

LAST PRINT ISSUE – LP IS GOING VIRTUAL!

***** WATCH YOUR E-MAIL AND CHECK LISTEN.ORG FOR DETAILS! *****

LISTENING POST

Newsletter of the International Listening Association

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President's Perspective

by Margarete Imhof, President



I would like to use this year's convention theme to describe my first president's perspective. It's been only a few weeks since we met in Frankfurt for our 28th annual convention and it is none too soon to draw a line and to look at the final balance. As far as I can see, the organization and its membership have accomplished a good deal: We had almost 25 % of all attendees at the convention from non-US countries. This is certainly a move into the right direction. We had presenters from diverse parts of the world and thus, the interaction was a truly intercultural experience. We also had the privilege to listen to young researchers who shared their work and their thinking on listening. This is a strong point, and I certainly hope that the connection was made, too, to secure the continued exchange of ideas and the building of new interest in and appreciation of listening. In addition, we deepened the perception of how listening is interwoven with other aspects of our professional and personal lives, such as health care, virtual communication, and personal communication in times of crisis and uncertainty.

Another connection that I saw was represented by the follow-up sessions of the Fall Listening Forum from Kansas City in 2006. It was energizing to see how the discussions were continued and how the collaboration between the members was deepened and extended. The issues and research questions which had been gener-

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A MESSAGE FROM JIM PRATT

Dear Fellow ILA Members,

I want to let you know that I will be leaving the office of ILA Executive Director at the end of the month. Nan Johnson-Curiskis, one of our founding members, who has most recently distinguished herself as ILA Secretary, will be the new Executive Director. Nan and I live just a short distance from each other, and we work well together, so the transition should be a smooth one.

I have enjoyed my eight years as Executive Director, and I intend to remain an active member of ILA. At this time in my life, though, I want to be able to spend more time with my family, and I have discovered that the college soccer season often conflicts with my ILA responsibilities.

I hope you will join me in welcoming Nan as Executive Director and in wishing her well in this new post. And thanks for your support over the years.



Executive Director's Report

by Dr. Nanette Johnson-Curiskis



As you have heard, Jim Pratt has retired as the ILA executive director. The board has appointed me as the next executive director of the ILA. I know I have big shoes to fill. I have known Jim for many years and respect him and his work very much. I will build on the excellent work Jim has started as we move forward to our next two conventions. I am honored by this appointment and know the rich heritage of all the previous ED's will guide me as I begin this new chapter.

I would like to propose one immediate addition as I begin my term. Being the self proclaimed "geek" that I am, I plan to make greater use of ILA e-mail blasts beginning with "Good News" blasts. I would like to broadcast the accomplishments of ILA members.

Watch your e-mail for the first "good news" blast. To help us get started, send me e-mails about anything you would like to share with our "community." Professional publications, presentations you give, awards won, books written, new babies, grandkids, marriages—all are good news items to share. Remember, as Carole Grau always says, "We continue to belong to ILA because we are a family." Let's keep the enthusiasm and family atmosphere growing by sharing our day to day accomplishments with one another, even if they are not related directly to listening. We are an extremely talented group of people—there is no need to keep that a secret. Please, don't be shy.

Watch your e-mail for continuing announcements regarding the 29th convention in Portland, Maine. The dates are set for March 26, 27, 28, 29, 2008. We are returning to March convention dates as our membership has requested. The hotel, the Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland, is beautiful. If you have not taken a virtual tour, find time to do so. You will be ready to attend as soon as you see the sites within walking distance of the hotel and the beautiful views of the bay. <http://www.innbythebay.com/>

Lisa Orick-Martinez is waiting for your proposals. As we all know, "Listening Lights the Way." You can contact Lisa using the e-mail address: 1stVP@listen.org. Invite your colleagues, your students, professionals from other organizations, business friends, members of community organizations, musicians, elementary and secondary teachers, and family members to be a part of our convention and our organization. In fact, I am already pressuring my daughter Erika to submit a proposal we can collaborate on for Portland. How about submitting a proposal including your children, parents or grandparents—listening through the generations? You along with your partner or spouse—listening and relationships? Can you team with a community business leader—listening and customer service? Be creative; take a risk. I know we will make this another successful listening convention.

I look forward to serving you as we move forward. Let me know if you have any questions or concerns. You can contact me by e-mail using info@listen.org or my school address johnsn3@mnsu.edu.

PLEASE NOTE ILA'S NEW CONTACT INFO:

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Listening Post Going Virtual!

This is the last issue of the Listening Post that you will receive by regular mail. Watch you e-mail for updates! If we do not have your current e-mail address, please write to Nan at johnsn3@mnsu.edu. The February issue will be our first online release. Not online? If you are not and would like to make special arrangements to have an issue mailed, please write to Nan or call her at 1-800-ILA-4505 (US) or +1-952-594-5697 (from outside the US).

All past issues of the Listening Post are available online through the Resources link at Listen.org.

JOIN US IN PORTLAND, MAINE FOR LISTENING LIGHTS THE WAY

LisaOrick-Martinez, First Vice-President



Our 29th convention is **March 27 – 29, 2008** in Portland, Maine. Making plans and traveling to the convention site is easy! Airfare is about \$300 round trip from the southwest and once you arrive at the airport there is a free shuttle to the hotel. Our convention hotel was voted one of the top 143 Inns worldwide and received the 2006 Quality Excellence Award. We will be at the Holiday Inn By The Bay located in the Arts District and within walking distance of the Old Port and waterfront. The hotel boasts a large indoor pool, fitness center and sauna. Complimentary secure

high-speed wireless internet access is available in all of the rooms and conference areas for those of us who can't leave work behind!

If you are like me and have never been to the North Eastern part of the country, you are in for a surprise. Greater Portland has a population of 230,000 and is home to one quarter of Maine's total population. The weather in March will see highs in the 40s and low's near 25 degrees. You may want to bring a parka and boots to keep warm, but the dress is casual throughout the city. If this hasn't convinced you yet, then here are the top 10 reasons why you should come to the convention:

- 10 Making plans to attend is easy.
- 9 Airfare is relatively inexpensive.
- 8 The hotel shuttle is free.
- 7 The Holiday Inn by the Bay was voted one of the top 143 inns worldwide.
- 6 The arts district and the old port and waterfront
- 5 Swimming, fitness center and sauna
- 4 Free high-speed internet in your room
- 3 Lobster, lobster, lobster!
- 2 You want to keep up with what's going on in the world of listening
- 1 **The #1 reason for attending the 2008 ILA Convention:
We in the ILA are like family and you only get to see us once a year!**



See you in Portland!

ILA BOUTIQUE CHANGES MANAGERS

Lisa M. Orick-Martinez has given over the reigns of the ILA Boutique to long time member, **Roberta Ray of Montana**. Lisa is our First Vice-President and will be ascending to the presidency in 2008. Therefore, managing the boutique was one of the jobs she felt she had to give up in order to dedicate more time to her other ILA duties. Look for the boutique tables at the convention in Portland, Maine in March 2008 and buy, buy, buy!



Past President's Closing Remarks

ILA 2007 Presidential Address
by Maria F. Loffredo Roca, PhD

This past New Year's Eve I lost my best friend to complications related to kidney cancer. His name was Father Rick Wojnicki. He was 52 years old. This talk tonight is dedicated to his memory. Both his life and his death at such a young age changed me in important ways. He was my soul mate and my inspiration. He gave me strength and courage to carry on when I wanted to give up. And above all else, he was the single best listener I've ever known.

