



## **Ohio Foreign Language Association**

### **2012 Annual Report of the President**

The theme for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference was similar to my goals for the year; I planned to not only celebrate education, leadership, and advocacy, but to increase the organization's efforts in each of those areas. With over 100 proposals submitted and scheduled for the conference, and by offering professional development in regions throughout the state, we did increase the opportunities for foreign language education. By appointing three educators who were new to the board, I took the first steps in broadening our leadership base. To increase advocacy I organized a student post card contest with the theme of "Languages Make Global Connections." Twelve teachers sent entries from 33 students. The two winners' postcards were printed and they will be distributed to conference attendees to use in their own advocacy efforts. I also attended two advocacy sessions at Central States Conference in order to bring back those ideas to Ohio.

The OFLA president is charged with organizing the annual conference. Planning the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference began almost two years ago by fixing the date and location with the help of The Meeting Connection. Over a year ago I invited three featured speakers to deliver the keynote address or present workshops, Toni Theisen, keynote, Susan Gross and Deb Blaz. OFLA members will be able to earn one graduate credit by attending three workshops at the conference. I was honored to design the logo for the conference cover and the conference bag. Due to an excellent financial situation I was able to invite past presidents who are still OFLA members to be recognized at the awards luncheon at the conference. At this date the conference registrations are going well and we look forward to a very successful conference.

My other activities that expanded education, leadership and advocacy this past year include:

- ❖ Held the board retreat August at the Hilton in Worthington, Ohio to help the board get acquainted, look at leadership styles and set the tone for the year.
- ❖ Presided at regularly scheduled meetings at the Beechwold Christian Church in Columbus in October, December, and February. The scheduled meetings at the conference and in May are yet to take place.
- ❖ With Teri Wiechart, professional development chair, presented the Extension Workshop at the OFLA Falls Workshop.
- ❖ Held a meeting in January with the president-elect, executive vice president, and bylaws chair to review and revise the OFLA policy document. Another meeting is scheduled for April.

- ❖ Represented OFLA at the Central States Conference in Milwaukee and served on the Extension Workshop Committee; attended two sessions on advocacy with information for dissemination in Ohio.
- ❖ Nominated and supported Ohio's representative for the CSC Teacher of the Year program.
- ❖ Wrote the president's letter for each of the issues of the Cardinal.
- ❖ Wrote letters of commendation to principals, deans, and/or superintendents on behalf of board members to compliment their service to OFLA.
- ❖ Posted messages on the listserv regarding conference information, registration, and general OFLA business. I also made the effort to personally compliment our members who posted helpful activities on the listserv.
- ❖ Recruited a new editor for print publications after the resignation of the previous editor.
- ❖ Served on the World Languages Standards Revision Working Group for the Academic Content Standards for Foreign Languages.

I am honored to have served as president in this anniversary year. It was my intent to give back service to this wonderful professional organization that so helped shape my career. I am very thankful to have the very capable board members who served with me this year and supported my projects and The Meeting Connection staff who helped plan the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference.

Carol Eiber  
March 21, 2012