



COTSEAL

Council of Teachers of Southeast Asian Languages

COTSEAL Business Meeting

2018 AAS Conference, Washington, D.C., Saturday March 24, 8:30-10:00am,

Minutes prepared by Pittaya Paladroi-Shane, COTSEAL Vice President

In attendance: Juliana Wijaya (UCLA), Nguyet Tong (UCLA), Ellen Rafferty (UW-Madison), Erlin Bernard (UW-Madison), Abby Cohn (Cornell U.), Thamora Fishel (Cornell U.), Kanjana Theborirak (NIU), Rahmi Aoyama, (NIU), Nona Kurniani (John Hopkins), Pauli Sandjaja (UW), Nanna Jonsson (FSI), Becky Butler (UNC- Chapel Hill), Jeffrey Shane (OU), Pittaya Paladroi-Shane (OU)

Items discussed:

1. Financial report presented by Juliana Wijaya, COTSEAL President

- As of today, the balance in the COTSEAL account shows \$5,907.88.
- Throughout the past year, COTSEAL received \$1,952 from membership checks. For further information, see the attached financial report prepared by Juliana Wijaya in the appendix I.

2. Membership drive reported by Pittaya Paladroi-Shane, COTSEAL Vice President

- As of today, based on their membership status through renewal or first-time subscription, 57 COTSEAL members are considered active. The increase in revenue from membership for the past year was attributed to the gathering of teachers at the Conference on Southeast Asian Teaching: New Directions, on September 8-10, 2017 at Cornell University. Abby emphasized the importance of COTSEAL membership especially for those who are interested in joining or participating in the various workshops on professional development.
- Currently there are two separate lists of COTSEAL members: one is currently active and another one is rather general. In addition, there is no system in place for determining the expiration date of individual memberships. Abby suggested that the expiration should align with the academic year schedule, for example, it could be the end of Spring semester.
- Pittaya suggested that it would be helpful to obtain the list of participants at the conference at Cornell University, and Agustini, COTSEAL secretary, could follow up with them. Pittaya recalled that some participants showed an interest in becoming members but they did not have a checkbook or cash with them at that moment. Currently, the method used to pay the COTSEAL membership fee is by check only. This is mandated by the AAS. Thamora suggested that a student from Cornell University could help in reviewing the membership lists. A letter can be sent out to current members to remind them to renew their membership.

3. Report on COTSEAL Workshop and Conference at Cornell University, September 8-10, 2017 by Juliana Wijaya

- Juliana thanked Abby and Thamora for their assistance and efforts in organizing the conference successfully. In addition to the report on the CBI project shared by different groups of language instructors, teachers had an opportunity to interact with their colleagues in the language specific meeting. They were able to form the language organizations. In the case of COTI, it is moving forward. Thamora added that the Burmese language group has decided on the name of its group and that two of its members are overseas.

4. The upcoming COTSEAL-sponsored ACTFL Familiarization Workshop at University of Michigan, April 20-21) reported by Juliana Wijaya

- Juliana thanked the Selection Committee led by Ellen Rafferty in screening the applications. COTSEAL received 35 applications, out of which 25 applicants were selected to participate in this workshop. COTEAL will cover the registration fee, meals and accommodations through the grant awarded by Henry Luce Foundation. Given that the funding is limited, the selected participants from the NRC institutions will be asked to request for travel funds from their institution first.
- Abby added that the collaboration among institutions made this professional development workshop accessible for the language teachers. This form of advocacy should continue and expand. Recognizing the work and service performed by these language teachers, not only increased the level of moral support among the teachers but it also allows the institutions of the participants/teachers become more appreciative of their work and presence. After the CBI workshop, they were rewarded an honorarium and letters of appreciation were sent to their supervisors. Erlin and Pittaya shared their stories to prove this point. Abby added that another way to advocate the language teachers' work is to showcase them and their work in the newsletter/bulletin boards.
- Thamora suggested that COTSEAL should create a checklist of to-do items in regards to teacher advocacy and pass it on to the next administration. It would be helpful if there would be a way to help junior lecturers or teachers in preparing an annual report to show their work.
- Nona asked about the possibility of having a similar training/workshop (ACTFL familiarization workshop) for FLTAs. Since the upcoming workshop has limited funding, it will not be possible to include them this time. Everyone seemed to agree that would be useful and can help engage and inspire them to continue in the field of teaching SEA languages, such as the case of Rahmi. Abby suggested that it can be done via ZOOM at the beginning of Fall. Pittaya suggested that the training can be general in the beginning of the year and then the language specific groups can become more involved in the training of the FLTAs later in the academic year based on the target language that they teach. This will allow the FLTAs to develop a better understanding of how to teach languages in the U.S. universities.

