **May 5** at Valhalla Middle/High School. Please [click here](#) to contact PoWeRFuL Educators.

Western New York Region

- “Very informative and time was used wisely. I enjoyed myself!”
- “A good event. Food was amazing!!”
- “I really enjoyed the Swap Shop. I got a ton of great ideas and the presenter was fabulous!”
- “Thank you for continuing to offer this event. I appreciate the opportunity to reflect and learn new ideas each year.”

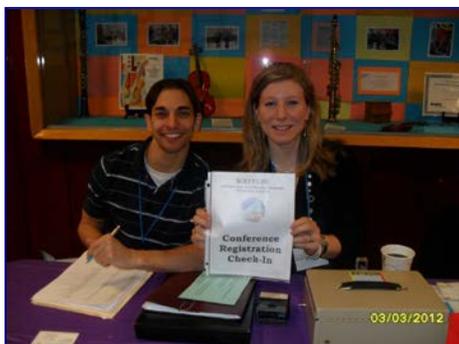
These are just a few of the comments after the 2012 WNYFLEC Regional Conference, held on **March 3** at West Seneca West Middle School. It was a blustery day outside, but inside the smiles and camaraderie made for a perfect day. With 15 different workshops from seasoned as well as new presenters, extended exhibitor viewing time, and some delicious food to boot, there was something for everyone.

One comment that really struck me, as conference co-chair, was this one: “Wish more people attended, but I LOVED it!!” Our attendance at the conference was down this year, maybe due to the forecasted bad weather, maybe due to restricted conference budgets, or maybe due to something else. This is one of YOUR Western regional conferences, so make your voices heard. If there are offerings you’d like to see, let us know. If you haven’t been to a conference in a while, tell us why. Better yet, join in the conference planning to make the 2013 Conference even better. Please [click here](#) to contact me, [JoAnn Thomasson](#), with your comments or suggestions about the Regional Conference!!

[John Carlino](#), NYS AFLT Executive Director, presented updates from NYS AFLT. [Mary Holmes](#) 2012 President of NYS AFLT was also in attendance, as were [Bill Anderson](#), First Vice President and [Deb Carlson](#), President-Elect. We appreciate their stopping by after spending the morning at the NYS AFLT Executive Committee meeting!

WNYFLEC’s last major event of the 2011-2012 school year is our S.T.A.R. Awards ceremony, which will be held on June 6 at Michael’s Banquet facility in Orchard Park. This is always a fun event, celebrating the best LOTE students and teachers our region has to offer. We hope to see some of you there to honor your outstanding LOTE students.

[Click here](#) for more details.



WNYFLEC Membership Chair **Mark Critelli** and Treasurer **Kristina Strauss** (*left*) welcome attendees to the 2012 Regional Conference; Carol Wirth (*center*) announces the poster contest winners; **Bill Heller** (*right*) presents on LOTE and the Common Core.

Central New York

We invite you to attend the Western & Central regional conference to be held in Watkins Glen High School on **September 22, 2012**. We will have presenters ranging from the fun to the serious! You can take your pick.

For registration information, please email [Molly Pioch](mailto:Molly.Pioch).

National Network for Early Language Learning



NNELL welcomes

Ken Hughes as its new webmaster.

NNELL

NNELL will be celebrating its 25th Anniversary in **November** at the ACTFL Convention. In preparation of this event, NNELL launched a membership drive to include offering the remainder of this year's membership at \$15 which will include the Spring edition of the *Learning Languages Journal*. NNELL members who recruit 5 new members will get the 2012-2013 membership at no cost.

NNELL redesigned its website thanks to our new webmaster, **Ken Hughes**. The Members Only website includes publications, video links of early language models, resources for parents and teachers and more. Plans are underway to include a Blog site as well.

NNELL is keeping members connected through social media like Facebook and Twitter.

NNELL produced a [position statement](#) on the use of technology as the primary source of language instruction in the classroom.

NNELL has been actively involved in Washington attending the JNCL Conference in May as well as participating in national projects to keep early language learning at the forefront.



Special thanks to the NNELL members and representatives who presented at the Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, NECTFL, in Baltimore in April. Sessions on early language learning included “Early Language Learning – Essential Connections to Build and Maintain Programs,” presented by Sherri Harkins and Amanda Seewald, “Content-based Lessons to Enhance K-8 Curricula,” presented by Francis Troyan and Ashley Hellmann, “Evidence-based Advocacy for an Early Start to Foreign Language,” presented by Heather Hendry and “Interactive Instruction across Three Modes in a FLES Program.” Look for NNELL at NECTFL.

