

Minutes: 5/31/2020

**UNY Chapter of AATSP
7PM-8:30PM
Organizational Meeting Via Zoom**

Members Present: Cindy Hoetzer, Cynthia Flax, Anna Guerrero, Elizabeth Juarez-Cummings, Gerardo Cummings, Emma Ticio Quesada, Myriam Santos & Sue Welch.

- I. Welcome/Opening Remarks:** President Juarez-Cummings welcomes Anna Guerrero and Emma Ticio to the UNY AATSP Council. Anna introduces herself and just graduated with her Master's from SU. She is originally from Barcelona. Cindy states she graduated from SU in 1984. Emma introduces herself to the council. She's from Madrid and has been Spanish coordinator in SU. She is now Chair of the LLL Department.
- II. Approval of Minutes from March 1, 2020 meeting:** Minutes are published in the UNY AATSP website. Minutes are approved.
- III. Treasurer's Report:** Cindy H. spoke of a new account at Capital Bank, after a difficult year of banking. No checks have been written lately. Elizabeth should receive a check from AATSP national headquarters and she then forwards the check to Cindy Hoetzer so it gets deposited. Once we receive the check from AATSP, we should have a balance of \$1900. Cynthia Flax paid the website and Cindy Hoetzer will reimburse Flax for her expenses.
- IV. Life and Teaching in the COVID-19 World:** Sue shared problems with overuse of Google Translate and copying of assignments. Emma shared her use of Blackboard Collaborate. Cynthia F. stressed the importance of using interactive activities with the students, and that we need to be flexible and understanding with the students. An idea was proposed of putting dialogue ideas on the Facebook page. With the future being uncertain, we need to plan ahead and make sure we establish our plans for the most effective ways for our students to learn. Ana discussed the use of Blackboard Discussion. Elizabeth mentioned that the kids miss communicating, and that conversation in small groups is ideal, either through Zoom, or Blackboard Collaborate. Ana discussed the use of flipgrid and that she could perhaps hold a Tertulia for CTLE credit in June. A round table discussion of different themes of activities and ideas was suggested for the future. A reminder that there are webinars on the AATSP website that are free, such as Vista Higher Learning, which are great resources. Elizabeth will be taking a class on how to teach on-line classes, and will give us a crash-course tertulia.
- V. Plans for Spring & Fall Immersion Outing and AATSP 2021 Conference:** Because of COVID-19, the Fall Immersion Outing will need to be postponed. We could maybe do the Fall outing in the late Spring, and then push back the Spring Outing to the Summer.

We could replace some activities with more tertulias. Someone will reach out to Mónica Escudero at Colgate to see if she will do a meditation session through Zoom. There could be improv in Spanish, joke telling, or we could have a discussion about a movie that we had all watched.

- VI. Book Club:** Cindy H. mentioned that we need to promote the Book Club more. The Book Club will be discussing Caperucita en Manhattan, by Carmen Martín Gaité on June 26th. We will be offering CTLE credits for this discussion. Cindy H. discussed the value of this book in advanced levels, for its wealth of vocabulary, synonyms, and idiomatic expressions. She also mentioned that this book has an open ending that would make a good springboard for an alternate ending assignment. The book can be purchased at Amazon and in Audible for audio options, and is also on Youtube at this point.
- VII. Tertulias:** We will be making a Google doc for brainstorming ideas--please see an attachment to these Minutes--for more tertulias. (mentioned earlier here are tertulia ideas of flipgrid, Book Club, On-line Teaching Crash Course, and Fall Tertulias in place of Fall Outing). **We need everyone to participate in this 'lluvia de ideas' Google Doc.**
- VIII. Chicos Charlando:** Due to COVID-19, it was proposed to perhaps try some get-togethers on Zoom, or Google Hangout where we could invite some native speakers to attend. When teachers are present, it works better for the students, and extra credit could be given by the teachers. The meetings would be great for recent graduates. Maybe a college person could speak with them to help them with the transition to college Spanish. Juarez-Cummings wonders whether we could connect with students from other countries and give our students the chance to talk with foreigners. Cynthia F. shares that when Chicos Charlando was offered in Queensbury, NY (north of Albany) it was successful. It used to be a 1-hour event. She remembers that it was offered during the academic year. Emma Ticio suggests that we could offer high school students the opportunity to connect with a student (or a faculty member from college) and inform them/educate them of what college life will/should be like. Juarez-Cummings thinks we should outreach members of UNY AATSP and inquire whether there is an interest. Cynthia F. will write an email to the members to ask if they are interested in helping with this. Emma volunteers searching SU students who may be interested in taking part of this.
- IX. Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica:** (Montserrat is not present)
- X. AATSP Poster Update:** Brianna was in charge of this. Winners will get a gift card. This will start again in the Fall.
- XI. NSE Update:** (not present) Trips were cancelled due to COVID-19.

- XII. Recruitment/Promoting our Chapter:** Elizabeth spoke of linking all of our social media content (Elizabeth is in charge of Instagram), and Cynthia F. will add whatever is sent to her to the Facebook page. Some social media is easier to transfer from platform to platform. We need to add more cultural content to all accounts. We need to try to recruit more members now, especially the teachers who need CTLE credits. We can offer them many ways to get credits during this time when it is difficult to find opportunities. Juarez-Cummings suggests that we allow different council members to be able to publish. Gerardo would like to run Twitter. [FYI: Gerardo didn't bring up the following at the meeting but is adding it to the minutes: we should create a document of rules for people to follow as to what can be posted on the Social Media pages, this way there is uniformity and there is a system in place so we all know what can be posted and what cannot].
- XIII. Call for Items for our Newsletter:** Please send any items to Gerardo, it'll go out after the 3rd week of June, 2020.
- XIV. Calendar:** Next meetings are Sunday, August 30, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. and then November 29, 2020.
- XV. Other Topics:**
- #1) Apoyo a la Comunidad Latina- Gerardo discussed ideas of ways we can help the Latin community in each of our regions. After speaking with La Liga in Syracuse, Gerardo has offered 100 masks to each organization. Emma, Elizabeth, and Gerardo will meet to see what else they can do, and under what guidelines. Cynthia F. and Myriam will get in touch with people in their region to see what is needed. One of Gerardo's students is volunteering with the Eastern Farmworkers Association, and is using his 3-D printer to help make supplies. Is there a similar association in the Albany area that could benefit from our help? On the international level, Cynthia F. mentioned the GoFundMe to help buy personal protective equipment (PPE) kits for the hospitals in Nicaragua that are in a very dire situation right now. She will add the link to our Facebook page.
- #2) President Juarez-Cummings mentions that the website UNY AATSP needs to be updated with Anna Guerrero's picture and Emma's information and photograph.

Respectfully Submitted: Susan Welch 6/1/2020