

Reconnecting Alaska!

2021 Conference Schedule



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH

6:00pm - 8:30pm	Welcome Keynote featuring Dr. Jacque van Houten: Leveraging our Leapfrog Moment General Membership Meeting & Awards Ceremony
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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH

	Room A	Room B	Room C
8:00am - 8:50am	SEL for the World Language Classroom	Grammar Teaching Without Tears: Introducing PACE	Leading with the Seal of Biliteracy to Empower Students and Programs
9:00am - 9:50am	Mindfulness for the Hybrid/Virtual Classroom	Introduction to Racio-Linguistics: Inherent Racism in Language Perceptions	SPARK for German
10:00am - 10:50am	Language Chats		
11:00am - 12:30pm	Workshop: Designing for Intercultural Communication with Dr. Jacque Van Houten		
12:30pm - 1:30pm	Lunch		

Reconnecting Alaska!

saturday, september 25th

	Room A	Room B	Room C
1:30pm - 2:20pm	PixelArt your Class!	Theory Meets Classroom: Translating Research into Practice	Game on!
2:30pm - 3:20pm	Play Clue	Empower Language Learner Autonomy with Seal of Biliteracy Pathways	Language Grows when you're having fun!
3:30pm - 4:20pm	Roundtable Discussions		
4:30pm - 5:00pm	Town Hall: Focus on Advocacy		
5:00pm - 5:30pm	<i>Kahoot!</i> with Etienne Langlois		

sunday, september 26th

On-Demand Sessions

8:00am - 11:00am

How to host a virtual field trip	Silence is Golden	Empower Language Learner Autonomy	Language Grows When You're Having Fun!
Top 5 Strategies for CI	PixelArt your Class!	Game on!	Play Clue
Mindfulness for the Hybrid/Virtual Classroom	SEL Strategies for the WL Classroom	Leading with the Seal of Biliteracy	Spark for German
Introduction to Racio-Linguistics	Grammar Teaching Without Tears	Theory Meets Classroom	

Session Descriptions:

Keynote: Leveraging our Leapfrog Moment - Dr. Jacque van Houten

Teachers across the country are facing important instructional decisions as we begin to emerge from the challenges of teaching and learning during the pandemic. How can we leverage this unique opportunity to use what we learned about relationships with students, creative delivery, personalized curriculum, and digital tools to make us better teachers and keep learners at the center of learning? How can we help our learners connect or reconnect with the world in a way that improves their ability to use language in natural contexts and establish their own cultural relationships? Crucial to this effort will be the focus on authenticity and interculturality, that is, allowing learners to explore, discuss, and meaningfully construct language and relationships in contexts that involve real-world problems and projects that are relevant to them. Let's learn to draw on our experiences and leapfrog toward learner success.

Designing for Intercultural Communication Workshop - Dr. Jacque van Houten

Building learners proficiency in intercultural communication is not difficult when following strategic steps in planning. Join me in taking those steps to design a unit framework that you can put right to work. We'll target your learners' performance levels, choose a cultural context, integrate intercultural investigation and interaction activities and include options for teacher and learner customization. Let's get those learners ready to engage with the world.

Empower Language Learner Autonomy with Seal of Biliteracy Pathways - Linda Egnatz (IL)

This session will share how to increase language learner autonomy and excite students about growing their language proficiency by offering Seal of Biliteracy pathway awards. The data and research show that these programs build retention, provides valuable insight on curriculum and instruction, and can even accelerate language acquisition rates. The discussion will include: providing student feedback, goal-setting and benchmark testing toward District, State and/or Global Seal of Biliteracy recognition for students from middle-school through college.

Game on! - Charles Beattie (AK)

Reap the harvest of 5 German teachers road tripping around Alaska! This session will present a brainstormed starter compendium of different classroom games, some topic-specific and some more general, as well as some templates that can be modified using the game for multiple genres and levels.

Around the World in One Class Period - Design Virtual Field Trips for Use in the Foreign Language Classroom - Alysha Holmquist Posner (WA) - *Recorded only*

Introduction to Racio-Linguistics: Inherent Racism in Language Perceptions - Betsy Paskvan (AK)

Language Grows when you're having fun! - Jillian Lykens (CO)

Do your students groan as the unit test draws near? Performance assessments to the rescue! Learn high-yield strategies for integrating culturally contextualized performance assessments into your classes to get your students engaged in creating language in real-world situations. Participants will leave with an action plan for creating assessments that foster language proficiency while incorporating the three modes of communication and intercultural competencies.

Leading with the Seal of Biliteracy to Empower Students and Programs - Erin Welchel (ACTFL)

Begun in 2008, the Seal of Biliteracy has steadily grown from a localized movement in California to a nationally recognized program naming more than 100,000 student recipients in 2019. With the publication of the updated “Guidelines for Implementing the Seal of Biliteracy”—cosigned by eight organizations, including ACTFL—the Seal is on a trajectory to achieve implementation nationwide, providing students and programs with more opportunities to strive for proficiency, global competence, and career readiness. Following a brief update on the Seal’s origins and current status, we’ll explore the Guidelines and how they empower K-20 students and programs, including ways that advocates can create awareness and promote growth in equity and access. This session would be ideal for attendees teaching any language at any level (K-20) who would like to learn more about the Seal and how they can take action.