"My life is a listening. His is a speaking. My salvation is to hear and respond. For this, my life must be silent. Hence, my silence is my salvation." Thomas Merton wrote these words about his relationship with God. But when I read them, I was struck by how applicable Merton's ideas are to our relationships to each other as well. Imagine if our lives were truly "a listening" rather than "a speaking." What would that be like? What if the salvation of our planet, of our relationships from the interpersonal to the international, rested in our ability "to hear and respond"? But for us to be able to hear and respond effectively, our lives must be more silent than they are now. The din both outside and inside our own heads so often makes it impossible to listen with our whole hearts.

Many of you know that I have spoken and written a fair amount this past year about listening and humility. My conference theme last year was, "listening: the language of peace." I suggested that the path to peace lies in listening, but that to listen in a way that can foster peace also requires humility. And so in my last address to you in my position of President, I would like to return one more time to the themes of silence, humility, and listening as the path to peace.

I. Silence

What does it mean to experience silence in this profoundly noisy world? Why is it important to seek periods of silence on a regular basis in our own lives? Alfredo Guevara wrote, "The human race, with all the richness and spiritual experience it has accumulated, could perish. All this comes from an inversion of our scale of values, which has made noise and banality rule. And when I say noise, I mean noise in the soul." It isn't until we give ourselves the gift of time in silence that we realize just how noisy both our external and internal worlds are.

I had the chance to experience what silence can do this past May when I attended a four-day interfaith retreat at the Garrison Institute in Garrison, New York. The theme of the retreat was "Reconnecting With the Sacred in Creation." At the core of the philosophy of the leaders of this retreat was that silence was the path to listen-

ing to the earth and to recognizing our relationship to the earth and to each other. During these four days we spent extensive periods in silence both communally and individually. We had a complete technology blackout. No cell phones. No TV. No radio. No newspapers. No computers or e-mail.

We started each day with a 30-minute silent meditation. We followed this with breakfast in silence. We also ate dinner in silence. The only meal we conversed during was lunch. We also did silent hikes, including one down Bear Mountain. At first, the silence was unnerving and felt unnatural. I guess this is to be expected in a world as noisy as mine can be. The first meal felt like torture as I became aware of every noise I made – worrying that I was disturbing others.

When we had our first discussion, we discovered we all shared this experience and learned to relax and enjoy what then became a symphony of silverware on plates, chairs scraping against the floor, the birds singing outside the window. By the third meal in silence, I discovered my other senses. I tasted food in a whole new way. I ate much more slowly and noticed textures and flavors, their nuance and contrasts like I never had before. I began noticing the changes in light, the grain of the wood in the table. And for the first time in many, many years I was aware of when I felt full and satisfied by my food. I also became more connected to my co-retreatants. I was more aware of the facial expressions, their breathing, their beauty. I realized, perhaps for the first time, what it really meant to "shut up and listen." We were in each other's presence with no pressure to do anything other than simply "to be."

When we came into conversational sessions, I found it easier to listen to my co-retreatants and I felt they were truly listening to me. And there was a peace in the room that wasn't there when we first met. By the last day, silence was welcome, was comfortable, was profoundly nourishing. I could hear my own thoughts and, more importantly, I could quiet my mind and open up to what others had to say, to give; to how the thoughts and experiences of others could change me and help me grow both spiritually and intellectually.

We often hear people say something was a "life altering experience" and we judge such assessments as exaggerations. But this retreat truly was a life altering experience for me. I learned many powerful lessons about the importance of silence. My goal in this talk is to bring us back to examining the idea of listening as the language of peace and I see silence as an essential first step in becoming peacemaking listeners.

Thomas Merton wrote that “[Gandhi] recognized the impossibility of being a peaceful and nonviolent man if one submits passively to the insatiable requirements of a society maddened by overstimulation and obsessed with the demons of noise, voyeurism, and speed.” In examining his own experience with silence, Merton discovered that in silence “where he thought he could be alone with himself, he found that he wasn’t one man, but that in him live humankind, in all its misery but also in its longing for love.” (Henri Nouwen) This thought leads me to contemplate humility.

II. Humility

Merton’s realization about his connection to others to me is a powerful statement about humility. He recognized the essential connection among us all. Each of your lives is as important as mine. We must cherish each other and honor the humanity of each other at all times. What greater way to honor the humanity of others is there than to listen with our whole being?

Mother Teresa, to me, was one of the greatest role models of humble listening. She cherished and served the poorest of the poor. She made time to listen to people in need whenever she could. In fact, whenever she flew anywhere she asked for two seats on a plane so anyone who wanted to talk with her could come and sit by her on the flight. When asked who could possibly come after her to continue her work, Mother Teresa said, “That will be no trouble. God will find a more humble person, more obedient to Him, more faithful, someone smaller with a deep faith, and He will do still greater things through her.”

Many spiritual writers from many different faiths and cultures identify humility as the most important and the most difficult virtue to develop. *Why?* Because humility requires taking responsibility and being brutally honest with ourselves. Humility means accepting responsibility for who we are and for what we do, both good and bad.

Contemplative silence can help us do this fearless examination of self. Buddhist teacher Bhante Henepola Gunaratana explains that “Denying your shortcomings and blaming the world for your discontent keeps you mired in unhappiness. ... As long as you blame [others] for your problems, you give yourself an excuse not to change. The moment you accept responsibility for your situation, even though others may have contributed to it, you begin to move in a positive direction.”

I would add that denying our shortcomings and blaming others also makes it impossible for us to be effective listeners. These behaviors also make us bitter. Henri Nouwen said, “Bitterness is the reaction of one who expects something from another without daring to look into his or her own heart, and therefore becomes quickly disappointed. ... The impurity in the world (should be) a mirror of the impurity in (our) own heart.”

Through silence we look into our own hearts. Through silence we nurture humility. Through silence, humility, and the quality of listening that then develops, we learn

what Buddhist teacher Tsongkhapa believed, that “To cherish others is the source of every admirable quality known.” That bears repeating. “To cherish others is the source of every admirable quality known.”

III. Listening As the Path to Peace

And what greater way is there to let others know that you cherish them than to listen to them? Imagine a world where all people feel cherished? I suspect that would be a peaceful world. Sadly, that is hard for many people to imagine. Bob Geldof recently commented, “With people killing each other in the name of land and religion, the planet probably has a better chance without us.” I am not such a pessimist as Geldof. I do believe there is hope.

I prefer to listen more to His Holiness the Dalai Lama. He believes, “The happiness we seek, a genuinely lasting peace and happiness, can be attained only through the purification of our minds. This is possible if we cut the root cause of all suffering and misery – our fundamental ignorance.”

Peace, lasting peace, is possible. But it will not happen by itself. It requires hard work. The Dalai Lama says we must purify our minds. For this we must find a contemplative practice that works for us. For some that may be meditation; for others hiking in the woods. For some it is yoga or Tai Chi. For the writers, it may be journaling. For people like myself, it takes the form of contemplative prayer.

One of my favorite stories about Mother Teresa is that when crossing a border checkpoint once she was asked, “Are you carrying any weapons?” She replied, “Oh yes, my prayer books.”

