Editor’s Message:

I hope you had a good summer and are off to a great start with the new school year. This issue of ENLACE is devoted to reporting the highlights of our magnificent meeting in Salamanca this past summer. I hope you enjoy the pictures, whether or not you were able to attend. The 2007 meeting will be held in San Diego, CA August 2-5, 2007, and you can find details and deadlines for paper and session proposals on the AATSP website, http://www.aatsp.org.

Best wishes to all,
Mary-Anne Vetterling

Overview:

The AATSP National meeting in Salamanca, Spain, took place June 28-July 2, 2006. On the day before sessions started, members were taken on special excursions sponsored by the Junta de Castilla y León to nearby places of interest. During the meeting we had numerous special sessions and receptions. It was especially exciting to see us written up in the local newspapers each day, with photos highlighting the many dignitaries honored at our meeting. We had a record attendance of over 700 members many of whom stayed afterwards to tour in Spain and Portugal or study at the University of Salamanca.

Here are some of the highlights from the AATSP 2006 Conference in Salamanca.

Registration Desk:
June 28

Pre-Conference Excursions:

Valladolid:
Segovia:

June 29
Inaugural Plenary Session:
Above, from left to right: Miguel Martínez López, Consejero de Educación y Ciencia de la Embajada de España; John Wilcox, President, AATSP; Prof. Doutor Fernando Jorge Rama Seabra Santos, Rector de la Universidad de Coimbra; Enrique Battaner Arias, Rector de la Universidad de Salamanca.
Above: **Scott Shearon**, Vice President, AATSP; **Janet Pérez**, Editor of *Hispania*

Above: **John Wilcox**, President, AATSP; **Julián Lanzarote**, Alcalde de Salamanca
Above: Antonio Luciano Tosta, AATSP Executive Council; Scott Shearon, Vice President, AATSP; Janet Pérez, Editor of *Hispania*; Emily Spinelli, Executive Director of the AATSP

Exhibit Break:
Welcome Reception sponsored by the Junta de Castilla y León:
Cocktail Party Sponsored by Don Quijote:
Concert by the Orquesta sinfónica de Salamanca sponsored by la Junta de Castilla y León:
June 30

Chapter Delegate Assembly:
At the Chapter Delegate Assembly, leaders of the various chapters and members of the Executive Council discussed ideas and issues of interest for their members. It was suggested that we could promote the chapters by stressing their role in fostering professional collegiality, giving teachers a chance to practice their Spanish and Portuguese, and informing teachers of changes in the profession. Chapters should coordinate with their state organizations and collaborate with the National AATSP on creating welcome e-packets for new members. Chapters need to recognize students and teachers through awards, such as the SHH, SHA, and NSE.

AATSP Vice President Scott Shearon gave a brief description of the Chicago Area Chapter, whose Board meets monthly. Some of the things their chapter sponsors are: Workshops (for example, Cooking Demonstrations, Teaching AP, Technology, Talk by a TV anchor person), Poetry Contests, Impromptu Speaking Events, Poster Contests, and Awards Teas.

Former AATSP President Marco Arenas stressed that the secret to success in his chapter was figuring out what members need and then looking for appropriate ways to provide them with the opportunities and the information they seek. Meetings provide an opportunity for teachers to improve their spoken Spanish through conversations with native speakers and sessions on how to use the Spanish language newspapers, television, and radio in their classes. Other good topics are “How to Choose a Textbook,” “Dancing Lessons,” “Fashion Shows with Regional Costumes,” “Wine Tasting Parties,” “Attending Soccer Games,” “Social Rituals such as the Quinceañera and How to Decline an Invitation,” “Shopping Trips via the Internet,” to name a few. Sessions at chapter meetings also give members a chance to practice their public speaking skills and to share ideas about teaching at all levels. Awarding teachers PDP’s and CEU’s is important. Chapters could sponsor college scholarships for Hispanic students through trivia contests. Chapters can hold a T-shirt Design contest, a spelling contest, or a three-minute theater performance contest. Essay contests can be a big money maker. Scholarships for study abroad can also be made available to teachers through the chapters.

Executive Council member Nancy Doedens talked about advocacy (lobbying) and the role the JNCL plays for all of us through the AATSP. States with particularly good foreign language advocacy are Texas, Florida, and New York. Michigan has a two-year foreign language requirement of all students for graduation. Some states have requirements but they are not enforced. We need a national language policy and our graduates need to be prepared for a global economy.

The Assembly discussed awards. The AATSP awards available on the national level, including the Chapter Incentive Award, need more publicity from the chapter officers. Be sure to check the AATSP website for deadlines. Deadlines for some awards are, tentatively, December 1 and others are March 15th.

Sites for future conferences were discussed briefly. Places suggested were Costa Rica, Guadalajara, Chile, Cádiz in 2012 during its bicentennial, Lisbon, Toronto, Denver, Washington. The problem with high fees charged by hotels for conferences was pointed out as one of the many difficult challenges facing the Executive Council and the Executive Director as they look into where our best conference choices will be.

Inauguration of the Salamanca Chapter of the AATSP:
Above, from left to right: John Wilcox, President, AATSP; Enrique Battaner Arias, Rector de la Universidad de Salamanca; Los Duques de Soria; Javier Álvarez Guisasola, Consejero de Educación de la Junta de Castilla y León.
AATSP Past-Presidents Meeting:
Above, from left to right: Enrique Ruiz-Fornells, Emily Spinelli, Lynn Sandstedt, Mary-Anne Vetterling, James Castañeda, Marco Arenas

AATSP Business Meeting:

The minutes of the business meeting will be published in *Hispania*.

