



**The Ohio Foreign Language Association
2017 Annual Report
Immediate Past President**

I began my work as Immediate President in the Spring 2016 by attending the Budget meeting immediately following the Ohio Foreign Language Association 2016 conference. Overall, my work for the 2016-2017 academic year centered around the Ohio Foreign Language Awards.

As the academic year began in the Fall 2016 and throughout the academic year, I attended the retreat and all regular Ohio Foreign Language Association Board meetings in October, January, and March. I submitted an electronic report for each of these meetings detailing the work completed prior to the meeting. At the August retreat I met with several members on the executive board (Lucas Hoffman, Beth Hanlon, Alan Turner, Richard Emch and Martha Halemba) to discuss awards committee and timelines.

Throughout the academic year, I regularly communicated with Lucas Hoffman, Beth Hanlon, and Alan Turner regarding issues that required consultation. We discussed ways to encourage more awards submissions, board elections, committee chairs needed, the eventmobi application, and any other issue that required our attention and action. Moreover, during the academic year, I also attended several conferences and represented Ohio. I attended the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages as well as the Central States Conferences on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. I also served on several committee as represented Ohio. I attended the annual meeting and served on the National Federation of Modern Language Teachers Association's Outreach Committee. I served on the Central States Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages committee to review scholarships.

For the Awards committee, I served as the Chair. I first updated all materials to reflect the language changes made to the awards criteria voted on the previous year by the OFLA board. I selected a committee made up of Ohio Foreign Language Association members who have experience with awards as well as with best practices of teaching around the state. I assembled a committee of four members representing various parts of the state, various stages of teaching, and various areas of expertise. I worked closely with Cheryl Johnson to set up the online submission system. Finally, I advertised the Awards through various outlets including email, facebook, and twitter. In addition to these venues, I encouraged board members to reach out to teachers in their area to submit award nominations. I advertised ample times to ensure a robust number of submissions. The committee read each submission and voted for each category. Once the winners were identified, I notified the winners, the nominator and I copied each winner's principal on the congratulatory email. I then began collecting biographical information and pictures of each winner. I created the Awards program, ordered the awards, created the poster and wrote the presentation for the Awards program.

Respectfully Submitted,
Martha Castaneda
Martha Castañeda, Immediate Past President

March 2017