

CLTA-TX 2007 An Eventful Year



会长寄语

Dear Colleagues,

CLTA-TX had an exciting and eventful year in 2007! With the effort and commitment of the Board of Directors, CLTA-TX established a website (www.clta-texas.org), wrote and passed bylaws, and applied for 501(c)(3) status. During 2007, the CLTA-TX sponsored a workshop and panel discussion, as well as held the first annual meeting. Currently, we have 120 members, including institute members of Huaxia Chinese School and Chinese Community Center Chinese School. CLTA-TX will continue to assist teacher training and promote more K-12 schools offering Chinese language courses. We believe that the dedication of the Board and the enthusiasm of the Chinese language educators will enable us to further advance the Chinese education in Texas.

Meng, President of CLTA-TX

Board of Directors Election October 2007

德州教师学会十月依据本会规章举行第一次理事选举，十一位理事当选。

CLTA-Texas held its first Board of Director election in October 2007. The nomination committee, consisting of Xiaohong Wen (the Chair), Stephen Field, and Lan Graff, nominated seventeen candidates and mailed out the ballots to the members. The elected Board of Directors for 2007-2009 are:

President, Meng Yeh, Rice University
President-Elect, Marshall McArthur, University of Houston
Secretary-Treasurer, Lan Graff, AIE Consulting, Austin
Huafu Bao, Huaxia Chinese School, Houston
Ardon Chang, Fort Worth Chinese School
Nine-min Cheng, Chinese Community Center, Houston
Yeamei Chu, Clements High School, Houston
Stephen Field, Trinity University, San Antonio
Yang Li, Jasper High School, Plano,
Carl Robertson, Southwestern University, Georgetown
Xiaohong Wen, University of Houston

■ Liu Yuying Awarded the First Chinese Teacher Certificate in Texas

恭贺刘玉莹老师！第一位老师荣获德州中文教师证书

Liu Yuying Laoshi has received the first Chinese Teacher Certificate in Texas from State Board for Educator Certification, Texas Education Agency. SBEC officially issued certificates to Texas K-12 Chinese teachers in June, 2007. Liu Laoshi is currently the principal of Houston Huaxia Chinese School Northwest Campus. She also teaches Chinese at Montgomery College and Cy-Fair College.

Liu Laoshi emphasizes the importance of communicating well in English in order to interact effectively with students, convey ideas with colleagues and to seek support with administrators. The biggest challenge, in her view, is to make learning Chinese fun and help students overcome the fear of learning such a difficult language. She encourages teachers to attend trainings to become familiar with the various pedagogical theories and approaches.

News Updates

新闻短讯



Liu Laoshi with her kindergarteners

■ StarTalk Proposals from Texas

德州教师团体申请‘星谈’奖金

CLTA-TX collaborated with two teacher groups to submit StarTalk proposals: Dallas-FW Chinese School Association and Houston Chinese Community Center. StarTalk grant, sponsored by National Foreign Language Center, provides funding to enhance the national capacity for critical languages. Both groups proposed to offer summer student and teacher-training program in 2008. CLTA-TX looks forward to making StarTalk projects a reality and a success in Texas.

■ Texas Language Summit June 2007

CLTA-TX 应邀参加六月德州语言高峰论坛

Jeanette Chen, Chinese instructor at UT-Austin, represented CLTA-TX to attend the Texas Language Summit in Austin on June 22, 2007. The U.S. government initiated the series of “Language Summits: Roadmap to Language Excellence” to assess the economic, social and cultural imperatives for language skills and develop a set of “roadmap” toward an effective incorporation of language education at all levels. The outcome of this series will be a report offering actionable recommendations to close the gap between the supply of and demand for individuals with high proficiency in languages in addition to English.

■ CLTA-TX Received Tax Exemption Status from IRS

本学会今年申请获得 IRS 免税资格

CLTA-TX, a non-profit organization, received the status of 501 (c)(3), tax exemption from IRS in December 2007, through the generous assistance of Ms. Kathryn Kucera, CPA.

The Year of the Rat Celebrates Tenth Year of Mandarin Program

St. Stephen's Episcopal School, Austin

鼠年庆祝圣斯蒂芬私立高中建立中文项目十周年

In 1997, St. Stephen's Episcopal School became one of the pioneer schools in Texas in the area of Chinese language programming under the leadership of International Program Director, Sarah Todd. After two pilot years, Hai Zheng Olefsky was hired as coordinator of the program.

St. Stephen's offers a Lunar New Year Celebration each winter featuring performances in music, dance, games and fashion. This year that program will include: the "Love of China" dance performance; Chinese traditional costumes; yoyo performances; Dragon/Lion dance. St. Stephen's has a Chinese Culture Club. Speakers and other guests are invited, including the highlight this year: Master Li, movie action star Jet Lee's teacher.

In partnership with the Asian American Cultural Center, SSES students reach out to the Asian community. They volunteer to

teach citizenship classes, help with festivals and other activities and they make valuable contributions. A special award is given on honors night in the spring to the one student who has contributed the most to the Center.

St. Stephen's has a chapter of the National Chinese Honor Society, Li-Long Powerful Dragon Chapter, established in 2000. The school has developed collaboration with Choate-Rosemary Hall to send students on summer programs to Beijing. SSES students participate in the School Year Abroad Program and have been in year long programs in the PRC since 2005.

Mrs. Todd and Mrs. Zheng Olefsky have helped numerous schools in the US begin their Chinese studies programs. This has been a wonderful experience for the school. They are continuing to develop the program with faculty and student exchanges and additional curricular offerings.