Whether it be prayer or meditation or whatever your contemplative practice of choice, these are the tools, or weapons to use Mother Teresa’s word, that allow us to address the “fundamental ignorance” referred to by The Dalai Lama. Once again, listening is the key – listening to self and then to others. And this listening can then bring us to a place of deep understanding, the only real course to peace. David Lynch said it well; we must “Live in tune with things rather than go against them.”

Thomas Merton put this thought into more political terms when he said “The only real liberation is that which liberates both the oppressor and the oppressed.” Nelson Mandela expressed similar ideas in his autobiography as well as in many of his speeches.

Listening makes it possible to live in tune, to liberate both the oppressor and the oppressed, and to move this beautiful, ailing planet a little closer to peace one loving listening moment at a time.

Maybe, just maybe, the path to peace lies in the recognition that we don’t have all the answers and that people we see as enemies, oppressors, or opponents may actually have something of value to say.

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2007 ILA AWARD WINNERS

LISTENER OF THE YEAR

BARNETTE HELZBERG, JR has, for over a decade, been a strong supporter of listening in both the education and the business sectors. The former president of Helzberg Diamonds provided sponsorship for the ILA International Convention in Kansas City in 1998 and was especially generous in sponsoring the 2006 Fall Forum Listening Research Conference in Kansas City. As an internationally known leader in business, he advocates the importance of listening in management. He has taught courses in listening in the Helzberg School of Business for Rockhurst University, has been a member of the ILA since the mid-1990s, and has published articles related to the importance of listening. The Awards Committee is proud to recognize Barnette Helzberg, Jr., as the 2007 Listener of the Year.

HALL OF FAME

WARREN GORE was a founding member of the ILA and a frequent contributor to the convention sessions. He attended every ILA convention up through Minneapolis, but has had health problems and is no longer able to travel. Manny Steil said this of Warren: "Warren was at the epicenter of listening education at the University of Minnesota, was a great teacher and promoter of listening, and was an active founding member of the ILA. Warren has been a great supporter of both the field of listening and ILA as an organization." Warren's enthusiasm for life, for listening, and for the ILA are noteworthy. We've missed his cheery greetings the past few years."

LISTENING RESEARCH AWARD

DR. MARGARETE IMHOF and **DR. LAURA ANN JANUSIK** received the LRA for their article: "Development and Validation of the Imhof-Janusik Listening Concepts Inventory to Measure Conceptualization Differences between Cultures," published in the *Journal of Intercultural Communication Research*, Volume 35, No. 2, July 2006. The article does much to further intercultural listening and shifts the focus from listening behaviors to a more cognitive approach to listening. Imhof and Janusik suggest four factors need to be taken into account as listening concepts are mapped and analyzed.

OUTSTANDING LISTENING EDUCATOR

DR. MARGARET FITCH-HAUSER is described by students as a "common sense" professor who requires them to work hard and become better listeners. Her course in Message Structure and Information Processing prompted several students to write that the class should be required of all students who leave Auburn with a degree! One former student who completed an internship during the time she took the course said: "I owe my successful internship to Dr. Fitch-Hauser. I know that internship put me a step ahead in my job search because communication skills are statistically those most lacking in job applicants."

LISTENING IN THE BUSINESS SECTOR

CHRIS STEBNITZ, OWNER OF STEBNITZ BUILDERS OF DELEVAN, WISCONSIN exemplifies an organization committed to listening. Not only have they developed a reputation in the community for listening to their customers, but Chris Stebnitz has been instrumental in adopting listening as a key organizational theme, expressed on their website with the simple phrase: "Perfecting the Art of Listening." Customer surveys and testimonials attest to the fact that Stebnitz Builders' emphasis on listening has resulted in many satisfied customers. Chris Stebnitz's growing success has made him a staunch supporter of the art of listening for successful business transactions. He has developed a "procedural listening" process designed to effectively learn what customers want. The process is outlined on the Stebnitz website, www.stebnitzbuilders.com.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARDS

ROCKHURST UNIVERSITY: The McGee Chair of Interpersonal and Listening, the Center for Teaching and Learning, and the Department of Communication at Rockhurst University through monetary and in-kind services, made it possible this past year for delegates from five countries, the local Kansas City area and all over the US to come together in six context groups to discuss research in listening and to create a research plan for listening to be accomplished over the next five years. Rockhurst donated its facilities, provided financial support, student support, audio-visual support and assisted with local arrangements for the two intensive days of the conference held in Kansas City, MO in October 2006. Such cooperation from a university is critical to making it financially feasible to hold such a conference. The conference brought together listening professionals and leaders in research, education, religion/spirituality, business, and healthcare.

LUDOWIKA HUBER is involved in listening in the education, business and the health sectors in Germany. The projects in this area are products of her ideas. Since 1998, she has worked on establishing higher esteem for listening. She organized numerous workshops and conferences on listening in these three sectors. She developed the projects "Ganz Ohr Sein" (be all ears) and "Erzählen und Zuhören" (storytelling and listening) to improve listening in the schools. She developed the projects "listening as a factor in business" and "listening as a factor in health system." Because of her activities, listening is now a part in the curriculum of primary school. She edited several books on the subject of listening. Listening in Germany would not be at the state it is without her.

VOLKER BERNIUS is known as "the father" of the Hörclubs, the listening clubs, that spread out since 1997 all over Germany and bring the subject of teaching listening to teachers and people working in the education field. Actually there are Listening Clubs in over 500 primary schools in Germany, there are also clubs in secondary schools, in schools where students prepare for different jobs, in youth hostels and in kindergarten. Volker Bernius constantly promotes listening: in workshops for teachers and interested people, in articles, in radio broadcasts, in talks on conferences. He initiated the association for listening, which was the origin of the foundation of listening now in Germany. Without him listening would not be at the state it is in Germany. He also initiated the edition "listening" with several books on the subject, edited by Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht. Volker Bernius hosted, and along with Margarete Imhof, organized a two-day education mini-conference held at the State Radio Station in Frankfurt.

MECHTHILD HAGEN has been a tireless worker who promotes listening at every opportunity. She gives credit to others and seeks none for herself. Mechthild Hagen put into practice the "Ganz Ohr" project, which brought listening into the schools. She has taught listening, taught methods of listening instruction to many teachers, and brought awareness of listening to many schools and classrooms. Margarete Imhof said, "Mechthild Hagen is a person who created a very big difference in listening in the schools in Germany." This summer, despite battling the effects of chemotherapy, Mechthild rode her bicycle to meet with two ILA members who wanted to learn more about the Ganz Ohr project. She spent a good period of time making arrangements for them to visit schools where the project was in effect and answering their questions about the project and the state of listening in German schools.

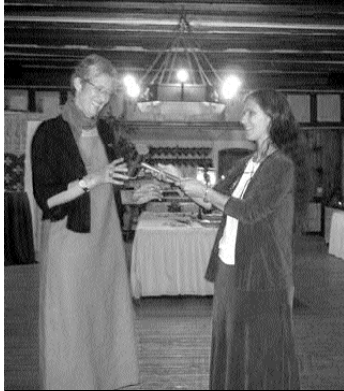
DISSERTATION AWARD

MECHTHILD HAGEN's dissertation, "Promoting Listening at Schools," was the first dissertation in the field of education in Germany to address listening. It is published in the "Edition Listening" by Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht. Professor Hagen's results were earlier reported in the *International Journal of Listening* in 2006.

