



# CASLT Annual Networking Event and AGM

The CASLT continues its commitment to bring together its provincial and national partners. This year, CASLT held its Annual General Meeting, Awards Ceremony, and Annual Networking Event in Toronto, Ontario on November 24-26<sup>th</sup>, 2005. The sessions were held in conjunction with our partner SEVEC, the Society of Educational Visits and Exchanges, Canada. As well, the National Steering Committee for Intensive French conducted its meetings collaboratively to help reduce costs and travel time for those members who participate in both activities.

On Thursday, the CASLT Executive Director, presented an update on three CASLT projects: Intensive French Teacher Support, the LangCanada website portal, and a Student Recognition Certificate. Invited guests, Pascal Arseneau and Kim Finn presented an update on the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages (OCOL) Social Marketing Initiative in Ontario.

The Annual General Meeting was chaired by Second Vice President, Diane Tijman. It was an opportunity to recognize the dedication of Carolyn King during her tenure as President from 2003 to 2005 and to welcome Miles Turnbull as new President for 2005 to 2007. We were pleased to have many lifetime members present for our Annual Awards Ceremony. This year, the Prix Robert Roy Award was presented to Dr. Peter Heffernan of the University of Lethbridge, Alberta. The nomination was presented by Dr. Anthony Mollica, a previous Prix Robert Roy Award winner. The Honorary Lifetime Member Award was presented to Mr. Vincent Bueti of Winnipeg, Manitoba. The nomination was presented by Helen Coltrinari, CASLT Past President. CASLT signed partnerships with the Canadian Association of Immersion Teachers (CAIT/ACPI) represented by their President, Daniel Fletcher of Saskatchewan; French For The Future represented by Executive Director, Gail Makila. The Summer Work-Student Exchange Program represented by Executive Director René Lemaire; and the Modern Language Centre of OISE - University of Toronto represented by Acting Director, Dr. Sharon Lapkin.



Carolyn King and  
Mr. Vince Bueti



Dr. Peter Heffernan, Carolyn King  
and Dr. Anthony Mollica

On Friday, representatives of the provincial departments of education, the provincial language associations and invited guests from partner organizations joined the CASLT National Council for a full day of round table discussions and information sharing. Nicole Thibault provided a review of the report, *Plan 2013 Strategies for a National Approach in Second Language Education*. Alina MacFarlane provided an update on the European Language Portfolio Initiative and Miles Turnbull provided one on the National Teacher Survey Project. Participants were encouraged to consider the many existing and potential projects for provincial partners to support in achieving the goals of the federal government's *Action Plan for Official Languages*. Concern was noted that the report, *Update on the Implementation of the Action Plan for Official Languages Midterm Report*, published by the Privy Council Office and released in October 2005 had little focus on education issues and no mention of FSL or ESL in particular. The CASLT committed to pursuing further discussions on this topic with key decision makers.

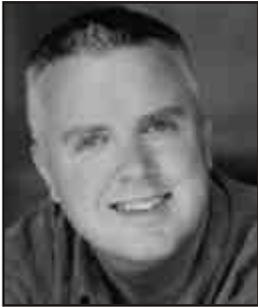


Pascal Arseneau  
OCOL

CASLT National Council and provincial language association representatives met again on Saturday with facilitator Mr. Alan Pryde, of Pryde Communications, to discuss advocacy strategies for teaching professionals wanting to make a difference in FSL and ESL education issues. Participants completed exercises for written and face-to-face interventions and appreciated the insights provided by our expert facilitator.

Once again, the CASLT Annual Networking Event and AGM was a resounding success as participant evaluations can attest. We thank everyone for their participation and their dedication to second language learning and teaching during this event and throughout each day of the year.

## Message du président



Miles Turnbull  
CASLT/ACPLS President

I am thrilled to assume the Presidency of the Board of Directors of this great association! I have spent the past 4 years shadowing, collaborating with and learning from many CASLT volunteers, colleagues and from our Executive Director, Nicole Thibault; these individuals have become significant people in my life and to them I am grateful.

I would like to recognize and thank Carolyn King, Past-President, for having the foresight to involve me as 1st VP in many of the association's activities. I am sure I will thank her even more as time goes on because of this involvement - a VERY steep learning curve will be a little less steep and challenging, I hope!! Merci Carolyn.

Je profite de cette occasion pour partager ma vision pour l'association qui reflète mes idées, mais aussi celles de plusieurs autres personnes qui me nourrissent professionnellement et personnellement. I became interested in and became a member of CASLT several years ago - at the beginning of my career - about 17 years ago. I started in CASLT as a new, young, teacher, TRÈS naïf, cherchant des idées, des recettes pour mon enseignement et j'y ai retrouvé des amis, pleins de passion pour l'apprentissage et l'enseignement des langues. C'est à cause de cette passion, cette vision et cette capacité croissante de CASLT que je reste comme membre et que j'ose accepter de guider le travail de CASLT pendant les deux prochaines années.

Pour moi, il est TRÈS important de partager cette passion. I believe strongly that all Canadians, especially young people in our schools, should have access to top notch language education. I admit a personal bias for French as a second language, but I am understanding more and more the importance of embracing and promoting the learning of all languages and plurilingualism, and I now believe that doing so only reinforces French second language education in this country. This was reinforced for me while participating in a recent think-tank event, organized by Diane Adam, Commissioner of Official Languages in October, 2005. 30 individuals from across Canada explored issues related to cultural diversity, plurilingualism and how these concepts mesh with English-French linguistic and cultural duality. I am now convinced that if we are ever to achieve true bilingualism in this country, we must embrace cultural diversity and plurilingualism. At CASLT, we already do this and I anticipate that we will continue to do so in even more concrete and explicit ways.

Strengthening our presence in provinces and territories will be key in this work. The next CASLT Board will be focussing on ways to increase provincial and territorial networks. We are thrilled that so many people from different sectors of the provinces and territories have participated in the National Networking Days we have organized over the past three years. This year, key stakeholders from Ministries of Education, language associations and teachers' federations, met to focus on key initiatives, or lack thereof, focused on CASLT's mandate and the federal government's

*continued on page 8...*

## Editor's Corner

by Carolyn King



C'est un vrai plaisir pour moi d'entreprendre de manière officielle le travail d'éditeur de Réflexions. J'ai fourni de l'aide avec cette tâche pour un an et demi. C'est maintenant un des travaux du président sortant. We are proud of the excellent submissions we receive, as well as those from our National Council members: each issue provides information on activities and programmes in different provinces/territories. This issue, the first with Dr. Miles Turnbull as incoming President of CASLT/ACPLS, is remarkable for the number of significant articles presented for you, our members

Thank you to our staff members who work on this regular project.

## Coin de l'éditrice

Opinions expressed by authors are their own and not necessarily those of the Board of Directors of CASLT.

Les articles publiés reflètent l'opinion des auteurs et non forcément celles du conseil d'administration de l'ACPLS.

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**CASLT AGM SILENT AUCTION**  
**RAISED \$ 1,024**

\$256 was donated to Fondation Louisiane and the rest of the funds will be used for CASLT teacher support activities in the provinces and territories.

Merci aux participants et participantes.