5. Report on the meeting of Southeast Asian Council (SEAC) by Juliana

- As a COTSEAL President, Juliana met with the members of SEAC at the 2017 AAS Conference in Toronto to introduce herself. This year SEAC convened again; however, she did not know that each organization could request for funding to do activities. The

funding request is embedded in the report and she was not aware of that. Nonetheless, without a request, Tyrell Haberkorn, Chair of SEAC has agreed to give \$250. This amount will be used for maintaining the COTSEAL website.

- Jeff Shane, the Chair of CORMOSEA, explained the current structure and functions of SEAC. It is comprised of representatives of the various country groups and convenes annually at the AAS Conference to discuss and vote for activities or projects that support the teaching/learning within SEA studies. Each group can request funding from SEAC to support its activities.

6. Call for papers for COTSEAL/SEASSI joint conference at University of Wisconsin-Madison, July 27-28, 2018 by Juliana

Currently, there is no specific theme set for the conference. Juliana encouraged the participants at the business meeting to contact her and let her know as soon as possible. The conference is a forum for COTSEAL members and the SEASSI teachers to present their work and research. At the conference, there will be a session dedicated to a meeting of language specific groups as well. Abby proposed to have a timeline for setting the theme and deadline for submitting an abstract.

7. Call for papers for COTSEAL-sponsored panel at AAS 2019 in Denver

Abby suggested that Juliana should come up with a timeline. Currently, there is no specific theme for the papers. The deadline for proposing the panel to AAS is sometime in July. Kanjana has agreed to be the organizer for the panel. She will coordinate with Juliana.

8. Collaborative Initiatives with the librarians (CORMOSEA)

Jeff Shane encouraged the language teachers to collaborate with CORMOSEA. He asked specifically if there was any research or language learning materials that he and his colleagues could acquire or create to help the field of language instruction. Currently, he and Greg Green from Cornell University are working closely in developing a grant proposal to submit to the Henry Luce Foundation. The proposal involves the creation of new digital materials and the revitalization of the Southeast Asia Digital Library. The digital collection will be accessible to the public. The materials can be about SEA language instruction.

9. Report on Southeast Asian Language Council's Strategic Planning Meeting at AAS, March 22, 2018 by Abby Cohn

The Southeast Asian Language Council (SEALC) was established on March 22, 2018. This initiative originated during the directors' meeting at the end of the Conference on Southeast Asian Languages at Cornell last September. The task force has met and worked together in securing funding from Henry Luce Foundation as a professional development project. In terms of the structure, as of now, the SEALC's Steering Committee has been formed and it is co-led by Juliana Wijaya, COTSEAL President, and Ellen Rafferty, Language Director, SEASSI, University of Wisconsin-Madison. There are 5 subcommittees, including a professional development committee, with Juliana Wijaya as the convening chair, materials development committee with Erlin Bernard as a convening chair, fellowships/grants committee with Ellen Rafferty as a convening chair, NRC & institutional collaboration committee with Abby Cohn as a convening chair, and a shared course initiative strategic committee. SEALC's goals are first and foremost to support and enhance SEA language instruction across all institutions in North America and beyond. Secondly, it supports professional development of instructors, materials development, and innovations in teaching SEA languages. Lastly, it serves as a body to promote collaboration and shared projects and course initiatives supported by Title IV, and other federal programs, as well as other private foundations.

SEALC provides conceptual frameworks for all parties to work together and voice the concerns about the field of teaching SEA languages. Abby asked Jeff, as Chair of CORMOSEA, to consider joining SEALC

The meeting adjourned at 10:00am.