

# News in GA World Languages

**Richard Woods, Georgia's School Superintendent**  
"Educating Georgia's Future"

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## GCLE Chinese New Year Networking Luncheon

February 28, 2015, Atlanta – This year's annual networking event for GCLE members who include Chinese language and culture teachers, administrators and friends from all corners of Georgia was held at Wokrock in Duluth, and generously sponsored by the Confucius Institute at Kennesaw State University, without whose support we wouldn't be able to hold this event annually. Over 65 guests attended this year's event. Amidst the festive atmosphere of decorations and bright and colorful clothing, songs, riddle games and dances, everyone enjoyed reconnecting with old and new colleagues and sharing ideas about teaching Chinese and helping support Chinese programs in the state.

Awards included: Administrator of the Year which was awarded to Dr. Greg Barfield of the Georgia Department of Education, Teacher of the Year to Ms. Yingli Zhang of Wesley International Academy, and Long Term Teaching Award (over 30 years of teaching continually) to Ms. Kristie Walden of The Lovett School. Two very special guest performers were dancer Amy Chiang of Lyndon Academy and Denaire Sterling at North Atlanta High School student, who sang the popular Chinese ballad, "Miracles in December" with poise and talent. All members of the Board of Directors were present as well as a number of Board of Advisor members. The newly-elected president, who will serve a two year term is one of the founders of GLCE, Ms. Betty Hu, was

announced and asked that the most recent president, Dr. Fangxia Zhao, stay on and serve as her co-president. Both teachers' service to GLCE is longstanding and has made the organization what it is today. Of the meeting, one attendee commented: "This is truly the best event to network with Chinese teachers and educators in the state – I wish we could do this every month instead of once a year!"



Congratulations to AATF-GA's  
Teacher of the Year: Svetla  
Dimova, Campbell HS



Congratulations to AATG-GA's  
Teacher of the Year: Rita  
Prescott, Union Grove HS



## GaDoE WL Webinars – Wanted: Your Feedback

We had a successful series of monthly webinars this year. The Powerpoints or recordings can still be accessed on our website at: [http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/World-](http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/World-Languages-and-International-Education.aspx)

[Languages-and-International-Education.aspx](http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/World-Languages-and-International-Education.aspx)

We are planning on continuing the series next school year. We would like to get your feedback on what went well and what we could improve on. We also need your suggestions on topics that

would be most beneficial for you! Please take a few minutes to complete the short survey so that we can serve your needs in 2015/2016:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DFDB6N9>

Thank you for your time!





Dr. Sabine Smith, German professor at KSU, received SCOLT's 2015 Educator of Excellence Award! Congratulations!



Saying

good-bye is never easy, especially when this person has done so much for the promotion of German in the Southeast. We are bidding a heart-felt farewell to Petra Reuter, the German Language Advisor of the Central Agency for Schools Abroad. Petra, you will be missed, but we all wish you the best for your new endeavors back home.

## Lakeside MS Students' Unique Service



Paula Flatman, Spanish teacher at Lakeside MS in Forsyth County, has had her Spanish students participate in an organization called KIVA. Students get to learn about real life people in other countries and

learn what jobs people do to survive. Of course, she makes her students only pick Spanish-speaking countries. Students learn about caring and helping others in the world. The first year, LMS had the "Koins for Kiva" fundraiser to raise the initial funds for this program. The money was then recycled. As the borrowers pay back their loans, the funds become

available to re-loan to someone else. LMS has used the initial \$250+ that were raised and turned it over so that it has become \$1400 in 40 different loans to people. If you are interested in this service project, you can check them out at [www.kiva.org](http://www.kiva.org). Click on teams, then search for Lakeside Middle School.

## Union Grove Student Selected for STEM Program



Hunter Harris, a junior at Union Grove High School, was selected as one of 12 scholarship recipients nationwide for the Goethe Institut's initiative known as "Discover a New Path

– Explore Germany." Close to 300 students applied. He travelled Nov. 28 to Dec. 7 with all expenses paid. The itinerary began with a visit to the Goethe Institut in Chicago, then to Berlin for a tour of several engineering and science-related facilities. He stayed with a German host family and attended tours with German students, speaking in their native language most of the time. Harris has been

a dual enrollee at Clayton State University since his sophomore year and will have amassed 50 credit hours at the college by the end of this semester. He is in his third year of German at UGHS and is already fluent in Spanish. Under the Regency Engineering Transfer Program, he expects to receive a bachelor's degree from Georgia Tech by age 20.

## Looking for a Partner School?

The GaDoE is fortunate to have several *Memoranda of Understanding* with partner states and countries. The purpose is to promote and increase collaboration between Georgia's educational institutions and those of the partner state or

country. Schools interested in partnering with a school in one of our MOU partners' regions should contact the WL Program Specialists (contact info below) at the GaDoE. Current MOUs have been negotiated with France, Germany and

Korea. Schools determine the scope of the partnerships which may include collaboration on projects, Skype or email/pen pal partnerships or exchanges. There are also opportunities to collaborate specifically with CTAE and STEM schools.

