



COTSEAL

Council of Teachers of Southeast Asian Languages

COTSEAL Business Meeting

2017 AAS Conference, Friday, March 17, 7:30-9:00AM

Minutes prepared by Pittaya Paladroi-Shane, COTSEAL Vice President

In attendance:

Juliana Wijaya (UCLA), Sheila Zamar (UW-Madison), Clemen Montero (UH-Manoa), Nona Kurniani (John Hopkins), Pittaya Paladroi-Shane (OU), Kanjana Thepborirak (NIU), Abigail Cohn (Cornell U.), Thamora Fishel (Cornell U.), Jinda Moore (SEASSI-UW-Madison)

Items discussed:

1. Financial report presented to the participants by Sheila Zamar, COTSEAL Secretary

- \$504.00 was generated from membership renewals. It is estimated that 25 members are active COTSEAL members.
- Sheila has two sets of COTSEAL members lists: the first one is rather general and the second includes only active members. The lists will be passed to Agustini, the new COTSEAL Secretary.
- It is difficult to increase membership when prospective members pay membership fees by check. Frank has argued in favor of paying membership fees via Paypal, but AAS strictly prohibits officers from handling funds. Juliana also wants to recruit new people and perhaps those SEA language teachers from overseas. She will try follow up with the AAS financial manager and find a new and convenient way to pay membership fees.
- As of 03/17/17 the COTSEAL balance is \$6,202.51.
- For the full financial report prepared by Sheila Zamar, COTSEAL Secretary, see the appendix I.

2. A report on COTSEAL Workshop 2 at UW-Madison in May 2016 prepared by Erlin Bernard, presented by Pittaya Paladroi-Shane

- The June 2016 COTSEAL workshop marked the end of the first-year collaborative project involving the teachers representing six languages (Burmese, Filipino, Indonesian, Khmer, Thai and Vietnamese).
- The workshop was held in conjunction with the teacher training for SEASSI instructors and was attended by 19 COTSEAL project participants, 13 SEASSI instructors and 3 observers.
- On the first day, Dr. Maria Carreira from NHLRC-UCLA gave workshop presentations on the topic of heritage language learning.
- The project participants presented the outcome of their collaborative team's work over the past year. They showed a great enthusiasm during the subsequent group discussions across languages.
- The 12 developed lessons in six languages have been uploaded on the COTSEAL website: : <http://cotseal.net/workshop2lessons.html>, and <http://cotseal.net/workshop2.html>.
- The project participants became truly engaged throughout the working process and developed a strong sense of community.
- With the additional sponsorship from the Luce Foundation, the collaborative project of six language groups will be extended to the current academic year, 2016-2017. There are 19 participants (17 returning participants and 2 new participants).
- Each language team has produced the first prototype lessons and are in the process of selecting materials for the second lessons.
- Pedagogy support/input has been provided throughout the lesson development process (first draft and second draft) by the Pedagogy Specialist, Dr. Erlin Bernard at UW-Madison.
- The second lessons will be completed in May 2017 and ready to be uploaded to the COTSEAL website.
- For the full report, prepared by Dr. Erlin, see appendix II.

3. COTSEAL website maintained by Frank Smith

- Everyone expressed their appreciation for Frank Smith for keeping the COTSEAL website up-to-date. His use of Twitter to disseminate real-time information is also greatly appreciated by the attendees. Frank Smith volunteered to help with the website and Twitter.
- As for Twitter; however, Juliana argued in favor changing the Twitter account name to be COTSEAL.
- Thamora Fishel suggested that we include the Twitter account link on the proposed COTSEAL Facebook page. Thamora offered to set it up.

4. Revival JSEALT online

- JSEALT has been inactive for the past five years because no one has volunteered to collect the papers.
- Kanjana Thepborirak agreed to help collect papers from different conferences and coordinate with the journal JSEALS to see if there are any articles pertaining to issues on the teaching of Southeast Asian languages.
- Abby suggests JSEALT should be open to anyone interested in submitting. They can even be informal proceedings.
- The section, "Notes from the Field," on the COTSEAL webpage is currently used as the place to showcase stories from the classroom, as well as teaching techniques and tips from language teachers in an informal way.

5. Introduction of new COTSEAL officers

- Sheila Zamar officially introduced the new COTSEAL President, Juliana Wijaya and Vice President, Pittaya Paladroi-Shane to the attendees. The incoming COTSEAL Agustini was not present at the meeting due to limited travel funding.