2007 CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

As we gathered in Germany for our 28th annual convention, I was anxious to see my long-time friends and to meet new ones. It was an exciting time that turned out to be even more than I had anticipated. We found time to share, to laugh, and to sightsee. We all marveled at the work President Margarete Imhof and her team put into making us all comfortable and welcome. Thank you to everyone. ~ *Dr. Nanette Johnson-Curiskis, Executive Director*

MARIA PASSES THE GAVEL



TO MARGARETE

FORMER PRESIDENTS



CASTLE DINING ROOM



CASTLE VIEW



UNIVERSITY



RIVER CRUISE



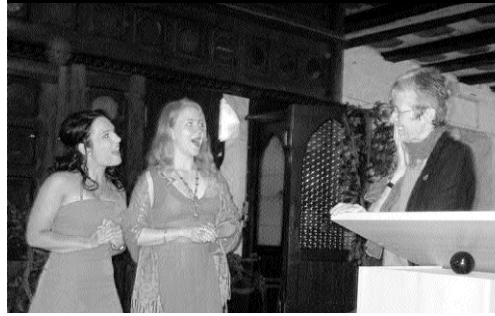
CATHEDRAL



BOARD MEMBERS



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MARGARETE



GRAHAM BODIE IN BIG TROUBLE!



SIDEWALK DINING



LUNCHEON



OUT ON THE TOWN



NEWCOMER IMPRESSIONS

SANNA ALA-KORTESMAA
PhD Student, University of Tampere,
Finland

First of all, I would like to thank all of the organizers and members of the Frankfurt Convention, and in particular, Professor Margarete Imhof, for giving all of us this amazing experience. It was a pleasure to listen and make the connection.

Before I traveled to Germany, someone described ILA to me as a big family in the listening context. That description seemed to come straight from the heart. It gave me an idea of what ILA is all about. As a newcomer, I attended the convention with an active, open attitude and I felt welcomed from the minute I arrived. I was encouraged to observe the presentations, give my presentation on the Finnish student panel, participate in committee meetings and discussions, and, first and foremost, to listen.

It was a motivating experience to be surrounded by others who are interested in listening as well. For the first time, I got to hear different, well-reasoned opinions about listening, and ask questions about different standpoints. The presentations and panels were interesting and informative, and the whole convention held such a variety of topics and ways of approaching listening that in the evenings some down time was needed just for processing all the information received during the day. Especially the diversity of approaches to listening was a thing that struck me as something I did not know to expect in advance.

The convention was organized well and, also, chronologically coordinated appropriately; even a newcomer was able to locate all of the conference rooms with ease and get enough information about the contents of presentations. The only problem was to choose between interesting presentations: however, the casual atmosphere of the convention made it possible to maneuver, if needed, from room to room even during panel discussions without hassle.

The ILA people are among the most brilliant, interesting and friendly people I have ever met. The mutual interest towards listening was more than obvious, and amidst all of the presentations and conversations, it was practical to make new connections. The Frankfurt convention was definitely one of the highlights of my summer. Thank you all.

JUDY LAWRY
Lecturer and PhD Student, RMIT
University, School of Applied
Communication, Melbourne, Australia

I was looking forward to meeting the ILA members for almost 12 months. My PhD research is in the area of listening so I was very keen to make contact with the ILA. I was met by a sea of friendly faces, people seemed genuinely interested in each other's work and even mine!! I thoroughly enjoyed every moment of the conference and look forward to keeping up the connections I made. Michael Purdy, Manny Steil, Laura and of course Nan, Graham Bodie and his wife. So many people I met were friendly and supportive. It was a great experience for me.

HILDEGUNN OTNES
Associate Professor at NTNU
(Norwegian University of Science and
Technology) in Trondheim, Norway

I have for several years planned to go to the annual Listening Convention, but there has never been time to go from Norway to US in the middle of the spring term. When I realized that this year was going to take place in Europe, I decided to go to Germany for my summer holiday and attend the conference in Frankfurt.

It was really nice to see several of the researchers I have been reading the last years, but I was also disappointed that some of them were missing – for instance Andrew Wolvin. But I appreciated very much that Laura Janusik was present, since I have read several of her writings lately. She was also very nice to me at the conference and made me feel comfort-

able. It was also very nice to meet Kent Adelman, another Scandinavian listening researcher. I have been in contact with him several times during the work with my doctoral thesis, and I have read his thesis with great interest.

But I also experienced that ILA is an organization of American researchers who have known each other for many years, and that the main priority for several of them probably is to talk to each other in the breaks and to join each others presentations. Am I wrong? It was interesting to notice that on my presentation, there were 13 people in the audience (!!), and among these there were 8 Europeans (incl. the spouses of two of the presenters). I would indeed have enjoyed having more people to discuss my work with, and especially my linguistic approach to listening devices. Perhaps a discussion can be brought up for later on—for instance in our journal?

ULRIKE BEHRENS
Research Associate
University Hildesheim
University Duisburg/Essen
Germany

Being concerned with listening in the context of the measurement and evaluation of the relatively new German national educational standards (Bildungsstandards), it seemed a fortunate coincidence that this year's ILA conference took place in Germany. The fee and accommodation costs were at the upper limit of what my boss would have payed for, and attending the conference abroad would not have been possible (and, unfortunately, won't be in the future). However, I could persuade people that we could all profit from an overview of worldwide experts' thinking about listening.

Our own main concern is the development of models of competency, and also, of course, ways to measure listening competencies. My evaluation of the conference's outcome in this respect is two-sided: On the one hand, I could bring back

a bunch of new ideas, information and concrete material, and I'm grateful for people's willingness to share. On the other hand, talks and conversations deepened my impression that the research of listening is still in its infancy somehow, even after twenty-some or more years (which is not necessarily bad news). It seems that whatever you do about listening research will be innovative in any case.

Furthermore, I was particularly impressed with the organization of the conference (big praise for Margarete and

her team)! I assume this was even more important and visible for the guests from other countries, who seemed to be supported in almost any area that is connected with feeling at home. The NH hotel seemed to be a good choice, as well, in spite of the cool air that prevented me from wearing all those neat summer clothes I brought. :-)

Finally, ILA members were doing a great job connecting with "outsiders" like me. There was no doubt about being welcome in the circle and it feels like it was an easy thing to become a real group

member if I could afford it. This reminds me of the international meetings of qualitative psychologists who might - besides other similarities - have the same "special interest group"-feeling the "listeners" have as opposed to scientific subcultures who feel they need to be careful not to be overridden by the crowd. But then, it's also a simple question of humanity and atmosphere - special thanks to Laura!!!

I hope to one day being able to deepen the connection with ILA.

Continued on Page 13

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

W.CLIFTON ADAMS

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KATHRYN WISS

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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE,

Continued from Page 1

ated during the Fall Listening Forum proved to be a sound point of departure to move on to even more specific research questions. So, after all, we found that we have created a kind of summary of the knowledge that we share on listening and that we can put to practical tests, while recognizing all of the open questions.

Interesting and important connections were discussed when the broader perspective of the current tensions and controversies which determine our political and religious lives came into the picture. What is it that troubles the world? How do the current conflicts affect our own lives? What are possible contributions that we can make to resolve or to adjust to the conflicting views of the world?

In my view, a very important connection that was made became visible in the impact that the ILA convention had on the participants who came from several European countries. We, the Europeans – if I may say so – feel strongly that we can contribute a European voice to ILA. We have realized that there are scholars, students, and practitioners of listening in Europe who have both knowledge about and enthusiasm for listening and that we should be working on making this voice stronger, both within ILA and within our own professional communities.

