2015-2016 Annual Board Report Debbie Varga, Public Relations and Advocacy Ohio Foreign Language Association March 4, 2016

A. 2015-2016

- Spring 2015: Attended Language Advocacy Days through JNCL-NCLIS in Washington, D.C. Met with legislative aides for Senators Brown and Portman in promotion of the goal for the Seal of Biliteracy in Ohio
- 2. Summer 2015:

Attended the LILL Conference at Ohio State University Attended the OFLA Board Retreat at Polaris Hilton.

- 3. Fall 2015: Attended the October OFLA board meeting. Wrote an article for the Fall edition of the Cardinal
- 4. Winter 2015:

Attended the 2015 ACTFL Conference Wrote an article for the winter edition of the Cardinal Attended the online GoTo meeting in December

Throughout 2015-2016:

Posted JNCL-NCLIS News briefs via OFLA listserv.

Use of social media (Twitter and Facebook) to share online resources for world language educators both inside and outside of Ohio.

Collaborated with Martha Halemba and Martha Castañeda on strategies for establishing a Seal of Biliteracy movement in Ohio.

Emailed all State Board of Education members regarding concerns over the absence of World Languages in the newly proposed Honors Diplomas for Ohio graduates. Have received responses from 3 board members so far regarding this matter. Shared with OFLA board members emails and advocacy letter template for communication with state BOE.

Kept up to date on the passage of the ESEA (Elementary and Secondary Education Act). Watching for further developments via JNCL regarding how this will impact World Language education on a national level

Began brainstorming a promotional strategy for Ohio for the Seal of Bilteracy movement in our state along the lines of the successful tag line created by Illinois' #2bilit2quit.

Goals for 2016-2017

Remainder of 2015-2016 year:

- a. Attend CSCTFL/OFLA Conference in March
- b. Volunteer at OFLA booth
- c. Preside a Thursday workshop
- d. Attend all board meetings
- e. Collaborate with board members on strategies for establishing/promoting a Seal of Biliteracy in Ohio
- f. Write article for Summer edition of Cardinal

2016-2017

- a. Organize the hospitality booth for the 2017 conference
- b. Attend all board meetings
- c. Write articles for the Cardinal
- d. Create advocacy strategies for world language teachers via the OFLA Advocacy Committee
- e. Continue to use OFLA listserv, Facebook, Twitter for the promotion of World Language resources and advocacy in Ohio.