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My initial contact with Spanish was in my hometown of Chicago, which has the sixth largest Hispanic population (2 million) in the United States. The metrolinguistic setting provided a veritable cultural mosaic of diverse racial and ethnic groups. As a result, it was easy to have regular contact with the Spanish-speaking people from many different nations.

I became a member of the AATSP in 1966, which I consider one of the best professional investments that I have ever made. Anyone who teaches Spanish and/or Portuguese should become a member because the rewards are numerous. I studied Spanish, Italian, and French at Indiana University Bloomington, Michigan State University, and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where I learned to love and appreciate the Hispanic language and culture. My doctoral dissertation at the University of Illinois was on Spanish syntax under the co-direction of Dr. Mario Saltarelli and Dr. Henry Kahane.

I am currently Professor and University Scholar in the Department of Classical and Modern Languages at the University of Louisville, where I have taught for most of my career. I am a *miembro de número* of the *Academia Norteamericana de la Lengua Española* and a *miembro correspondiente* of the *Real Academia Española*. The AATSP awarded me its Outstanding Service Award for 2016 at its annual meeting in Miami.

I serve as Guest Editor of the centenary issue of *Hispania* together with *Hispania* Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Sheri Spaine Long. Scheduled for publication in late 2017, the title is “Visionary Essays: The Future of Spanish and Portuguese”. This unique issue of the journal contains 31 essays and 43 responses by some of the most prominent scholars and teachers of Spanish and Portuguese in the field today. Moreover, it has introductory essays by Sheri Spaine Long, Frank Nuessel, Emily Spinelli (Executive Director of the AATSP), and Bill Rivers (Executive Director of JNCL-NCLS). This issue contains a cornucopia of scholarship on the future direction of the AATSP and the profession, and it will be a very valuable resource for all of our members.

I have authored 13 books and more than 200 articles in addition to co-authoring 4 books and special issues of journals. I have also given 235 presentations at academic conferences. I serve on the editorial boards of four journals. My areas of research include Hispanic linguistics, semiotics, Italian studies, and onomastics. My profile is available at LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/frank-nuessel-57899723>.