To conclude, I would summarize that ILA should continue to celebrate the “I” for international in its name. The effect of going international works both ways: on the one hand, the listening communities in the host country are supported and energized; and, on the other hand, those who travel have a chance to experience different ways and views and to reflect on their accustomed perceptions. This is why I am honestly convinced that listening lights the way and why I am looking forward to preparing for the next convention - which is basically around the corner. I hope to see you there!

WANTED:

2007 Convention Papers & Presentations for the Convention Paper Resource Center (CPRC)

Congratulations to all presenters at the 2007 ILA convention!

The papers and presentations were all excellent sources of listening information.

But what if some folks were unable to attend your session? And what if you yourself were unable to be at the all of the sessions you really wanted to attend? It's not too late!

We've got the perfect solution... Presenters: submit your paper or presentation to the ILA Convention Paper Resource Center (CPRC) as soon as possible. Stay tuned for the latest 2007CPRC Index posting on our ILA Web site.

The ILA Convention Paper Resource Center continues to make ILA convention papers, beginning with the 1998 ILA convention in Kansas City, MO, available to members and non-members through a simple, accessible ordering system.

Here's how the CPRC works:

- All 2007 ILA convention presenters are invited to submit their papers for inclusion in the CPRC. Forms for submission can be downloaded from the ILA Website. See Listening Resources/CPRC, or write to request an information packet.

Note: Reproduction of the papers by persons other than ILA requires further permission from the copyright holder. Authors retain copyright even after a paper becomes part of the ILA-CPRC database.

- All types of papers will be accepted, including—but not limited to—research papers, status reports on any aspect of listening, listening teaching/training techniques, and formal discussion summaries.
- Papers will be indexed and briefly annotated, according to CPRC indexing guidelines. The CPRC Index will then be published via our ILA website and in hard copy to interested consumers.
- Convention papers—via electronic version or in hard copy—will then be made available through Jean Groshek at Alverno College for a nominal fee.

For more information about submitting or purchasing ILA convention papers, please contact Jean Groshek, PCM Dept., Alverno College, P.O. Box 343922, Milwaukee, WI 53234-3922 or e-mail: Jean.Groshek@Alverno.Edu.

PRESIDENT'S CLOSING REMARKS *Continued from Pg. 5*

Thomas Merton said, "There is a time to listen, in the active life as everywhere else, and the better part of action is waiting, not knowing what next, and not having a glib answer." I believe that real efforts for peace reflect Merton's perspective.

We do not sit back and wait for the world to change.

We do wait for others to speak.

We do make a real effort to listen without anticipation and without prejudice.

We do clear our minds and refrain from assuming that we know what comes next.

We do refrain from responding with a "glib answer."

In other words, we learn to become humble listeners so we can be real instruments of peace.

I would like to close with a thought from Buddhist scholar Suzuki who reminds us that Buddhism teaches nothing, it "merely enables us to wake up and become aware. It does not teach, it points."

That has been my hope this evening. Not to teach or to preach, but to point. To point to silence and to encourage you to explore the role of silence in your own lives. To point to the virtue of humility and to invite you to contemplate this virtue, especially in how it relates to listening. And to point to humble listening nurtured in silence as an important path to peace. May we make the connection that listening allows and truly become listeners who light the way to a more peaceful world.

Thank you for listening to me this evening and for being part of my cherished ILA family.

NEWCOMER IMPRESSIONS, *Continued from Page 11*

DISA KAMULA

Graduate Student, University of Tampere, Finland

The conference in Frankfurt was great. I really felt at home among you people. You all are truly listening and that's what makes it so great. I feel that I've been heard and I heard some really great presentations. And this was my first time at ILA. (I hope, it' will not be the last.)

As a student it is great that we could participate in the program, and that it wasn't so expensive. The length of the conference was good too, there was so much information that I need a year to get that all digested.

The time for our panel was the best! Thank you for that! It's the best place for newcomers, because we are so excited and nervous that we couldn't listen to others before we have done our own thing. So keep that place for students.

So many great memories, connections, friends, good conversations and the castle. I'll never forget my first ILA conference!

NEW LISTENING BOOK!

Rule #1: STOP TALKING! A Guide to Listening, by

Listening Post editor, Linda Eve Diamond, is a light-hearted guide to the serious subject of listening. *Rule #1* begins with two simple listening assessments in the introduction and then introduces listening basics in Chapter 1: *Listening 101*. The reader is then presented with listening "Rules" and a chance to examine personal

listening blocks, explained as "short circuits" and "head static." The book examines critical listening skills, listening to oneself, listening to resolve conflict, listening challenges in this "age of overload," and the importance of listening in all aspects of our lives. The reader is also presented with an opportunity to learn ways of encouraging others to listen. The importance of awareness and connection are stressed throughout. The book also includes advice, humor and insights from a number of listeners, many shared by fellow ILA members.

RULE #1 ENDORSEMENTS:

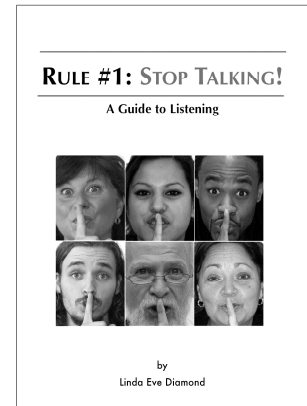
"Linda Eve Diamond's book is an excellent introduction to Listening as a powerful communication tool. She translates, through listening, the principles of human understanding into the concerns of our everyday lives and encourages the reader to begin their own listening journey and to explore the effects of good listening." **Margarete Imhof, President, International Listening Association**

"In a world rushing by and filled with so much noise, nobody seems to be listening. Linda Eve Diamond has brought forth a book that opens a door to deep listening, something simple yet powerful to improve relationships, work and well-being. Good lessons and important tools in a busy life." **Stephan Rechtschaffen, Co-Founder, Omega Holistic Institute**

Linda Eve Diamond writes in a voice that makes it easy to understand the basic concepts of listening. In addition, she adds the practical information about physiology and biology - how it works! I also like her definitions and the techniques she suggests. I think readers will come away with a lot of ideas on how to become better listeners." **Kay Lindahl, Founder, The Listening Center**

Coming in November!
PRE-ORDER NOW FOR A 15% DISCOUNT!

www.ListenersPress.com



Committee Goals and Accomplishments

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Tuula-Riitta Välikoski, PhD
Research Committee Chair



The mission of the ILA Research Committee is to facilitate the development and dissemination of quality research in listening.

The ILA Frankfurt conference "Listen and Make the Connection" was a great success for the research committee. We created listening research questions based on different theories and perspectives and started to develop an idea of White Paper, a final write-up of the panels, which will be distributed worldwide to departments which might have students interested in listening research. Worldwide means (here at least), the US, Japan, Germany and Finland – the countries, where the present members of the committee came from.

Other goals are to:

- recognize a top research paper or papers
- sponsor in the Portland conference some theory-focused panels as follow-up panels to the Fall Listening Research Forum (Research and Theory Context Group). Some of the panel titles could consist, for example, of the following questions: What is theory?, What should theories of listening look like?, What are the strengths and weaknesses of these theories? and Why do we need theory?
- develop a regular column in the Listening Post that summarizes what we know about a particular area of listening that is generated from the scholarly research.
- maintain the cultural diversity of the organization and promote the use of diverse research methods and approaches.

