



**Massachusetts Chapter of AATG
Executive Board Meeting (May 6, 2006)
10 AM – 12 noon at Regis College**

Attending: Ulrike Brisson, Colleen Mocerri, Sean Miner, Cherie Baggs, Monika Whipple, Joan Murray, Susan Adams, Susanne Even, Jörg Frey.

Awards ceremony is on Monday, May 8, 2006. 226 people are attending. The hall officially holds 200. It will be tight. Joan sent an email telling teachers that latecomers could not be accommodated. Consul Vorwerk will attend and speak. 152 students from 18 schools scored in the 90th ile or better. Simple supper will be served. Joan struggled to find enough books etc. There are 14 special awards. The Selection Committee (Gregor Thuswaldner, Jörg Frey and Joan Murray) nominated one student for the PAD trip and one student for the senior trip. Selection committee included Gregor Thuswaldner, Jörg Frey, and Joan Murray. Cherie feels that Joan Murray's name should be listed as the chapter testing chair since she is the person recognized by Cherry Hill. We agreed on that. This year's testing and awards results need to be posted on the website.

Deutsch-Treffen on St. Patrick's Day at the consulate. Sean Miner reported that two specialists had compiled data and found that German is declining slowly, especially in the public sector. Reasons mentioned were lack of certified teachers, lack of press, etc. Sean will be working with Jörg Frey and the consulate on promoting German though the consulate is restricted in what they can do. Sean said statistics are on either the consulate or DAAD website. Sean will send the link to Donna to post on the chapter website. Bonn has decided to help German programs that are strong but not dying program that have not publicized themselves. There is a follow-up meeting next Saturday.

29th Annual Theaterfest was Thursday, April 27: Results are posted on the website. This is a wonderful event for German. Jörg suggested that we honor Donna.

MAFLA: Kathleen Gallogly is the German rep on the MAFLA award. She and Cherie are working on putting the MaFLA Fall conference program for October 26-28. Mohammed Esa of McDaniel College will present three-hour workshop from 8-11 AM on Friday, October 27 entitled "Musik im Deutschunterricht." Attendees will receive a packet along with a CD. Cherie hopes we will again be able to reimburse our German teacher attendees as we have in the past. Exhibit hall will not be open on Saturday, only Thursday and Friday. We need to urge colleagues to attend especially on Friday, October 27. Session proposals should be submitted online (www.mafla.org) by the end of May. Susanne suggested trying to get publishers of college texts to come also. Jörg pointed out that MAFLA is more expensive than FLAME.

Manfred Schewe visit; He will be in MA on Sept. 16 from 10-4 at the Goethe Institut presenting on "Fremdsprachen inszenieren" for all language teachers. Wednesday, September 20 workshop at Melrose HS for high school and middle school teachers from 4:30-6:30 pm. Thursday, September 21 at WPI—for college language teachers, 3-6 pm. The workshops should all be different so that one can go to more than one workshop. Publicity will be key. We will use mail, email, and websites to publicize these events.

Finances: End balance \$2391.23 plus the \$514 from Cherry Hill to be deposited. Expenditures coming up are MaFLA and the Awards Ceremony. Over \$700 will be coming in from parent and teacher attendees to help support the Awards Ceremony, and we are receiving \$250 for 2006 Awards Ceremony and \$255 for next year's Awards event.

Film-Wettbewerb: Colleen submitted a proposal for a chapter project grant for a film contest. \$500 has been granted for this project. Colleen puts her videotaped skits on local cable station. Money is for software and mailings and might eventually go for establishing the jury. We need to promote this project on MaFLA and MAAATG websites.

Nominations for Teaching Awards: Selection criteria and those who have already received the awards are on the website. Duden Award is meant for teachers whose students score well on the National German Exam. We need always to keep possibilities for nominations in mind.

Poster contest—theme: Discover Languages: We need to find a jury for the poster contest. Sean volunteered to help judge the posters. Colleen also volunteered to help judge along with Ulrike. Posters should be made available to the AATG by students to promote German.

Increasing the numbers of chapter members: Ulrike wants to try to reach new teachers. Ulrike will send out an email suggesting that new teachers contact us and that current members let the president know about new teachers so that we can contact them. We discussed the idea of sending new members a welcome packet and inviting them to a reception.

Deutsche Woche in Bar Harbor has no more StaDAF support. It no longer fits into the current concept for Lehrerfortbildung. Peter Nutting wants to continue the program and will be this year with Mohammed Esa. Support will come from Univ. of Maine and the Maine AATG chapter and Peter will raise the fee. Jo Sanders may be the next person at Bar Harbor, but funding remains a question.

Good news and sad news: Susanne is leaving us for Indiana University, but Ulrike is taking the position at WPI.

Marnie Ketcham has asked to be removed from the board. She is too busy. Susan Adams is the new secretary. Ulrike will send an email asking Bill O'Brien whether he still wants to be on the Executive Board. Kinder Lernen Deutsch will not be offered this year at Regis College. Last year there were 12 participants. Demand seems to be down.

Next mtg. Sat. August 26, 2006. Venue to be announced. Susan will try to reserve Concord Academy.

Respectfully submitted by

Susan S. Adams, Secretary MA Chapter AATG