



# SWALLT

SouthWest Association for Language Learning and Technology

## SWALLT Board Meeting

**Date:** Thursday, 14 March 2019; 2:00 – 2:40 pm

**Location:** UC Santa Barbara Zoom

**Members Present:** Kelsey White (President), Adan Gallardo (Past-President), Shahnaz Ahmadeian (Treasurer), Trevor Shanklin (Secretary), Fuqiang Zhuo, Associate Director of the Language Center at UC Davis; Thomas Garbelotti, Instructional Technology Coordinator at UCLA

### Agenda

- 1) Approval of past meeting minutes (October 2018)
- 2) Status of the board, membership, and treasury
- 3) The upcoming IALLT Conference (June 2019; Eugene, Oregon), including travel funds
- 4) Ideas for revamping the quarterly webinar series
- 5) Any additional items.

### Item 1: Approval of October Minutes:

Motion made, seconded, unanimously approved

### Item 2: Status of Board/ Treasury Update

Election for President-Elect. The two non-board members said that they would canvas as well for a possible president-elect. Kelsey pointed out that the workload is quite manageable. Thomas said that he is interested in creating a consortium of language programs/resource centers. Swallt could play a role in this. No other positions are immediately up for reelection. The parliamentary post is vacant but it is by appointment.

There is still \$3,975 in the budget, minus \$17 for a reimbursement to Adan for renewed web registration.

It was agreed that September 30 would be a good time to send a notice out for renewed registration and start canvassing for SWALLT participation as people get settled into the new academic year. Fuqiang stressed that is much easier when the registration fee is wrapped into the conference fee.

### Item 3: Iallt Conference.

Adan, Kelsey and Trevor are going. It was proposed that SWALLT funds be used to help cover Kelsey's participation if she does not get funding from UCSB. Adan pointed out, however, that there is a SWALLT policy in place against using treasury funds to pay for board members' travel costs, etc.

It was agreed that the IALLT conference would be used to hold a SWALLT board meeting to which all participants would be invited. This could take place during the regularly scheduled regional meetings at IALLT. Kelsey will send out an email for people there to join us.

#### **Item 4: Revamping Webinar**

- Kelsey had intended to present but got swamped by her workload. Trevor has two presentation topics: the revamping of the CAST oral proficiency test and the implementation of OmegaT computer assisted translation in the LARC PC lab.

#### **Item 5: Open Forum for Discussion**

Thomas described his position and the huge assessment program at UCLA. UCLA no longer has a language center, and Thomas work with humanities. Through their program there are 30,000 tests conducted annually. Basically, there is a huge item bank for all the language classes, and the tests are delivered via Moodle and the Respondus lock-down browser. There are between 5 and 6,000 questions for Italian alone, and these are then divided into various categories. The tests include listening comprehension but there are is no oral testing – all grading is done via computer.

There is very little infrastructure charge. After a \$5,000 basic annual charge and a student fee of \$2 per test, the overall cost for Respondus is 27 cents per test.

So far there has not been a single complaint. This system frees up individual time; students can schedule themselves. For example there is a test active now from Friday through Monday. Also, this system is used in traditional, hybrid and online courses. The same tool can be used as well for self-assessment.

UCLA shares courses with other universities in the UC system, such as Swahili, Catalan, and even Egyptian hieroglyphics. There used to be a language consortium for the Southland but no longer – a goal to work towards.

Meeting Adjourned: proposed, seconded, unanimously approved.