Guest Author Sponsored by Santillana:
Santiago Roncagliolo
Above: Enrique Ruiz-Fornells; Santiago Roncagliolo

Dinner Party:
July 1

Homage to the Real Academia Española:
Above: Russell Scebold; Emily Spinelli, Marco Arenas

Sessions:

Above: Professors Robert K. Fritz and John Skirius

Awards Banquet:
Above: John Wilcox, Annamaria Colavita-Jacyszyn, Scott Shearon, Rebecca Esteban, Emily Spinelli

John Wilcox, President, AATSP:
Gonzalo Gómez Dacal, Conference Chairperson
Above, from left to right: Christine Campbell, Elaine Davis, Yvette Mato-March
List of Award Winners:

First-Time Attendee Awards:

Elena Castro, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Janice Cox, Green Hope High School, Cary, North Carolina
Anne Cummings, University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire, Wisconsin
Nicole D’Antonio, Norcross High School, Norcross, Georgia
Margarita García de Vinuesa Martínez-Salanova, Lycée Français de Toronto, Canada
Evelina Guzauskyte, Wellesley College, Wellesley, Massachusetts
Maria del Carmen Romero, Toronto Public & Catholic School Boards, Toronto, Canada
Marjorie Spaeth, Germantown Friends School, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Joshua Thoms, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa

Robert G. Mead, Jr. Travel and Study / Research Award

Ana María Blanco, Westhill High School, Stamford, Connecticut

ISE Language Matters Award

Susan Christensen Stites, Chapel Hill High School, Chapel Hill, North Carolina

AATSP Outstanding Teacher of the Year Awards

K-8 Level: Mary Glendenning, Henry James Middle School, Simsbury, Connecticut
9-12 Level: Lynn Ditchfield, Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School, Oak Bluffs, MA.

AATSP Special Service Awards

Annamaria Colavita-Jacyszyn, Communications Director, AATSP
Rebecca Esteban, Finance and Membership Director, AATSP
Chitra Kannan, Database Administrator, AATSP
AATSP Executive Council Member Awards (2004-2006)

Christine Campbell, Language Institute, Monterrey, California
Elaine H. Davis, Madison High School, Madison, New Jersey
Yvette A. Mato-March, Albert Payson Terhune Elementary School, Wayne, New Jersey

AATSP 2006 Conference Awards

Enrique Battaner-Arias, Rector de la Universidad de Salamanca
Juan Vicente Herrera Campo, Presidente de la Junta de Castilla y León
Miguel Martínez López, Consejero de la Oficina de Educación y Ciencias,
Embajada de España
Javier García Erviti, Director, Spanish Language Industries, Excal, Junta de Castilla y León
Gonzalo Gómez Dacal, 2006 Conference Chairperson, Profesor, Universidad de Salamanca

Bridge over the Río Tormes: Entrance into Salamanca from the Camino de la plata:

AATSP 2006 Officers

President: John C. Wilcox (2006)
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL. jwilcox@uiuc.edu

Vice President: Scott Shearon (2006), President (2007)
Glenbard West High School, Glen Ellyn, IL. scott_shearon@glenbard.org

Executive Director: Emily Spinelli
University of Michigan—Dearborn. espinell@umd.umich.edu

Editor of *Hispania*: **Janet Pérez** (2006)
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**Executive Council:**

**Christine Campbell** (2006)
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**Elaine H. Davis** (2006)
Madison High School, Madison, NJ. davise@madisonpublicschools.org

**Nancy Doedens** (2007)
Pike High School, Indianapolis, IN.

**Sharon Ahern Fechter** (2007)
Montgomery College, Rockville, MD. sharon.fechter@montgomerycollege.edu /  TEL: 301-251-7563

**Yvette A. Mato-March** (2006)
Wayne Township Public Schools, Wayne, NJ. Amistad722@aol.com

**Harry Rosser** (2008)
Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA. rosserh@bc.edu / TEL: 617-552-3828

**Donna Savage** (2008)
Liberty High School, CO. dsavage@d20.co.edu

**Liliana Soto-Fernández** (2007)
John Jay College (CUNY), New York, NY. DrSotoFdez@aol.com or lsoto-fernandez@jjay.cuny.edu

**Antonio Luciano Tosta** (2008)
University Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL. lutosta@uiuc.edu

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Enlace Online is published three times a year by the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese, Inc: in the Fall, Winter and Spring. All editorial submissions should be addressed to Mary-Anne Vetterling, Editor, Enlace, Box 1071, Regis College, 235 Wellesley St., Weston, MA 02493. Voice: 781-768-7458; FAX: 781-863-1739, email: MAV@Regiscollege.edu Please note the following stipulations regarding submitting materials: 1. Submissions may be written in Spanish, Portuguese or English. 2. Submissions should be made electronically in Word for Windows and submitted either via email or snail mail (CD or 3.5IBM floppy disk). 3. Photographs or art work may be in color or black and white. 4. All submissions are subject to editorial review. Deadlines: Fall—August 1; Winter—January 1; Spring—March 1.

Special Thanks to Don Spinelli and Stephanie Cuddeback-Salim for the photos they contributed to this newsletter and to Chitra Kannan for her computer expertise to put this document into a PDF format.