News from Campus

校园内外



SSES students in Beijing

Contributors 赞助者栏

We would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous support.

The Honorable and Mrs. Charles Foster
Ms. Sue Hsiao, Crown Mark Inc.
Mr. Michael Chang, Directron.com
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Guan
Mr. Charles Roff, Roff Oil and Gas

Texas A&M University Established a Confucius Institute

美国德州农工大学成立孔子学院

Texas A&M University has recently established a Confucius Institute with the goal of increasing Chinese language teaching capacity on campus and in the community, and to partner with other organizations in Texas to strengthen certification programs for Chinese language teaching. The immediate goal of the Institute is to enhance Chinese language and culture education in our community, as well as to reinforce the university's academic linkages with China. The Confucius Institute at Texas A&M is a partnership between the University, the office of Chinese Language International (Hanban) and Ocean University of China.



Dr. Randy Kluver giving a presentation on Confucius

The Confucius Institute plans to develop new educational and research opportunities for students and faculty, as well as offer workshops, seminars, and public lectures to bring greater understanding of Chinese society, and to create opportunities for teachers, K-12 students and community members for learning about Chinese culture. In November, the Confucius Institute, along with the Office of International Outreach at Texas A&M, sponsored a workshop for K-12 teachers entitled "China Today," which provided continuing education focused Chinese history and society, and the challenges the nation faces in the 21st century. The workshop drew 60 participants from across the state. Similar events will be held in the future.

The Institute is very interested in cooperative activities with other organizations in these programs. For more information about Confucius Institute activities, check out the webpage at Confucius.tamu.edu, or contact the Confucius Institute at (979)845-3099, or email Dr. Randy Kluver at rkluver@tamu.edu.

CLTA-TX 2007 in Review
学会 2007 年回顾

CLTA-TX Annual Conference on November 3rd

学会首次年会于十一月三日圆满结会

CLTA-TX held its first annual meeting on November 3, 2007, at the Chinese Community Center in Houston. The meeting theme was **Connecting Chinese Schools through K-16**. Dr. Madeline Spring, academic director for the Oregon Chinese K-16 Flagship program, was the keynote speaker on the topic of **Shared Visions: Setting Goals for K-16 Chinese Language Programs in Diverse Learning Environments**. The conference also included four panels. Twelve presenters were from universities, K-12 schools as well as heritage schools.



CLTA-TX Board at the annual meeting

Teacher Workshop in Dallas-FW

2008 年达福地区华语文师资培训

A two-day teacher workshop will be held by Dallas-FW Chinese School, Jan 19-20, 2008. Ardon Chang, organizer and CLAT Board of Director, invited three presenters: Dr. Chen Jyun-Gwang (Taiwan Normal University), Dr. Meng Yeh (Rice University) and Dr. Li Yang (PlanoISD). Program details are posted in CLTA-TX website.

Houston Area Teachers of Foreign Language, Annual Meeting & Farrington Contest

休斯敦地区外语教师 2008 年会

Houston Area Teachers of Foreign Language (HATFL) 2008 Annual Meeting

About seventy teachers attended the annual meeting. Six publishers displayed their textbooks in the Book Exhibit and provided numerous door prizes. Many attendees found the panels and the keynote speaker's talk very effective and practical. They also commented that this is the first time in Texas that so many Chinese teachers at all levels and from various institutes gathered together to share teaching methodologies and exchange ideas.

Greater Houston, Youth Chinese Speech Contest, Nov 11th

大休斯敦青少年中文演讲比赛



Speech winners of non-heritage groups

CLTA-TX organized a committee to arrange the Greater Houston Youth Chinese Speech Contest on November 11, 2007. Approximately 180 young learners competed at different levels at the Chinese Civic Center.

Upcoming Event

近期活动

will be held at St. Tomas, Feb. 23, 2008. Pang Jiayao Laoshi, at Awty International and a clta-tx member, will give a presentation in the meeting. For details, please see clta-tx website.

HATFL also holds annual **Farrington Contest** for non-heritage students who study foreign languages in middle/high schools. The winners are awarded honors and scholarship. The details of the Contest are also on clta-tx website. CLTA-Texas is discussing with HATFL regarding adding Chinese in the Contest next year. If you and your students are interested in Farrington Contest, please let us know. Your support and students' interest are the deciding factors to add Chinese.

Technology for K-12 Teachers

本学会九月在莱斯大学举办“以网络工具辅助中文教学”为题的教师培训。

CLTA-TX organized a technology workshop for K-12 teachers on September 13, 2007. The workshop, offered by Dr. Marshall McArthur and Dr. Meng Yeh, focused on online tools and resources that are useful for teaching Mandarin in K-12 classrooms. Twenty participants gained hands-on computer experience. The links to download free download are posted on CLTA-TX website.

Panel Discussion “Chinese Language Education in Texas: Present & Future”, October 25th

本学会、州教育署、各学区合办“德州中文教育的现状与展望”专题讨论

CLTA-TX organized a panel discussion on *Chinese Language Education: Present and Future*, October 25, 2007, at Rice University. The audience included K-16 Chinese language educators, Texas school district administrators and local community supporters. The purpose of the panel was to initiate a policy-oriented conversation among these three groups. We invited three panelists to participate in the discussion: Maria Trevino, Director of Language Other than English (LOTE), Texas Education Agency;



Maria Trevino, LOTE Director, TEA at the panel discussion

Greta Lundgaard, PlanoISD LOTE Coordinator; Rebecca Sharp, Institute for Chinese Language Teaching, Rice University. The discussion is archived at <http://webcast.rice.edu/>. The panel has generated enthusiastic and continuing discussion among the members in schools and various communities.