6. Title VI current and future funding on Group Project Abroad (GPA)

- Abby thanked Juliana for her leadership as the COTI president in helping COTI intensive Indonesian language program become successful. This year the COTI program was administered by Cornell University. Current COTI president, Jolanda Pandin, worked to secure funding for the summer program this year. The funding is available on a year-to-year basis. The application for funding the COTI program next summer has already been submitted.
- The Trump administration is proposing cuts to Title VI. Thamora reported that Cornell University has lobbied its representatives to fight for Title VI. Abby raised her concern that if Title VI funds are eliminated, it will weaken SEASSI and COTSEAL as well. She calls for institutional mobilization through students, faculty, and alumni to address their concerns regarding the decrease in support for Title VI and its consequences to the field of SEA studies in the U.S. She suggested that the COTSEAL membership list can be utilized for the purpose of connecting them to their representatives.
- Abby suggested that COTSEAL take a new role, becoming an umbrella organization for the specific language groups/organizations. This will become more strategic when the Title VI funds begin to decline. Abby referred to her discussion with Ellen Rafferty (UW-Madison). In their view, each language group can become its own entity and each language group can have a sub-page linked to the COTSEAL website. Finding a home institution for each

language group is worth exploring. They will host the website and provide administrative support. This website contains a depository of materials on linguistics, pedagogy, and shared website (i.e. dictionary). When the website is curated, it will become a web resource, and a source for information for everyone.

- Among of all language groups, the Indonesian (COTI) and the Vietnamese language teachers (GUAVA) have been the most active groups. However, GUAVA, or the Group of Universities for the Advancement of Vietnamese in America, is the only language organization that has been formalized. The Consortium for the Teaching of Indonesian (COTI) is in the process of being formalized. As for Thai, the Network of Thai Language Professors in U.S. Universities was established in 2014 but it has not been formalized. Although this Thai group was only recently established, its members are quite active. The Council for the Advancement of Filipino (CAF) has not been formalized and needs stimulation and input from its young members. By formalizing the language groups/organizations, this will help counter balance the hierarchy and become more inclusive.
- As for sources of financial support apart from Title VI, Juliana reports that the Embassy of Indonesia has become more supportive for the teaching Indonesian in the U.S. In the case of Thai, the Thai Embassy has been actively involved with the network of the Thai teachers and teaching of Thai in the U.S. In sum, the two embassies are interested in supporting the teaching of heritage learners.

7. Upcoming Workshop 3 at Cornell University on September 8-10, 2017

- Abby gave a report on the planning of the workshop. A poster session was added to allow participants to contribute their work while being funded to participate at the workshop.
- Friday afternoon - the specific meetings for each language group will be held, followed by the keynote speaker's address
Saturday morning - the participants from the content-based materials development project will give a report
Saturday afternoon – discussion panels
Sunday will be the wrap-up
- The funds for this workshop will come from three different sources: Title VI, the operating budgets of each of the NRC's, and the Luce foundation. Meals and lodging will be covered. Anyone is welcome to participate. This includes language teachers at the community colleges. Given that the funds are

limited, participants from institutions with NRCs should request funds from their institution first. The organizers will provide financial support later.

- In addition to the six major language groups that have been involved with the content-based material development project, Abby would like to extend an invitation to other language groups, for example, Lao, Karen, Hmong, Ilokano, and etc. This year, the University of Hawai'i-Manoa celebrates the 40th anniversary of the teaching of Ilokano.
- Abby invited everyone to send comments or suggestions with regards to the address of keynote speaker. Juliana remarked that the SEA language teachers are underserved by the national language resource centers (LRCs). Thamora proposed to find the speaker from the newly established resource center titled "Center for Integrated Language Communities" or CILC at City University of New York (CUNY). This center involves the heritage learners in the community college context. Other possibilities are perhaps theorists from the National Foreign Language Resource Center (NFLRC) or the Center for Language and Education (CLEAR).
- Given that many people plan to attend the upcoming workshop at Cornell University and that the workshop covers different topics which resonate with COTSEAL's points of interest, the COTSEAL conference will be skipped this year and rescheduled for next year.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00am

Appendix I

COTSEAL Financial Report, 2017 AAS Conference, 3/17/2017

By Sheila Zamar, COTSEAL Secretary



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**COTSEAL Financial Report, 2017 AAS Conference, 3/17/2017
-Sheila Zamar, COTSEAL Secretary**

