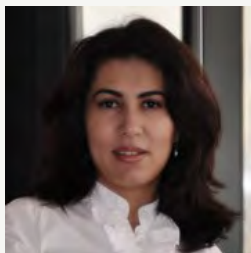


AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF PERSIAN

BULLETIN

VOLUME 1, SPRING 2015

Welcome from the President



Dear AATP members,
Welcome to the first issue of the AATP bulletin. As you recall, the new executive board was elected last April. Thanks to the help of the previous executive board, the transition process went smoothly and this marks a year of our tenure in office. This bulletin is aimed to highlight our organization's activities and accomplishments during the past year. We hope you enjoy reading it and that it helps you stay more connected to the AATP. I look forward to seeing you all at the next AATP annual meeting in November 2015.

Sincerely,
Anousha Sedighi, President



Fundraising Activities

The new executive board assumed office around the time that the Title VI proposals were being drafted by centers. We reached out to many centers and sent them invitations for collaboration during the next cycle of title VI. The invitation letter was sent to the VI centers at the following universities: University of Washington, New York University, UCLA, Colombia, Harvard, Yale, Princeton, UC Berkeley, University of Utah, BYU, University of Chicago, Indiana University, and Georgia State University with no answer. We are happy to report that the following title VI centers responded and included a budget in the Title VI proposal for collaboration with the AATP: University of Pennsylvania, Ohio State University, and UT Austin. We look forward to collaborating with these universities within the next 4 years.

We also sent a grant proposal to Farhang Foundation but as of now we have not heard the final result.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- ◆ Fundraising Activities
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Professional Development Workshop at MESA 2014

The AATP held an engaging and diverse workshop during the MESA meeting which brought together presenters from across the nation and overseas and provided a wonderful opportunity for colleagues to learn from each other and to share new ideas. We would like to thank the workshop blind-review committee: Dr. Jaleh Pirnazar and Anousha Shahsavari. A special thanks also to Dr. Ramin Sarraf for chairing the workshop. Below is the workshop program:

Content-based Instruction and Task-based Language Teaching and Their Applications in Persian Instruction and Materials Development

Content-Based Instruction: Curricular Planning in a Sheltered Model for Advanced-Level Persian
Nahal Akbari (University of Maryland)

Learning of Persian by Song and Verse with the Golha Programs and Website
Jane Lewisohn & Ali Mossadegh (University of Exeter, U.K.)

Teaching Persian Dialects
Corey Miller, Jace Livingston, Thomas Triebwasser and Mark Vinson (University of Maryland)

Developing Online Narration & Role-Play Tasks Based on TBLT: A Hands-on Example from Persian
Peyman Nojournian (University of Southern California)

How to Provide Content-Based Instruction and Task-Based Language Teaching in a Persian Intermediate Language Course Using Smart Curriculum and Flipped Classrooms
Sepideh Vistamehr (George Washington University)

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Lifetime Achievement Award

The AATP held a wonderful Life-time Achievement Award Ceremony during the MESA meeting where we honored Prof. Don Stilo for his four decades of service to Persian language and linguistics. Don's colleagues and friends including Dr. Tallatof, Dr. Karimi Hakkak, and Dr. Borjian, talked about his achievements and contributions. Dr. Karimi Hakkak had sent a touching note at the end of which he requested Don to sing a Persian song. Don obliged and everyone was smitten by his charm and voice. For those of you who missed this memorable event, we have included a video of the event on our website to give you a taste of its warm and memorable ambiance. *Photo on the right.*



AATP's Lifetime Achievement Award Ceremony, Nov. 22, Washington D.C.



Business Meeting and Adoption of Bylaws

We were delighted to see more than 30 members of the AATP at our annual business meeting and to host such a dynamic and energetic group of colleagues. During the AATP's business meeting at MESA, we ratified our By-laws (now posted on our website). One of the chief issues on our agenda is to apply for the 501 C status for the AATP. We are currently exploring different options to pursue this goal and to go about this lengthy process with the IRS.

Membership

We are delighted to report that during 2014, the AATP's membership has expanded and 17 new individual members joined us. We would like to welcome our new individual members: Lily Alavi (University of Utah), Omid Ghaemmaghami (Binghamton University, SUNY), Shukuh Ghaznavi (University of Pittsburg), Marjan Ghourchian (Kent University), Pouye Khoshkhoosani (University of Arizona), Saera Kwak (Hankuk University, Seoul, Korea), Jane Lewisohn (University of Exeter/Golha Project), Jace Livingston (University of Maryland), Corey Miller (University of Maryland), Fatemeh Mirsharifi (University of Wisconsin-Madison), Peyman Nojournian (University of Southern California), Elham Sadegholvad (University of California, San Diego), Sahar Sanavi (University of Utah), Marjaneh Seirafi-Pour (University of Oklahoma), Thomas Triebwasser (University of Maryland), Maziar Valamotamed (Georgetown University), and Mark Vinson (University of Maryland). The name of the new members who registered after our annual meeting in November 2014 will be announced in the next bulletin. We are also thrilled to welcome our new institutional members:

The Middle East Center at University of Pennsylvania

The Center for Middle Eastern Studies at University of Arizona

The University of Maryland

The Middle Eastern Studies at University of Texas in Austin

Based on our new policy, each organizational membership comes with a complimentary individual membership. We hope other institutions will consider becoming a member of the AATP and take advantage of the benefits it offers such as announcing their news in the AATP bulletin, the complimentary individual membership, etc.. For more information about the advantages of joining the AATP please visit our website at: www.aatpersian.org

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Elections

The AATP held its elections in April 2015 to select the remaining officers of the Executive Board and a new Treasurer. We would like to thank the members of the ad-hoc election committee: Dr. Mahvash Shahegh and Fahimeh Gooran for overseeing the election process. We are delighted to report the result of the elections and welcome the following colleagues on board:

Executive Board:

Latifeh Hagigi
Farima Mostowfi
Nahal Akbari

New Treasurer:

Haideh Sahim

We would like to welcome our new officers and look forward to benefiting from their expertise and advice as we take on new projects and endeavors.

