

MVSU

Foreign Languages

Faculty Development

Workshop

February 17, 2012

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Sutton Auditorium – Room 108

English and Foreign Languages Department
College of Arts and Sciences
Division of Academic Affairs
Continuing Education Office



February 17, 2012

Dear Workshop Participants,

Thank you so much for participating in the Foreign Languages Faculty Development Workshop at Mississippi Valley State University!

This workshop was conceived three years ago at the 2008 Annual Conference of the Mississippi Foreign Language Association (MFLA). Mr. Joshua Nave and I met at that conference. Being the only representatives from the Mississippi Delta, we began to work together to find ways to assist foreign language education in our region of the state.

Finally, at the 2010 Annual Conference of the MFLA, everything simply fell into place. Yohanna Jiménez, the current President of MFLA, has always wanted to take the best aspects of our association out to the different regions of Mississippi. As one of her first acts as the newly elected president, she challenged me to make this workshop a reality during this academic year. I accepted the challenge. Mrs. Jiménez and I quickly gained the support of each of our fellow MFLA members present here today.

After the first workshop at Coahoma Community College, workshops have been offered at Northeast CC in Booneville and in the MS State University - Meridian Branch. It has been so much accomplished in just one year. They have been successful and participants have been always satisfied with the outcomes of each workshop.

I am so pleased that you support us with your participation. From Meridian to Clarksdale, from Greenville to Hattiesburg, you have come today as a sign of your commitment to quality foreign language education. Thank you for that commitment and for your support.

We also thank you for supporting this program by attending all sessions and completing all session evaluations and the workshop evaluation. We have intended to put our best foot forward, but we know there is always room for improvement. Thank you for helping us to improve.

Sincerely,

Aurora Fiengo-Varn, Ph.D.

Workshop Coordinator

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Workshop Program

- 8:00 a.m. Registration – Continental Breakfast (Sutton 201)
- 8:15 a.m. Welcome **Dr. Aurora Fiengo Varn**
MFLA Vice-President of Program
- 8:30 a.m. Useful Activities That Can Be Used in Any Foreign Language Classroom **Dr. Martha Dow-Adams**
Spanish Professor
Universidad de Ciencias Aplicadas y Ambientales
Corporación Tecnológica de Bogotá
Bogotá, Colombia
- 9:45 a.m. Creative Activities to Impact the Foreign Language Classroom and the Whole School Community **Nolvia Ventura**
Spanish Teacher
Presbyterian Christian School
- 11:00 a.m. Making Students Talk with Fun Communicative Activities **Yohanna Jiménez**
Spanish Instructor
William Carey University
“Best of Mississippi 2010”
- 12:00 p.m. Working Luncheon (Sutton 201)
- Mississippi Foreign Language Association **Yohanna Jiménez**
MFLA President
- Mississippi Chapter American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese **Dr. Aurora Fiengo Varn**
MS-AATSP Vice President
- 1:00 p.m. Outside In – Creating Relevancy and Intrigue **Seth Powell**
Spanish teacher
Oak Grove Middle School
“Best of Mississippi 2011”
- 2:30 p.m. Tech Tips and Tools **Janet Bunch**
Spanish Instructor
Northwest Mississippi Community College
- 4:00 p.m. Closing Remarks **Dr. Aurora Fiengo Varn**
MFLA Vice-President of Programs

Presentation Description

Presenter: Dr. Martha Dow-Adams

Useful Activities That Can Be Used in Any Foreign Language Classroom

E-mail: marthaadams84@msn.com

The presenter will share with the participants activities that will help them motivate their students and increase class participation. Also, the presenter will show some activities that will help students to become successful foreign language learners.

Presenter: Mrs. Nolvía Ventura

Use the Target Language to Impact the School Community.

E-mail: nventura@pcsk12.org

If you are looking for activities to promote and show what is happening in your classroom, this is the session. Here, you will learn tips to promote your class in the school. The presenter will provide examples of how the students can get involved in different communicative activities and how your actual students will be inviting new prospects to get enrolled in your class.

Presenter: Mrs. Yohanna Jiménez

Make Students Talk with Fun Communicative Activities

E-mail: yjimenez@wmcarey.edu

This presentation offers many different kinds of communicative activities that will help turn the foreign language classroom into an active, safe, and enjoyable place where the students are engaged in relevant tasks within a dynamic learning environment rather than in traditional teacher- led classes. Activities handouts provided.

Presenter: Mr. Seth Powell

Outside In - Creating Relevancy and Intrigue

E-mail: william.powell@lamarcountyschools.org

The workshop will be a presentation and discussion platform to provide ideas for making the target language relevant to the students in the classroom and creating intrigue that will motivate them to excel in language learning. Topics for discussion will be technology (creating podcasts, webquest, and visual media), student travel (domestic and international opportunities), and other fun projects (such as a descriptive terms photo album and class blogs). All topics will center and gear toward creating relevancy in the classroom.

Presenter: Mrs. Janet Bunch

Tech Tips and Tools

E-mail: jbunch@northwestms.edu

The presentation will provide a manageable guide to integrating technology into the Second Language classroom using the Internet and other technology tools. Even in the most technologically poor setting you can make learning a little more fun for your students just by using a little bit of technology. This presentation/workshop will expose you to Youtube, Language Learning sites & a few gadgets that enliven a standard classroom. You and your students will be motivated to get involved and use those language skills! The examples will be primarily Spanish sites but the ideas can be transferred to other languages as well.

Working Luncheon

Yohanna Jiménez and Dr. Aurora Varn will present an overview of two foreign languages professional organizations. The presentation will show the benefits and resources that the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese, and the Mississippi Foreign Languages Association can offer to foreign languages educators. Resources such as websites, scholarships, conferences, honor societies, study abroad programs, assessment tools, national exams, and publications among other benefits will be shared with participants.