We would love for NYSAFLT members to also become members of NNELL. NNELL membership runs from *September through August*. Now is the perfect time to renew or to become a new member. [Click here](#) for more information about NNELL or contact your state representative.

~**Diana Zuckerman**, NYS NNELL Representative

AATF

On **Saturday, April 21, 2012** a group of 30 local French teachers gathered at Onondaga Free Library for the AATF Spring Workshop entitled “*Common Grounds: New Ideas and Innovations for the Common Core Curriculum*”. Teachers were welcomed with coffee, croissants and good company as they escaped from the rain. Our first presenter, **Abbe Guillet**, presented on her recent trip to Poland and her study of the German Occupation of France during WW2. Her presentation, “*Un lieu, une date, une histoire*,” was a moving account of her visit. She was able to present to us many texts, films and other resources that might be useful in the classroom as we attempt to teach this important topic. We were inspired to “transformer nos élèves avec l’étude du français.” Our second presenter, **Donyce McCluskey**, presented her detailed approach to writing in the classroom. Her presentation, entitled “*Écrire et aimer écrire...en français*,” was full of ideas and strategies to help teach our students to become better writers. After hearing from our highly qualified presenters we ended the morning with a lovely meal of salade niçoise et gâteau au citron.

News from Schools

Lutz Selected for Language Leadership Program

Lower School world language teacher **Nathan Lutz** has been chosen to participate in a highly select leadership institute for critical languages. The STARTALK Excellence In Leadership Institute will take place **June 1 – 5** in Philadelphia at the University of Pennsylvania. STARTALK is a program of the federal government’s National Security Language Initiative, which seeks to expand and improve the teaching and learning of strategically important world languages that are not now being taught widely in the U.S. The professional development institute, which is being fully funded through a federal grant, will address matters such as effective teacher leadership, the strengthening and expansion of existing school language programs, and pedagogically-sound applications of technology in language classrooms. Sponsored by the Penn Center for Foreign Language Teaching and Learning with Technology, the institute has accepted only five candidates from each of six critical languages –Chinese, Dari, Hindi, Swahili, Turkish and Urdu. **Mr. Lutz**, a Chinese language candidate, was selected on the basis of his having originated and spearheaded the MPH Linguanauts summer and after school language immersion programs. **Mr. Lutz**, who teaches French and Spanish in Manlius Pebble Hill’s Lower School, says, “What is especially good about this opportunity is that it positions MPH to be more competitive in its bid for a grant to amply fund more language courses of this type.” [source](#)

Italian Connection

Young men are not frequently seen during the school day at The Mary Louis Academy in Jamaica Estates, but they were this past **March 8** when they were among a group of 15 students from Italy spending the day at the all-girls school.

TMLA's Italian teacher **Nicholas Maurantonio** has had his classes Skyping regularly with the students at their high school located in Ragussa, Italy. Skype is a way of communicating anywhere in the world via computer. Users can speak with, listen to, and see the people with whom they are talking wherever they are located. TMLA students have been using the technology via the SMARTBoard and iPads. The students in Italy have been doing the same. The group from Italy came to the United States for a school trip and both schools recognized the opportunity they had to meet face to face. The students, their teachers and principal spent the day at TMLA experiencing an American school firsthand from homeroom to cafeteria lunches to dismissal.



Mr. Maurantonio's class skyping with the school in Italy



The Italian students and TMLA students

Public Advocacy Update

Those of you who are familiar with the National Board Certification process know that you must continually demonstrate how everything you do directly impacts student learning. How have your advocacy efforts directly impacted your students? We attend conferences, read updates through NYSAFLT's ListServ messages, and agonize with our colleagues about the fate of our LOTE programs. It's time to take the extra step to directly teach our students about the importance of LOTE education. When that knowledge is brought home, we can count on more support from our students and their families.

The impressive list of recent research and articles on the NYSAFLT's Advocacy page is a great place to start. New articles are being posted monthly and fall into ten different categories from the "Benefits of LOTE Study" to "National Security." Why not have your students select a topic and article for a report? This will open the door to classroom discussions as well as get your students looking through many LOTE related topics and issues.

A few clicks on the same page and you can see current legislation relating to LOTE education. You and your students can review the rationale for these bills. These bills highlight the urgency of language



proficient people in order to compete globally, but also to support the ever increasing non-English speakers within our borders.

We expect our students to be able to tell their career aspiration in the target language and express why they prefer this life goal. It's time to add one more layer to this assignment. Students can now demonstrate how knowing a second language will enhance their career. Older students can explore the need for their second language in their college and career plans. Students should be encouraged to write letters to Boards of Education, legislators, Board of Regents members and even the Commissioner of Education to thank them for the opportunities experienced thus far, such as travel abroad opportunities, and to stress the need to continue existing LOTE programs.

