

Kentucky World Language Association

Board Meeting Minutes

October 9, 2021

Zoom Meeting

J. Rouhier-Willoughby called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM

1. The current Executive Board members present are
Past President - Laura Roché Youngworth
President - Jeanmaire Rohier-Willoughby
Treasurer - Sara Merideth
Secretary - Madeleine Sexton

The current members of the Full Board and ex-officio members present are

AATF - Jill Susini
AATG - Collin Smith
AATSP - Pilar Gomez & Chelo Díaz Martin
KACLT - Wei Jiang
KAJLT - Koji Tanno
KCA - Lucianne Junker
University Liaison - Brenna Byrd
Regional Rep Liaison - Hubie Shroeer
Regional Reps - Alaina Post
Ex-Officio Awards Chair - Alfonso de Torres Núñez
Ex-Officio Showcase Chair - Lydia Kohler

2. Approval of August 7 2021 Board minutes

J. Susini moved to accept the minutes. J. Rouhier Willoughby seconds. Motion passes

3. 2021 Conference Report

- Survey Results & Verbal Feedback

- i. Highlights: Many identified the keynote and trivia as highlights
- ii. Workshops
 1. Workshops
- iii. Sessions: Most found it extremely useful
- iv. Format: Feedback shows in favor of Hybrid (50%) or all in-person (32%)
 1. There is a large contract in the works, and KWLA needs to have a large showing to compensate
 2. J. Hoban suggests alternating in-person and digital year to year.
- v. Program: Needs to be sent out in a better format

- Full conference data:

Registered Guests: 160
Full registration: 72
VIP registration: 47
Workshops: 11
Remaining=Board and Presenters

Income from registration \$8,425
Income from silent auction: \$443.00
Income from sponsorships: \$600
Total income: \$9,468

Costs:
Keynotes and workshops \$1,300
Awards; \$400
Postage: \$21
Gift cards: \$60
Zoom and Jotform approx. \$100
Total costs: \$1,881

Profit: \$7,587

- Technology review
 - i. M. Sexton is working to create Zoom usage protocols both for pre- and during-conference. These will head off any future technical difficulties, including payment struggles, workshop testing, and session host overlaps.
 - ii. Presenters and Hosts expressed wide support for the host and presenter guides. Even if KWLA does not have a digital component in the future, these guides should continue.
 - iii. B. Byrd suggests utilizing university Zoom accounts. M. Sexton responds that it's necessary to keep as much ownership in-house as possible and instead adjust existing Zoom account set-up.
- L. Roché Youngworth: Board members are expected to attend **and assist with** conference duties. KWLA is a professional organization that expects professional board members. L. Kohler suggests recording as much of the conference (including awards, keynotes, etc.) to meet participant needs better.
- L. Roché Youngworth suggests bulking up advertising to administrators, utilizing J. Kennedy and A. de Torres Núñez . H. Schroer suggests reaching out the Kentucky Association of School Administrators
- J. Rouhier-Willoughby will start the conference negotiations with Campbell House this week. The University of Kentucky legal department will not allow

faculty to sign a contract with a hotel room minimum. She will try to follow that rule in the conference negotiations

4. Treasurer's Report

- All conference invoices have been sent out; there are 31 outstanding invoices at this time totaling \$4585
- We are now at \$22,730.22 in the main account, after paying almost all fees, presenters, and our webmaster fee.
- The Gravitt fund has its first donations totaling \$120; its first dispersal should be in April 2022.

5. Affiliate and regional rep news

- AATSP (C. Díaz-Martín & P. Gómez)
 - i. The organization has changed presidents to P. Gómz
 - ii. There is no longer a National Spanish Exam position
 - iii. The organization is seeking a president-elect
- KCA (L. Junker)
 - i. The group has remained small but active
 - ii. L. Junker is ready to pass off the presidency to whoever is next
- KACLT (W. Jiang)
 - i. There was a meeting between middle and high school teachers.
 - ii. There is a new middle school pilot program
 - iii. Dr. Sihui (Echo) Ke is the new president-elect of the organization
 - iv. KACLT has started the StarTalk program with leadership from Asbury College and has been doing cultural events monthly. The next stage will be summer camps followed by on-site university visits.
- KAJLT (K. Tanno)
 - i. The officers continue this year; Michael Kluemper will
 - ii. Last year the group hosted a virtual speech contest, but this year the goal is to move to a hybrid format
- AATG (C. Smith):
 - i. Change in presidency from Andrea Fieler to C. Smith as well as some shuffling of other officers
 - ii. The group is collaborating with Ohio and Indiana on conferences and recruitment

- AATF (J. Susini)
 - i. Tracey Rucker is Outstanding Teacher of the Year
 - ii. The group is waiting for more information about Showcase
 - iii. AATF rewarded both students and teachers involved in the National French Exam
 - iv. The group is trying to create some in-person meet ups
- NNELL: M. Griffitt has to step down as NNELL representative. J. Kennedy is making recommendations to the organization about a replacement.
- Regional Representative News (H. Schroer): KVEC still has a vacancy. H. Schroer is reaching out to administrators in the area for recommendations. He asks that other board members send him recommendations.
- Universities (B. Byrd):
 - i. Discussion focused on enrollment and recruitment, classes for specific needs (ex., Spanish for Nursing), the push for online instruction.
 - ii. L. Roché Youngworth asks if there is any push for more language representation in teacher preparation programs.
 - iii. Many students are enrolled in the programs to pad a resume on the way to another career.
 - iv. As retirements happen, many professions are not being replaced. For those in the profession, many do not feel supported by administration or otherwise.