Mindfulness for the Hybrid/Virtual Classroom - Jennifer Schwester (NJ)

Mindfulness provides educators with alternative activities that will increase interpretive skills and encourage interpersonal and production skills in the target language. These activities also help teachers and students to work on dealing with stress, anxiety, and the “new normal”. Mindfulness also helps to lower students’ affective-filter and be more receptive to learning and participation. Attendees will be provided with opportunities and links to practice different mindfulness skills and techniques that can be used personally or with their students. Activities can also be modified and adapted for all ages and language levels, help increase students’ language input and production, as well as how to use these mindful minutes to help create a kinder classroom community, in-person or virtually.

PixelArt your Class! - Alysha Holmquist Posner (WA)

Interested in boosting your digital game or having those ready-to-use sub plans? Come check out an introduction to the world of Pixel Art worksheets. They're easily shared as an online resource and completely customizable to be used for different purposes or themes.

Play “Clue” - Brenda Hearn & Kelly Hughes (AK)

Not language specific (samples provided for French and German) Teachers will receive access to documents to use in class. Participants will play a sample game live. Vocabulary practice.

SEL for the World Language Classroom - Jennifer Schwester (NJ)

This interactive workshop will help teachers to understand what SEL is and is not, as well as practice ways to help students work on their social emotional learning skills. By helping students identify their emotions, acknowledge them, and work on ways to deal with them, teachers are giving students valuable life skills to be more effective and productive learners, as well as strengthen the classroom community.

Attendees will be provided with opportunities to participate in SEL activities and share ways to use them in the classroom and in target languages. While encouraging students to use “their words”, teachers help them to become aware of their own emotions, which encourages an increase in self-esteem and self-regulation. When students are able to acknowledge and have tools to deal with their emotions, they are also being provided with a safe space in which they can lower their affective-filter and be even more receptive to learning and participation.

Silence is Golden: Zero-Dialogue Videos to Promote Communication - Alyce Weikel (OH) -

Recorded only

This session will focus on the use of zero-dialogue videos in promoting communication and comprehension in any target language. Discover ways to use one video for multiple levels and languages--great to share with colleagues. Included are several clips, sample activities for writing, listening, and speaking, and discussion of low-tech and high-tech tie-ins to the use of silent videos. Methods included for face-to-face and virtual instruction as well as learners at all proficiency levels.

SPARK for German - Susanne Rinner (AATG/WA)

SPARK for German introduces new and existing programs offered by the AATG and the Goethe-Institut to foster life-long learning of German. Programs such as SPARK for German, GAPP/GAVE, Study Bridge, and GEMS offer multiple layers of engagement, provide opportunities for collaboration, and connect the teaching and learning of German with advocacy in the community in order to contribute to the transatlantic dialogue between the US and the German-speaking world. Instructors learn how to implement these projects' customizable solutions that create connections with the cultures of the German-speaking world and take advantage of opportunities to live, study, and work in Germany. This session provides examples of how instructors at all levels utilize these projects and programs to teach, learn, and advocate. A particular focus will be on the training and mentoring of the next generation of German educators.

Theory Meets Classroom: Translating Research into Practice for Impactful Language Instruction

- Svetlana Nuss (AK)

Why knowing the theory of second language acquisition is important and how to build instruction that has the highest impact on language acquisition. The discussion is based on Karen Lichtman and Bill VanPatten's latest article in *Foreign Language Annals* (summer 2021 issue) *Was Krashen right? Forty Years Later*. We discuss how second language acquisition takes place and what implications this has for the classroom. We also tap into other recent publications in the field of language teaching and look at some examples of classroom activities.

Top 5 for Comprehensible Input - Michele Whaley (AK)

How do teachers make the target language comprehensible for their learners? Many strategies lead to success, but the beginning toolkit is always the same: establish meaning, repeat, go slowly, check comprehension, and personalize. Experience these tools in a demonstration in Russian and walk away able to use comprehensible input with any strategy, any curriculum.

Grammar Teaching Without Tears: Introducing PACE, a Story-Based Approach to Teaching Meaning and Grammar - Sabine Siekmann, Wendy Martelle, Eve Ryan (AK)

Are you looking for engaging, active and contextualized ways to teach meaning and grammar? Do you want to learn more about using stories in your language classroom? If so, this presentation about the PACE (Presentation, Attention, Co-Construct and Extension) Model is for you! The PACE Model is a story-based approach to teaching grammar that applies high-leverage language teaching practices. After a brief introduction of the model, presenters will share examples from their own university classrooms in Russian, German and French. We will focus on: a) selecting a story, b) linking it to grammar c) engaging students in discovery learning and d) providing meaningful extension activities. If you love Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling (TPRS), you will love PACE. If you are new to using stories in your teaching, this will be a great introduction. After attending this presentation, you will have the tools to replicate our PACE lessons or develop your own.