Coverage period: April 1, 2016-March 15, 2017

Reimbursed expenses: \$2,201.34

- 2016 COTSEAL meeting travel grants - \$1,1640.00
- 2016 AAS Business meeting dinner - \$404.02
- One-year website hosting - \$155.88
- AAS Postage fees - \$1.44

Pending reimbursement:

- 2017 COTSEAL meeting travel grant (Zamar) - \$350.00

Financial statement from AAS: April 1- December 31, 2016

COTSEAL Account

- Opening balance: \$6,687.86
- 12/31/16 account balance: \$4,486.60

NCOLCTL 2013 Grant

- 12/31/16 remaining balance: \$1,211.91

**Membership fees collected from January 1-March 15, 2017 to be deposited to
COTSEAL's account with AAS**

- Checks for deposit: \$504.00

Account balance to be turned over to the new COTSEAL Board: \$6,202.51

Appendix II

COTSEAL Professional Development

Report on the Content-Based materials development project 2016-2017

By Erlin Bernard, Ph.D., Pedagogy Specialist, UW-Madison

COTSEAL Professional Development Report on the Content-Based materials development project 2016-2017

The June 2016 COTSEAL workshop marked the end of the first year collaborative project among six language groups (i.e., Burmese, Filipino, Indonesian, Khmer, Thai, and Vietnamese), that aim to develop prototype materials based on Content-Based pedagogy. Each language team consists of two to four instructors from over 10 major institutions across the US.

The workshop was held at the UW-Madison, in conjunction with the teacher training week for SEASSI instructors. It was attended by around 35 participants including 19 COTSEAL project participants, 13 SEASSI instructors, and 3 observers. On the first day, Dr. Maria Carreira, from NHLRC-UCLA, gave workshop presentations on the topic of heritage language learning. In the following day, the project participants presented the outcome of their collaborative team's work over the past year.

We could see the participants' great enthusiasms in the presentations as well as their high engagement in the subsequent group discussion across languages. It was evident that the instructors appreciated the sharing opportunity and the sense of community afforded through the project. The lessons have been uploaded on the COTSEAL website: <http://cotseal.net/workshop2lessons.html>, and <http://cotseal.net/workshop2.html>.

With the additional sponsorship from the LUCE foundation, we are able to extend the collaborative project to this academic year 2016-17. We are currently in the second year of the Content-based materials development project. I am happy to report that we have a total of 19 colleagues from six language groups, joining the project again this year. 17 of them are returning participants, with a few new people added to the number this year. It is apparent that the majority seemed to appreciate the collaboration process over the past year that they decided to continue on this year.

This year, each team produces two prototype lessons based on either video or written texts, and videotapes the class session piloting the materials. Pedagogy support throughout the production process is provided by Dr. Erlin Barnard, the pedagogy specialist at the UW-Madison. Each team will have the opportunity to share their experience and lessons in the Fall 2017 workshop at Cornell University. The first round of lesson development has just been completed in February. There were a total of six prototype lessons created by the six language groups, along with the recording of their classroom deliveries.

Currently, the teams have just started the process of developing the second lesson. For the last couple of weeks, the group members have been communicating with each other to identify the authentic text they will be working on. Following the text selection stage, one to two members will start drafting the lesson activities which will then be shared with other members in the team for their comments and input. With further input from the pedagogy specialist, the lessons will be finalized by the end of the May 2017 and ready for upload to the COTSEAL website.

Below is the list of participants in their respective language team (*newly added participants)

Burmese (2):

Kenneth Wong-Berkeley,
Yu Yu Khaing-Cornell U

Filipino (3):

Imelda Gasmien-UH-Manoa,
Zeny Fulgencio-U Michigan,
*Sheila Zamar-UW Madison

Indonesian (5):

Agustini-U Michigan,
Emmanuella Datu-DCLCP,
Jolanda Pandin-Cornell,
*Nona Kurniani-John Hopkins,
Rahmi Hartati-NIU

Khmer (2):

Hannah Phan-Cornell,
Nielson Hul-Long Beach CC

Thai (3):

Kanjana Thepboriruk-NIU,
Pittaya Paladroi-Shane-Ohio U,
Siriporn Junsawang-Stanford U

Vietnamese (4):

Bich-Ngoc Turner-UW Seattle,
Hanh Tran-Berkeley,
Hong Dinh-UW-Madison,
Thuy Anh Nguyen-U Michigan