Please take some time to rework some of your lessons to include LOTE advocacy. Challenge yourself to directly impact student learning with your efforts. We'd love to hear what you are doing with your classes on this topic. Please share your ideas and successes by emailing [Marie Campanaro](mailto:Marie.Campanaro@nyfla.org).

Congratulations

Congratulations to the following member retirees who will be recognized by the board:

Ellen Hughes	Waterloo HS
Carol Bush	Genesee Valley Central School
Deborah Mahoney	Burnt Hills Ballston Lake
Sue Hochmuth	Sackets Harbor CSD
Shawna Gately	Saratoga Springs HS
Cindy E. Kennedy	Kenmore-Tonawanda UFSD
Rosemary Fry	Redjacket HS

Congratulations to the following Regional Scholarship/Award Winners:

AATI/Italian Cultural Institute: **Krysten Astarita**, Mid-Hudson/Westchester
AATI/Italian Cultural Institute to Italy (runner up award): **Elvira Gibaldi**, NYC/LI
Charles Zimmerman Memorial Grant: **Elizabeth Popek**, Western NY
Charles Zimmerman Memorial Grant: **Miriam Worthington**, Capital-East
Teacher Incentive/Gertrude Rossin Cultural Grant: **Susan Frost**, Capital-East
South America Cultural Award: **Leah Serbalik**, Capital-East
Spain Cultural Award: **Rebecca McIlvain**, Capital-East
Québec Cultural Award (UQAM): **Mary Leptak**, Mid-Hudson/Westchester
Québec Cultural Award (Jonquiere): **Meghan Chance**, Capital-East
Québec Cultural Award (Trois Pistoles): **Patricia Cesario**, NYC/LI
Costa Rica Academia Tica Study Abroad Award: **Kate Cook**, NYC/LI
Mexico Cultural Award: **Melinda Barnes**, Capital-East
Graduate/Post-Baccalaureate Scholarship: **Joy Morgan**
The Hahn FLES Program: Cold Spring Harbor School, NYC/LI Region



Philip A. Fulvi Love of Language Award Winners:

<u>Student</u>	<u>School District</u>	<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Region</u>
Yianni Flouskakos	Garden City MS	JoAnn Porter	NYC/LI
Brynn Marion	Farnsworth MS	Corina Sprinceanu-Baugh	Capital-East
Jeremy Sipe	Dobbs Ferry MS/HS	Marcia Heffler	Mid-Hudson/Westchester
Nicholas Usher	Jamesville-DeWitt MS	Ching Hung Hsiao	Central NY

Philip A. Fulvi Student Scholarship Winners:

<u>Student</u>	<u>School District</u>	<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Region</u>
Laura Antillon	Duanesburg HS	Ana Valladares	Capital-East
Silas Busch	Rondout Valley HS	Christine Berg	Mid-Hudson/Westchester
Bailey Graves	South Jefferson CS	Françoise Piron	Central NY
Kim Perskey	Wantagh HS	Patricia Calosso	NYC/LI
Samantha Saye	Dunkirk HS	Allie Saye	Western NY

Philip A. Fulvi Student Recognition Award Winner:

<u>Student</u>	<u>School District</u>	<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Region</u>
Emily Poole	Fayetteville-Manilus HS	Denise Mahns	Central NY

NYSACards

<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #8B4513; margin: 0;">In Memoriam</p> <p style="font-size: 3em; color: #8B4513; margin: 10px 0;">Michael John Carlino</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">from Sue Hochmuth</p>	<p>Are there people whom you would like to recognize or honor? You can now send greetings, words of comfort, or any other sentiment with a NYSAFLT card.</p> <p>For a minimum of \$5.00 per card, we will print your message to indicate that a donation has been made. These will be published in the <i>NYSAFLT News</i> and will benefit the teacher travel scholarship.</p> <p>Cards may be obtained by going to www.nysaflt.org and clicking on “Donate” or by sending a check (made payable to NYSAFLT) to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NYSAFLT Headquarters 2400 Main Street Buffalo, NY 14214-2364</p>
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Mark Your Calendars!

June

- 1** **Deadline:** Summer Institute Scholarship Applications
- 2** Executive Committee Meeting
- 18-19** Board of Regents Meeting

July

- 4-7** AATF Annual Conference
- 16-17** Board of Regents Meeting
- 18-19** AATSP Annual Conference

August

- 1** **Deadline:** September *Newsletter* submissions
- 6-7** Executive Committee and Financial Management
- 7-10** Summer Institute
- 15** Annual Conference Scholarship Applications

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