## Upcoming Events

**June:**

6/18-19/2015

[Discovering the DELF exam and the CEFR](#)

6/22-23/2015

[Rhythms for the Classroom](#): Bringing song to students of French- @ AF-Midtown

6/29-30/2015

[Rhythms for the Classroom: Bringing song to students of French @ AF](#)

[- Roswell. Both 9:30-3:30 with a one-hour lunch. Appropriate for K-8](#)

**July:**

7/8-11/2015

[AATF Conference in Quebec](#)

7/16-17/2015

[Preparing students for the DELF Prim & Juniors Exams](#)

7/17-20/2015

[AATSP Conference in Denver](#)

7/20-23/2015

Georgia Dual Language Immersion Institute (GADII) register [here](#)

**September:**

9/18/2015

[Georgia Southern's Global Summit](#)

9/30/2015

Deadline for FLAG 2016 Session Proposals

## Spanish for Medical Professions in Grady County



This year's winner of FLAG's "Fostering Partnerships" Award went to a truly amazing Spanish teacher, Mrs. Melanie Knight of Cairo HS and Washington MS in Cairo, GA. I had the pleasure of visiting her class in February and was amazed to see that the focus of the class was on health science with Spanish being a means to reach the goal of mastering health science content. It reminded me of dual language immersion classrooms but with a focus on work-ready skills. Ms. Knight has medical professionals in her family and she often heard that Spanish is nowadays an essential in the medical profession. So in the

summer of 2013, Ms. Knight developed the curriculum for the "Spanish 3 for the Medical Professions" class, combining the Modern Languages GPS and the Healthcare Science Standards with the help of the Health Science teacher, Mrs. Kathy Hill and under the leadership of her department chair, Ms. Cynthia Toups. Cairo HS had just converted to a charter school and gave its approval for the course. Over the course of the first year, many students realized that this class helped them gain many important skills for the future workforce. As with any new curriculum, things had to be adjusted for year 2 in 2014/2015 but the popularity of the class speaks volumes. In particular, native speakers of Spanish like this class where they can prove that they can be very successful in school even

if their English language skills are not as developed yet. All of this could not have happened without the generous support of the larger Grady community. Local businesses provided opportunities for visits, field trips and guest speakers. What a wonderful program! Hopefully, we will see more of these around the state.



### FLAG Awards 2015:

<b>Teacher of the Year (K-12)</b>
<i>Tammy Garces</i> (Heard County HS)
<b>Teacher of the Year (Post-Secondary)</b>
<i>Lisa Connell</i> (University of West Georgia)
<b>Teacher of Promise (K-12)</b>
<i>Antonela Kljajic</i> (Starr's Mill HS)
<b>Leadership in Foreign Languages (K-12)</b>
<i>Cynthia Toups</i> (Cairo HS)
<b>Leadership in Foreign Languages (Post-Secondary)</b>
<i>Billy Wells</i> (University of North Georgia)
<b>Administrative Support of Foreign Languages</b>
<i>Jeff Cheney</i> (South Forsyth HS)
<b>Fostering Partnerships</b>
<i>Melanie Knight</i> (Cairo HS)
<b>President's Award</b>
<i>Dr John Wilson</i> (University of North Georgia) <i>Dr Horst Kurz</i> (Georgia Southern University)

Cairo High School's French students celebrating Mardi Gras with their teacher Mme Cynthia Toups, FLAG's winner of the "Leadership in Foreign Languages" Award 2015. Congratulations!



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Georgia's Future!*

## Whitewater HS Student Wins 1<sup>st</sup> Prize of Goethe Institute's Award of Excellence



The Whitewater High School German Program is proud to announce that Tyler Crowder, a German 1 student was one of three students to win first prize in the Award of Excellence competition sponsored by the Goethe Institute! More than 4,000 students nationwide participated in the Award of Excellence 2014 - a contest organized by the Goethe-Institut. After watching a short video in German about last year's topic "Azubis Wanted - Vocational Training in Germany and in the U.S." the students answered questions of a multiple choice quiz about what vocational training consists of and what opportunities it offers to the participants of these programs in Germany and in the U.S. Among the students with the best test results, three participants won a course for teens in Germany.

The courses for teens take place this summer. The scholarship encompasses the language course, accommodations, meals, full-time supervision, day trips, a recreation program, medical and accident insurance, and an airfare contribution of up to \$900.

## Au Revoir to a World Language Educator Extraordinaire



It is with a heavy heart that we saw Dr. Greg Barfield leave the Georgia Department of Education to embark on new adventures on April 30, 2015. He has been a tireless advocate for anything and everything related to World Languages in the state of Georgia and I am not sure what the Dual Language Immersion Initiative would have been without him. Thank you so much for your enthusiasm, expertise and energy, Dr. Barfield! You will be greatly missed!



photo from www.craftsland.com Designed by Carol Durkin 2012

We're on the Web!

<http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/World-Languages-and-International-Education.aspx>