6. Updates

- Bylaws (S. Merideth):
 - i. Starting with the retreat in January, clarifications and updates will be added.
 - ii. A. de Torres Núñez asks that a description of the Awards Committee Chair be included in the future revisions. L. Roché Youngworth suggests instead making Standard Operating Procedure documents instead. S. Merideth agrees, and then plans to move into Association President duties, etc.
- Professional Development (L. Roché Youngworth)
 - i. KWLA did a conference!
 - ii. Should we pursue more spring workshops?
 - 1. M. Sexton suggests making direct connections between AAT organizational PDs and KWLA and supporting

2. A. Post believes that the spring makes sense because within her experience, teachers have rushed searching
 3. L. Kohler suggests re-releasing KWLA recordings as spring PD. M. Sexton responds that the organization needs to seek permission from presenters for each session used.
- iii. Ideas for the 2022-2023 school year
1. KWLA should start to reach out and collaborate with outside organizations. L. Roché Youngworth spoke with the Spanish Embassy about Spanish teacher needs, and has collaborated with them as a result. This practices can continue.
 2. A. de Torres Núñez has lots of connections from his time at the state that the group could capitalize on
 3. There could also be more collaboration with districts and KWLA members who regularly present on world language con
- o Advocacy
- i. Reps from KWLA will be at Joint National Committee for Languages Advocacy Day in February
 - ii. Board members are encouraged to sign up for the JNCL newsletter at <https://www.languagepolicy.org/>
 - iii. J. Rouhier-Willoughby is joining the JNCL board of directors
 - iv. The Best Act has passed the House of Representatives, which will provide the expectation and support for each state to have a Seal of Biliteracy: <https://www.languagepolicy.org/post/house-authorizes-the-best-act-the-senate-is-the-next-stop>
 - v. Within the state, there is a goal to provide support for the Seal of Biliteracy. The first monthly support meeting was held recently, with 8 teachers participating.
- o Awards (A. de Torres Núñez)
- i. A. de Torres Núñez provides thanks to the organizational presidents
 - ii. He is working with Tracy Rucker to prepare him for SCOLT
 - iii. He asks that J. Kennedy and the communications committee showcase Mr. Rucker as much as possible.
 - iv. L. Roché Youngworth thanks A. de Torres Núñez for the organization of the awards and the success of adding a second Amici Linguarum award.
 - v. A. de Torres Núñez wants to add sub committees--one for candidate search and another for candidate interviews and TOY selection.
 - vi. J. Rouhier-Willoughby highlights that the Kentucky Teacher of the Year (not language specific) is a language teacher and a member of KWLA. She encourages the board to pursue him for a talk.

- Communications: Members should send as much information as possible about language-related events to Jennifer Kennedy as early as possible
- Showcase
 - i. Showcase will be held in-person on Saturday, March 26 at the University of Kentucky
 - ii. The deadline for teachers to register will be March 4, 2022
 - iii. For those who are unfamiliar with the Showcase, it is a competition and proficiency event KWLA holds annually for students, later elementary through high school.

The usual participant...

(1) creates a project ahead of registration that demonstrates intercultural competence. (This will be once again be submitted digitally to facilitate judging by University of Kentucky faculty).

(2) is given the chance to have a conversation in their target language with someone other than their teacher--usually a K-12 teacher, often a KWLA Board Member. They receive a proficiency rating from that educator in interpersonal speaking.

(3) is registered for the AAPPL Reading & Listening exams proctored by KWLA Board Members

(4) attend language and culture lessons provided by UK faculty and staff to round out the day.

Optionally, the student can take all of the AAPPL sections instead of cultural lessons in order to qualify for the Seal of Biliteracy if their district has not implemented a path to the Seal.

The last event for the day is an awards ceremony around 4PM.

- iv. Cost will possibly be \$127/student, unless they are taking the full AAPPL. The cost of that exam is \$20. KWLA could upcharge a bit for that as well.

7. Sponsorship Proposal

- KickStart Dental Marketing has asked to sponsor KWLA.
- Board members feel that there is precedent for non-education sponsors, as long as the business checks as legitimate according to BBB and other sources

8. Other business

- Teacher Retention & Recruitment (follow-up of the university report)

- i. A. de Torres Núñez wants mental/social/emotional health as a part of the TOY process
 - ii. J. Rouhier-Willoughby suggests making listening circle PDs for our members
 - iii. L. Roché Youngworth suggests having a free admin session at the conference, and MCS follows up that universities may also help speak to K-12 educators.
 - iv. M. Sexton's LILL project focuses on giving teachers support for themselves and their programs--this includes talking to administrators, but can also encompass ways for teachers to connect to each other, personal and student SEL resources, and early career support.
 - v. L. Junker offers that the new Academic Standards for World Language could be a support; others counter that until administrators have knowledge of methods and history, the standards are not a full solution.
 - vi. L. Roché Youngworth suggests this topic is revisited at the January retreat, and that KWLA chooses one specific support lens to start with.
- o Retreat
 - i. J. Rouhier-Willoughby asks for feedback on whether board members would prefer to meet in person or virtual, to mixed response
 - ii. The executive board will make a decision ASAP
 - o New AAT presidents should send a headshot and short bio to J. Kennedy before December.

9. Adjournment

J. Rouhier-Willoughby moves to adjourn, M. Sexton seconds. Meeting adjourned at 11:00am.