Public Relations

This year, we have focused on promoting the activities of the AATP through social media. We have maintained a very active and engaging Facebook page that functions as a hub for news related to our field with more than 220 members.

We have also initiated new collaborations with major community organizations such as Tigran and Iranian Alliances Across Borders.



Announcements

Job Opportunities

The past year has been very fruitful in terms of job opportunities in our field. Below is the list of job announcements advertised on our website:

The Ohio State University: Lecturer /Senior Lecturer in Persian

Harvard University: Professor of Persian Literature and Cultures (open rank) and Preceptor in Persian

University of Maryland Roshan Institute for Persian Studies: Visiting Assistant Professor in Persian Studies

University of Virginia: Lecturer in Persian Language Teaching

Stanford University: Assistant Professor of Persian Literature and Culture

University of Michigan: Assistant Professor of Iranian Literary and Cultural Studies

Columbia University: Persian Lecturer

University of Maryland Center for Advanced Study of Language: Faculty Research Assistant.

University of Oxford: Instructor of Persian

Congratulations to all who were accepted for the above positions.

STARTALK 2015 - Persian Programs

The following organizations will offer summer Persian programs this summer (Teacher or Student programs): CARLA at University of Minnesota, Center for Applied Linguistics, Concordia Languages Villages, National Council on Less Commonly Taught Languages, Northern Virginia Community College, San Diego State University, Stanford University, Stoney Brook University, UCLA, and University of Washington.

Note from the Executive Secretary



Dear AATP members,
As you can see, it has been a very productive and fruitful year for all of us. Thank you to each and every member—it is through your contributions and support that our organization continues to expand and flourish. We hope that you have enjoyed reading about you and your organization's achievements in this past year. In the future, we plan on issuing the AATP bulletin in spring of each year. As always, please feel free to get in touch with us with any questions, comments, suggestions, and contributions you may have.

Yours,
Samad Alavi, Executive Secretary

♦ Web Maintenance

The AATP's website has managed to serve as a hub for our members. In addition to a "Members Only" section which provides various resources and tools for the instruction, assessment, and research on Persian language, we also have been actively updating the website to include the most updated job announcements and events. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our volunteer webmaster, Dr. Peyman Nojournian for his constant efforts to keep the website updated and running.

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Persian Summer Institutes 2015

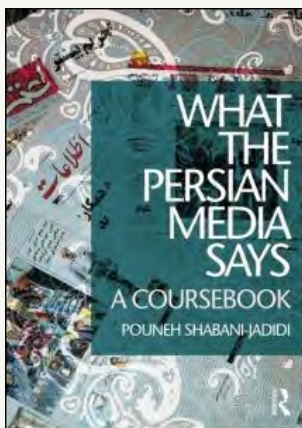
Various universities are offering intensive summer schools for Persian Language and culture, some of which are listed below. We hope you encourage your students especially the FLAS recipients to take advantage of these wonderful opportunities to advance their Persian.

George Washington University
Georgetown University
Indiana University, Bloomington
University of Maryland
University of Utah
University of Texas, Austin
University of California, Berkeley
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin, Madison
California State University, San Bernardino
San Diego State University

Publications

Koorosh Angali translated Balzac's book *The Unknown Masterpiece* into Persian. He also recited a selection of Rumi's verses in a CD titled "A Sip of Fire".

Michael Hillmann: *Persian Conversation(s)*. Hyattsville, MD: Dunwoody Press, 2015. viii. 350 pp. (Forthcoming). Persian for America(ns) Series. 70+ conversations (transcribed in spoken/colloquial Persian) in 50 lessons on predictable Persian-language situations in daily life in American cities, with vocabulary lists, pattern practice exercises, accompanied by audio CDs. An unprecedented beginning-to-advanced Persian conversation/speaking guide.



Pouneh Shabani-Jadidi published: *What the Persian Media Says: A Coursebook*, Routledge, 270 pp. *What the Persian Media Says: A Coursebook* is a comprehensive and stimulating course for intermediate to advanced students of Persian. Presenting many exercises based on authentic Persian newspaper texts, the course thoroughly introduces students to the language of the news in Iran. Real cultural content is featured throughout and there is a strong focus on enabling students to gain familiarity with day-to-day modern Persian discourse.



Anousha Sedighi published: *Persian in Use: An Elementary Textbook of Language and Culture*, Leiden University Press & University of Chicago Press, 400 pp. *Persian in Use* is an elementary Persian language and culture textbook designed for first-year students at college level. It offers a thematically organized and integrative approach to help students achieve proficiency in language and culture. Colorful and lively design with samples of literary texts, poems, plays, film scripts, and pop songs. *Persian in Use* is accompanied by an interactive website: www.persianinuse.com

Persian Translation Contest

Middle East Center, University of Pennsylvania

In order to promote and strengthen the study of Middle Eastern Languages at Penn, the Middle East Center at the University of Pennsylvania is holding a Translation Contest, for a first place prize of \$500. The Contest for 2015 will consider contemporary Persian texts from twentieth and twenty-first centuries. The submissions will be judged on the following criteria: accuracy, style and grammar. All entries should be the student's original work and previously not published elsewhere. For more information, please visit: www.sas.upenn.edu/mec



Awards

Samad Alavi received the 2014 Rahim Irvani Dissertation Award for his Ph.D. thesis entitled "The Poetics of Commitment in Modern Persian: A Case of Three Revolutionary Poets in Iran."