- develop listening research and submit papers to international research journals.
- present a follow-up Finnish student research panel to the Frankfurt Conference at the Portland Conference.

We look forward to meeting these goals and to the next convention. The 2008 convention theme "Listening lights the way" is like a symbol of our research: the impact of the ILA and the research made among the ILA scholars and training experts has been enormous for Finnish listening research and education. It is a great Honour and a challenge for me to be the chair of this active and dynamic research committee.

BUSINESS-INTEREST GROUP

Susan Timm, EdD
Business Interest Group Chair



At the Business-Interest Group meeting in Salem, Oregon, members agreed that organizing a business pre-conference in Germany was going to be quite difficult. Many of our members were not going to be attending the conference in Germany. When we discussed having the business pre-conference with Margarete, she reiterated her thoughts about how good that would be for German businesses. Margarete's passion to get the word out about listening to the business community in Germany motivated us to at least try to get something organized. Unfortunately, though, we did not have extensive business contacts in Germany.

Many members of the Business-Interest Group participated in the Listening Forum held in Kansas City. The business group was well attended.

Members were very enthusiastic about the possibilities for accomplishing some research to help advance listening within the business sector.

At the Forum, some of us in the Business-Interest Group again discussed the feasibilities of having the traditional business pre-conference in Germany. Many details still had to be determined, including whether the conference should be a full or half day. We also had trouble determining a price for the pre-conference that would be reasonable, yet would pay for itself. Jennie Grau agreed to check with some business associates to see if she could find out anything about costs. Rick Bommelje volunteered to provide a Listening Leaders workshop. He developed a creative, informational flyer that could be used to publicize the business pre-conference.

With all of our efforts, however, primarily because of logistical issues surrounding organizing a business pre-conference across the ocean, when none of us had strong business contacts there, this year's ILA conference in Germany did not include a business pre-conference.

Our goals for this next year concern organizing a business pre-conference at the 2008 ILA Conference. The Business-Interest group will need to decide on a theme. If you have an idea, please let me know.

Another matter of business to be conducted by the Business-Interest Group at this next year's conference will be to elect a chair. Since we didn't have a meeting in Germany, I am continuing on in this position for now.

If you are a member of the Business Interest group, watch your e-mail for updates and requests for participation in the 2008 Business Pre-Conference, If you are not a member, but would like to join this highly motivated group, simply e-mail me at stimm@elgin.edu.

Summary Highlights of ILA Meeting Minutes: 2007, Frankfurt, Germany

THE ILA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY JULY 18, 2007

Officers' reports were presented as follows:

Pres: Maria Roca—Thanks for support; special thank you for Melissa's help as special advisor to the president.

First VP—Margarete Imhof posed several questions. Is summer optimal for international conferences? While she is concerned about low attendance/registration, the education mini conference is very well attended. Shall we revise and share lists of officer duties? This will be discussed again at the fall meeting. Perhaps the Executive Director can keep the officers duties up to date and distribute to new board members. It has been hit and miss so far. Margarete is pleased to have everyone in Frankfurt and is ready to start the conference.

First VP Elect--Lisa Orick-Martinez—Asked questions about Portland contacts. She is distributing the call for programs. She will meet with local arrangements.

2nd VP Laura Janusik—we need continuing work on membership; forming and collecting items for members only on website.

Secretary—Nan Johnson-Curiskis—Take and distributes minutes to the Board and for Listening Post; review financial reports from the Executive Director.

Member-at-Large—vacant; no report

Member-at-Large Global—Erin Tobiasz—absent, no report

Student Member—Jenny Gill—absent, no report

Immediate Past Pres—Barb Nixon—absent, no report

Member at Large, MAL SP—Graham Bodie, constitutional revisions, committee decisions; org structure changes go to membership; duties, bsn operations go to board—bylaws can accommodate; will make presentation at Portland; clarification document regarding wording, etc. How to incorporate changes and recommendations to the constitution is both positive and negative; Board meeting on Sunday need to discuss next step and need for 1 or 2 documents.

Post Editor—Linda Diamond absent, no report

IJL Editor—James Floyd (Absent); journals issues are progressing nicely; ethics special issue and fall forum special issues as well.

Listening Professional editor—Cyndi Grobmeier absent, no report

W6b Editor—Joyce Chen (Absent); Joyce

will do what Board want done; she needs direction with content and structure; PR MAL needs to be linked with website We appreciate Joyce's wonderful work. She is responsive and eager to please.

Exec Director—Jim Pratt (absent) sent quarterly report; we need to examine membership and the financial well being of the organization.

Fall Forum—Laura Janusik reported on the Kansas City Fall forum. There was good response and the forum was well attended. Context area reports will be published as special edition of the IJL. The state of context pieces are in progress; some projects and studies in progress as well.

Follow up of the forum—how to continue and progress? Make contexts and initiatives part of the org? Every 5 years? How to schedule and house? Could the Forum be an ILA preconference, etc. Laura will continue to pursue the answers; Lisa Orick-Martinez is interested in coordinating with her institution; Maria Roca as well; site selection committee needs to be aware of this as a commitment 2010.

Executive Director Position—Jim Pratt will resign as ED. A new director is needed. The ED is appointed by the board and we would like to open position to the membership. Will announce at meeting on Thursday that volunteers are being solicited for the position.

Exec director responsibilities include: being the core of institutional memory. Directing new officers of their responsibilities—as each officer changes and there is minimal consistency.

Website—We need a web designer; Maria will seek a volunteer to work with Joyce Chen to design content and structure of the website.

Targeted Research with the Research Committee—People apply to do research and research committee will fund after competition. This will be a research committee sponsored activity. Each Committee is allotted \$500. The committee will use these funds to support this research proposal. More details will be available in Portland.

Additional issues regarding the Financial well-being of the ILA

The October Listening Post will be the last hard copy of the Post. The February issue will be sent online. Anyone wanting a hard copy can send a request to Exec Director.

Viability of regional conferences rotating with main convention as a money saving/raising proposal is not a good alter-

native for many reasons.

Our contract with Taylor Francis is non-negotiable for 3 more years (4 years total). The Board will reexamine before renewing contract .

Membership—We have a multitude of good plans. We need implementation. Call for committee at general assembly.

Partnering with other groups whenever possible. (i.e. Central States, other communication orgs, WCA, business groups, etc.) Partnership with WCA in Sweden was a success. Can we partner in 2011 with WCA?

Fall board meetings—what is feasibility as online meetings? This is tabled until the next Fall board meeting.

Logo changes—also tabled until Fall, the new MAL PR member will look at logo for changes.

Adjourn

ILA GENERAL ASSEMBLY MINUTES FRIDAY, JULY 20, 2007

Officer Reports

President, Maria Roca—Thank you to all for your support. It has been an honor to privilege to serve.

First VP, Margarete Imhof—Thank you to all who contributed and submitted proposals.

First VP elect, Lisa Orick-Martinez—Selected the theme for Portland—listening lights the way.

2nd VP, Laura Janusik—Fall listening forum; a special edition of IJL will be the Fall forum context reports and studies and projects; continue forming the members' only website with resources and artifacts. Website listening facts updated and made credible the bibliography..

