



# CASLT Goes to Paraguay!

CASLT was represented in Asunción, capital city of Paraguay, from July 2-7, 2006, to attend the 15th gathering of SEDIFRALE, the South American subsidiary of the Fédération internationale des professeurs de français (FIPF). CASLT est membre officiel de la FIPF depuis 2004. (For more information on la FIPF, consult its Web site, www.fipf.org).

Ce congrès regroupait plus de 500 professeurs de français langue étrangère, seconde et maternelle provenant de la plupart des pays de l'Amérique latine. De plus, des professionnels et des fonctionnaires du Québec, de la Suisse, de la Belgique et de la France étaient présents.

Canada was represented by 20 Québécois(es) from various associations such as l'Association québécoise des enseignant(e)s de français langue seconde (AQEFLS), la Commission Amérique du Nord (CAN), as well as Carmen Ferguson, from Sudbury, current President of l'Alliance canadienne des responsables et des enseignant(e)s en français langue maternelle (ACREF), and Dr. Miles Turnbull, President of the Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers (CASLT).

Le programme scientifique comptait plus de 200 ateliers, présentations et tables rondes sur une variété de sujets. Of particular interest, were sessions such as les arts en littérature ; les politiques éducatives et linguistiques ; lire et écrire en français langue étrangère ; la littérature dans la classe de français ; le test d'évaluation de français de la Chambre de commerce et d'industrie de Paris ; les enjeux de l'enseignement et de l'évaluation d'une compétence interculturelle ; comment contribuer au développement du réseau associatif ; et le français des jeunes.

The opportunity to attend this

conference was sponsored by the Department of Canadian Heritage. CASLT, through its President, was able to make important contacts with members of AQEFLS, the provincial association for FSL teachers in Québec, and to meet with the President of la FIPF, Dario Pagel, to discuss the benefits associated with membership in this international association of French teachers.

### QUICK FACTS ON PARAGUAY

*Where is Paraguay?*

Paraguay is in Central South America, northeast of Argentina.

*What is the capital of Paraguay?*

Asunción.

*How long does it take to get to Paraguay from PEI?*

It takes a long time, especially when the airline you have booked with goes bankrupt! Miles flew Charlottetown to NYC in 3 hours. NYC to Asunción normally takes about 20 hours, including stopovers.

*What is the official language of Paraguay?*

The official language of Paraguay is Spanish. However, Guaraní is the native language of many Paraguayans.

*Why was SEDIFRALE held in Paraguay?*

Member countries of SEDIFRALE submit proposals to host this conference to FIPF (much like countries bid to host the Olympic Games). Paraguay was selected to host SEDIFRALE 2006 at the last conference held in Lima, Peru in 2004.



*Miles Turnbull, Président de l'ACPLS, Mme Marguerite Hardy, Présidente de l'AQEFLS, M. Dario Pagel, Président de la FIPF*



*The team stranded in the Sao Paulo Airport*



Miles Turnbull  
CASLT/ACPLS President

By the time you read this welcome message, we will have all returned to our respective jobs or stations in life. Bonne rentrée à tout le monde! Happy New Year!

Dans mon dernier message, j'avais dit qu'il se passait beaucoup de choses à l'ACPLS... I would like to highlight some important and exciting « nouvelles » to tell you about:

- On July 14, 2006, CASLT and the Canadian Teachers' Federation signed an official partnership in order to "facilitate consultation, support and advice, to explore special benefits for members of both associations, to utilize existing communication networks (conferences, newsletter space, inserts in mailing) of the two associations to promote second language learning, to participate in the implementation and evaluation of the federal government's Action Plan on Official Languages; and to develop opportunities for both organizations to meet and work together." This is a very special and exciting partnership for CASLT!
- Canadian Heritage recently confirmed our funding for 2006-2007. We are pleased to announce a 40% increase in funding. We are thankful to the Minister of Canadian Heritage, the Honourable Beverly Oda, to the Minister responsible for Official Languages, the Honourable Josée Verner, and to the employees in the Official Languages



CASLT President Miles Turnbull signs partnership agreement with Canadian Teacher's Federation President Winston Carter

Support Programs Branch. This is a strong sign of confidence in the important and concrete results-based activities completed by CASLT.

- The CASLT Past Presidents' Circle has now been launched. Our immediate Past President, Carolyn King, has made contact with these individuals who continue to be willing to support CASLT as active volunteers with their expertise and presence at our activities and events in the provinces and territories.

... continued on page 3

## Editor's Corner

by Carolyn King



of research articles - so valuable to teachers at all levels.

A great deal of time goes into the selection and input of articles and pictures for each issue of *Réflexions*. This work is very gratifying, as we are well aware of how the production is appreciated by our members. In this issue, it is good to see CASLT/ACPLS returning to feature increasing numbers

## Coin de l'éditrice

Please remember to renew your membership to CASLT/ACPLS, so that you can continue to enjoy the benefits of membership, as well as the connections to colleagues, to research and to practical activities and publications.

De ma part, je suis fière de notre travail dans ce domaine, et je vous encourage aussi de lire le bulletin électronique, qui est disponible chaque mois en anglais ainsi qu'en français. Le Congrès - cette fois avec ACPI/CAIT et APFS/SATF - aura lieu à la fin du mois d'octobre. Information on the conference is included in this issue!

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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## Questions... Commentaires... Suggestions...

Nous voulons toujours recevoir vos commentaires et suggestions.

Envoyez-nous des informations pertinentes à l'enseignement

L2 que vous voulez partager avec tous les membres.

Et n'oubliez pas de nous laisser savoir si vous déménagez!

Bureau national

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