Secretary, Nan Johnson-Curiskis—Take minutes

MAL Global, Erin Tobiasz—No report; absent

ML special Projects Graham Bodie—“Clean up” the constitution-task force—work on the potential changes, and revisions. The plan is to have drafts for fall board meeting in Sept; to have voting revisions ready for Portland.

Student Member Jennie Gill—Absent, no report

Immediate Past Pres, Barb Nixon—Absent, no report

Listening Post, Linda Diamond—Absent; but she will continue as edi-

tor. One more edition will be hard copy; the rest will be digital.

IJL editor, Jim Floyd—Absent, will continue as editor; IJL is on track; increase number of submissions as the past few months have been slim.

Listening Professional, editor Cyndi Grobemeier—Absent; the President will follow up regarding appointment.

Web editor, Joyce Chen—Joyce and Melissa will continue to work on website to refresh and update; Mike Purdy and Dick Halley will make contributions as well.

Executive Director, James Pratt—Absent; The new ED will be Nan Johnson-Curiskis

New Business

Nominations as follows:

First VP Elect - Rick Bommelje
Motion to close Edie Cole
Seconded Bob Bohlken elected
MLA public Relations - Susan Timm
Move to close Wayne Bond
Seconded Edie Cole - elected
Nominating committee -
- Marjana Artkoski (Finland)
- Jennie Gill (Indiana)
- Jenine Tate (Virginia)
- Harvey Weiss (Minnesota)

From the floor: Nomination Pam Cooper (South Carolina) by Melissa Beall

Motion to Close Wayne Bond

2nd Edie Cole - Motion to accept slate: Sheila Bentley; 2nd Wayne Bond; accepted

Budget Presentation—Jim Pratt

Financial report: Financial situation is difficult; we need to build membership and cut costs. Conference locations need to be carefully considered. Conference expenses increase because of membership declines. Site selection must consider challenges when traveling; maintain members if we choose easy locations. International conventions can be "additional" conference rather than the "main conference." Site selection needs to remember ease of attendance and travel.

Membership is the issue. How can we build membership to join? How do we engage membership to continue? Why is ILA valuable? What is about ILA we can push and make if valuable? Warmth, sharing and caring, value of family cohesion, etc. However, ILA is not as "useable" for grad students getting jobs etc. ILA was built as an org to build listening research and study across the spectrum. We must return to other areas of research and membership: mediation; counseling, training, coaching, speakers association; etc. Organizational structure may need exami-

nation. Who is the membership and how can we serve them?

We have several membership and programming and models for operation. A committee was formed to implement a plan. Pam Cooper, Melissa Beall, Sheila Bentley, Edie Cole will steer the committee. How do we continue the excitement and action when we leave the conference?

All members are urged to join committees and be active. We can emphasize what we offer individual members. Quarterly board reports to membership and committee reports semi-annual to membership. We can send more Blasts to membership to retain enthusiasm and commitment.

Good of the Order

Pam Cooper: Commendation to Margarete for the education mini conference. It was well attended and stimulating.

Adjourn

ILA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING SUNDAY JULY 22, 2007, FRANKFURT GERMANY

Attending: Margarete Imhof, Lisa Orick-Martinez, Graham Bodie, Maria Roca, Melissa Beall, Nan Johnson-Curiskis

Call to order - President Margarete Imhof

Old business

Constitution and bylaws revisions-- Graham Bodie and committee/task force continue to reorganize and "clean up" the constitution. We will need to leave time at Board meeting and at gen assembly meeting in Portland for discussions on by law changes. Schedule a Breakfast meeting.

Site selection 2010 Lisa Orick-Martinez, Laura Janusik--Needs to be easy to reach, Check costs, Will there be adequate support help and resources.

Needed for fall board meeting for 2010

- Hotel recommendations; location. Contact tourism bureau etc.
- Guidelines for site selection
- Perhaps add to rotation of locations to the bylaws
- Consider Regional interests
- Convenience
- Time of year Return to (early/mid) March convention dates

Melissa Beall will put together a list of dates for other orgs meeting dates

Point of Interest--Contracts for Portland hotel are finalized. The penalty for canceling contract is \$7,031.25.

NCA liaison-- Charles Roberts is the liaison. We have been allocated 3 panels at NCA for ILA. We need to find a way to schedule a "business" meeting time slot will be requested as well.

Student donations—This year's funds

were not distributed and funds will be distributed evenly. We need to have guidelines for distribution. VP elect (Rick Bommelje) will be asked to steer a committee hopefully including Manny Steil, Jennie Gill, Graham Bodie to provide guidelines for distribution.

Report from Erin Tobiasz. There was confusion about her term ending; Erin has one more year on the Board. She will continue to work on Listening Post.

Boutique--Roberta Ray will become boutique coordinator. The Board recommends photos and ordering information on website. We have a new vendor—we can order shirts from Pam Cooper's sister who has an embroidery business. We need to check on the Amazon "contact"—Melissa will check on the status of our contract with Amazon. Lisa Orick-Martinez will write article for Post about Boutique and Amazon.

ILA Website

MAL PR along with Mike Purdy and Dick Halley will review the website for changes.

New Business

Portland information and tasks for Lisa Orick-Martinez

Contract is in place; cancel fee is over \$7000.00

Call for Papers needs to be done ASAP so that review of papers can be completed in a timely fashion. She will contact Committee chairs to remind them of the task as program planning members). Margarete will finalize committees and chairs shortly. Local arrangements chair is Ted Chafee

Financial well-being of ILA

Susan Timm is MAL PR and Laura Janusik (2nd VP membership). She will work with Melissa Beall, Pam Cooper, Edie Cole, Sheila Bentley to implement a membership drive/plan. Susan's charge is to reach out to possible members through Publications and the website.

IJL—Emphasize the importance of submitting

Revitalize the Listening Professional

Revise and recharge the **Website**. Members only and free access spaces will be determined. Emphasizing the value of membership. The Fall board meeting will learn about membership drive. New MAL PR and Laura will make a presentation for fall board meeting.

To emphasize the need for and support of **committees**, committee chairs will be asked to submit reports twice a year to the Listening Post. Board member reports will be posted to ILA members' only website.

Continued on page 17

NEW BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS

SUSAN TIMM, Member-at-Large for Public Relations



Susan is an associate professor in the Business Division at Elgin Community College, Elgin, Illinois. She has taught both graduate and undergraduate courses, published numerous articles, and facilitated several workshops both for professional organizations and in corporate settings.

"What an honor it is for me to play such an important role for ILA.

Thank you for entrusting me with the vital duty of publicizing this wonderful professional organization. We all know how valuable ILA is to each of us. One of my goals for this next year is for us as an organization to let more people in on the secret! What's the buzz? Listen, and you'll find out!

A lot can be accomplished if all of us work together to share ILA with our colleagues and those in other professional organizations to which we belong, Let's explore every avenue as we seek to get more people thinking and talking about listening!" I'm looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help with the publicity, especially for Listening Awareness Month in March and for the upcoming conference in Maine. Do you have a creative idea to share to help us do so? E-mail me at stimm@elgin.edu.

CHRIS BOND, ILA Secretary



Chris is an assistant professor of speech communication and the University of Arkansas, Little Rock. He has extensive research grant experience with both private and federal agencies. His research interests include: listening within healthcare, listening to risks, and research methods.

"Support. This is a word I am coming to understand more and more.

Having recently accepted a position at the University of Arkansas Little Rock, I am receiving a tremendous amount of support for my listening research from both the university administration and my fellow departmental colleagues. As I made the decision to move from the Memphis to Little Rock area, I have received much support from both family and friends, which has included lifting boxes, babysitting, or just simply offering words of encouragement—just to name a few items. The bottom line is all this support is refreshing. Having received so much support recently, I am well equipped to give support. I plan to support both ILA and my fellow executive board members in the secretary position by offering my best ideas, skills and talents. I look forward to serving you all in this upcoming year."

Rick Bommelje, First Vice President Elect



Rick has over 30 years of professional experience in leadership, management, and adult education. Rick is an Associate Professor in the Department of Organizational Communication at Rollins College in Winter Park, Florida. He is the architect of the emerging field of Listening Leadership®. Dr. Bommelje also serves as the president of two educational and training organizations, The International Listening Leadership Institute and the Leadership & Listening Institute.

With a Masters Degree in Management and a Doctorate in Administration, and advanced leadership study at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management and Harvard University, he specializes in the development of listening and leadership.

A member of the International Listening Association since 1987, Rick has served as the editor of The Listening Post and the also served on the nominating committee. He also received the ILA "2006 Listening Educator of the Year" award. Rick and Dr. Lyman (Manny) Steil have authored the pioneering book, Listening Leaders: The Ten Golden Rules to Listen, Lead, and Succeed.

Continued from Page 16

Past President Project

Maria Roca will call every member of ILA. She will ask questions from 2 tracks:

- Members who have attended
- Members who have not attended

Brown-Nichols Award

The research committee would like to reinstitute the concept even with no monetary funds. All funds in the account were spent on previous awards. • The top student paper award will be called the James I Brown Award • The top research paper will award will be called the Ralph Nichols Award These will be funded with research committee funds and donations.

The Board expressed compliments for the exceptional service and support of Margarete and extreme gratitude to her and her team. The board also commended Maria for her service this last year. The Board welcomed all new board members.

Adjourned

ILA EXECUTIVE BOARD

President

Margarete Imhof

First Vice-President

Lisa M. Orick-Martinez

First Vice President Elect

Rich Bommelje

Second Vice President

Laura Janusik

Secretary

Chris Bond

Member-at-Large, PR

Susan Timm

Member-at-Large, Global

& Listening Post Editorial Assistant

Erin Tobiasz

Member-at-Large, Special Projects,

Graham Bodie

Student Member

Jennifer Gill

Immediate Past President

Maria Roca

Listening Post Editor

Linda Eve Diamond

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CALL FOR PAPERS, PANELS & PROGRAMS

INTERNATIONAL LISTENING ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

March 27, 28, 29 , 2008

Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland, Maine, USA

"Listening Lights the Way!"

Please use this proposal format for your submissions

Last name _____ First name _____

Affiliation _____

Preferred mailing address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

Title _____

Please check one of the following proposal types:

Refereed Paper* _

Student Submission _

Include a proposal description (500 words) that details the contribution and perspective of the paper. Please also provide a brief bio (1-2 sentences) for each presenter. Include the following information for all presenters: names, addresses, phone #, fax #, E-mail, institutional affiliation. If all authors are students, you may indicate the manuscript as a "student submission" on the cover page. [NOTE: Completed manuscripts will be sought from all accepted proposals for a top paper panel and award, and a top student paper panel and award, respectively.] The time frame for papers is 30 min, including presentation (20 min) and discussion (10 min).

Refereed Panel Program* _

Include a complete proposal description (500-1000 words) that details the purpose and rationale of your panel. Please also provide a brief bio (1-2 sentences) for each presenter (and chair, if applicable). Include the following information for all presenters: names, addresses, phone #, fax #, E-mail, institutional affiliation.

Practice Workshop* _

Include a brief workshop description (no more than 2 pages) that describes the nature of the workshop (e.g., interactive, round-table).

Proposed Time Frame for Panel / Workshop: 1/2 hour _ 1 hour, _ 1 1/2 hours _

Identify Track: Business _ Education _ Research _ Intercultural _

Spiritual _ Appreciative _ General _ Health _

*For all submissions, attach a brief description clearly explaining the content of your proposal, suitable for program listing if accepted (3 sentences). Submissions in the reviewed categories will receive a certificate of recognition if accepted.

AV Needs: Flip Chart, Overhead, VCR, Computer/Projector (fee to be paid by presenter)

Identify any special room or setup requirements: _____

Please mail by **October 30** to:

Dr. Lisa M. Orick-Martinez
Central New Mexico Community College
CHSS/JMMC / 4700 Morris NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87111 USA

or E-mail to: Pres2008@listen.org

or FAX to: 505-224-5800

On-line form available at: <http://www.listen.org>

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF LISTENING (ILJ) SUBMISSIONS

The *ILJ* accepts submissions on an ongoing basis. Of special interest are articles and book reviews on the following topics:

- Listening and Second Language Acquisition
- Listening Assessment
- Listening, Audience Behavior and Media Studies
- Listening, Audience Behavior and Political Rhetoric
- Historical Studies of Listening and Audience Behavior
- Intersections between Listening and Reading
- Listening in Professional or Managerial Communication
- Insights of Cognitive Theory, Psychology or Philosophy on Listening
- Listening and Rhetorical Theory
- Listening Research in K-12 Education
- Listening in Health Communication
- Listening and Service Learning
- The Intersections between Musical Listening and Listening to Messages (listening as aesthetic vs. epistemic process)

Please send submissions electronically to:
James Floyd, editor, at floyd@cmsu1.cmsu.edu.

THE LISTENING PROFESSIONAL SUBMISSIONS

We are now accepting submissions for the next edition of *The Listening Professional*. This publication, geared to the business membership of our organization, is continuing to grow, thanks to the support of past contributors, and we are always looking for new perspectives from our members.

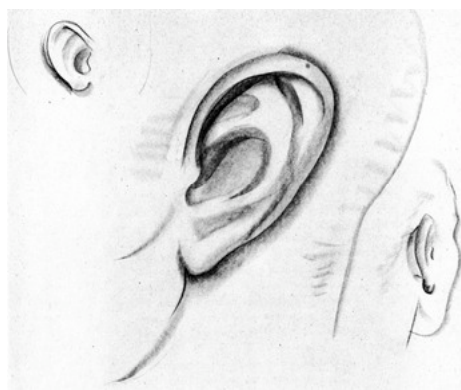
Because this is not an academic journal, articles may be written in "magazine" style; references should be submitted, but are not published in the magazine. A variety of article lengths, from short 250-500 words pieces to more in-depth articles are welcome, as are listening exercises, listening leader profiles, book reviews, case studies, success stories, etc. Remember, our audience is the business membership, so articles should be geared toward those who use listening in their professional lives.

If you would like sample articles from previous issues, please email me at cyngrab@comcast.net.

Electronic submissions are preferred, and should be in a .doc format. Should you wish to mail your submission, please contact me directly. Photos to accompany articles are also encouraged. All accepted contributors will be asked for a personal photo and a brief biography to include in the publication.

Thank you in advance for your contribution to the next *Listening Professional*.

Share *your*
resources
insights
successes
queries
& stories
with the ILA's listening community.



listeningpost@listen.org



The International Listening Association

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info@listen.org

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Open
your mind...

Open
your heart...

Open
your world...

Listen.



Castle View, Frankfurt
Photo by Erika Curiskis



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