



Newsletter

American Association of Teachers of Italian

Spring 2007

<http://www.aati-online.org>

Messaggio del Presidente

Dear Colleagues,

On February 28, 2007, the Executive Council of your association held its Spring meeting. We had a full agenda, discussed numerous issues, and came to some resolutions. Much of this will be further discussed at the annual business meeting which is held in conjunction with the Annual Conference scheduled for October 11-13, 2007, in Washington, DC.

There was lengthy discussion on the relationship between the National AATI and the local chapters. This discussion was initiated by Prof. Teresa Fiore who is in the process of creating a new AATI local chapter in Southern California. During the discussion it became clear that there are no written guidelines that spell out what this relationship should be. Professor Christopher Kleinhenz suggested that a memorandum of understanding be created that discusses the relationship between national AATI and local chapters and what the benefits might be in working closer together. We are currently looking at the possibility of inviting the Presidents of the local chapters to meet with the Executive Council to discuss the issues.

A topic of major concern for the Executive Council is the problems we have been

encountering in establishing a yearly program of scholarships for teachers who would like to spend part of the summer doing a "corso di aggiornamento" in Italy. The main problem has been one of timing in announcing the financial availability of these scholarships. To try and resolve this problem I have been in direct contact with the Università per Stranieri di Perugia. I will keep you up to date on the progress of this initiative. I am also pursuing scholarship opportunities with Italian institutions for students of Italian. I would publicly like to thank Prof. Christopher Kleinhenz for his help and guidance in this matter.

Prof. Salvatore Bancheri held a mini-workshop for the Council on the new AATI Web page. If you have not logged on yet please do so – <http://www.aati-online.org> – you will be pleasantly surprised by its content, its ease of use, and the service that it renders the membership. Prof. Bancheri asks that material to be added be sent to him. The site also contains a page where all of the newsletters published by the Association can be archived. Some of the past newsletters are missing. If you have missing copies, please send them to Prof. Bancheri. This is an important step as we rebuild the history of the association.

Christopher Kleinhenz has graciously agreed to chair the Elections Committee. He will form the committee in accordance to the AATI Bylaws – "Two of the appointees to the Nominating Committee shall be members of the Executive Council, excluding the President, the Vice President, the Treasurer, the Secretary, and the immediate Past President. At least two of the five members shall represent elementary and/or secondary levels of instruction." This year we will be holding elections for President Elect and the Executive Council. If you wish to nominate someone, please contact Prof. Kleinhenz.

On January 20, 2007, the AATI co-sponsored with the Italian Embassy, the Italian Consulate and the Ufficio Scuola of New York in a one day conference "LANGUAGE IS CULTURE." This one day conference was dedicated to the AP course and exam in Italian. It reviewed the first year results and put them into an historical context and explored ways of improving, marketing, and advancing AP Italian. Numerous scholars and AP practitioners from the United States and Italy spoke. Also present were Antonio Bandini, Consul General of Italy in New York; Matilda Raffa Cuomo, former First Lady NYS, AP Committee leader; Paolo Giordano, Presidente Nazionale dell'

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PROTOCOLLO D'INTESA TRA LA CALIFORNIA, IL MINISTERO DELL'ISTRUZIONE, DELL'UNIVERSITÀ E DELLA RICERCA, L'ISTITUTO NAZIONALE DI DOCUMENTAZIONE PER L'INNOVAZIONE E LA RICERCA EDUCATIVA E I CONSOLATI GENERALI D'ITALIA IN CALIFORNIA

Si è recentemente concluso il processo di formalizzazione di una importante intesa tra l'Italia e la California che riguarda il settore dell'insegnamento della lingua e cultura italiana. L'intesa è il risultato del lavoro di due anni condotto dalla dott.ssa M. Vittoria Cifone — negli anni in cui lavorava come Direttrice dell'Ufficio Scolastico (2002-2006) per i due Consolati di Los Angeles e di San Francisco — con il Department of Education dello Stato della California. Il testo dell'Intesa è stato approvato alla fine dell'estate 2006 da parte italiana (i due Consolati di Los Angeles e di San Francisco, l'Istituto di Ricerca INDIRE e il Ministero della Pubblica Istruzione) e da parte californiana, e, con la firma di tutti, è ora divenuto operativo.

Il MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) è articolato in due parti principali che sono connesse tra loro: (a) gli insegnanti "potenziali", per i quali si prevede una procedura per facilitare il loro inserimento nelle scuole pubbliche dello Stato, e (b) gli insegnanti in servizio, a due dei quali — uno al nord e uno al sud — si offriranno ogni anno, un corso a distanza e un seminario di studio in una Università italiana.

Gli Uffici Scolastici dei due Consolati insieme allo State Department of Education informeranno gli insegnanti e chi è interessato ad insegnare italiano nelle scuole californiane sugli aspetti procedurali ciascuno con propri compiti. Si dovranno valutare i titoli di studio italiani che, se sono corrispondenti, permetteranno di insegnare nelle scuole pubbliche della California. La dott.ssa Cifone, Direttrice dell'ufficio scolastico, ha redatto un documento riassuntivo del sistema scolastico-universitario-abilitante italiano, che fu dato al Dipartimento. per essere usato come riferimento per la valutazione della corrispondenza dei titoli.

Si tratta davvero di un risultato importante per l'insegnamento della lingua italiana. Molto importante anche la parte che

riguarda gli insegnanti in servizio che hanno espresso il bisogno di aggiornarsi sia sul piano linguistico che su quello della cultura italiana. Per due di loro, scelti ogni anno da una commissione mista, il MOU prevede la possibilità di seguire un corso a distanza che si completerà con una fase residenziale in Italia presso una delle Università specializzate in questo settore.

Il MOU include anche il concorso "Scrivo in italiano" per gli studenti che, alla fine dell'anno, parteciperanno ad una cerimonia di premiazione con le famiglie e le autorità scolastiche. Anche questa parte è interessante perché raccoglierà intorno allo studio della nostra lingua tutta la comunità.

L'ultima parte dell'Intesa si riferisce alla convenzione tra il Consolato di LA e UCLA, firmata il 28 agosto 2006, che ha permesso l'istituzione di un Resource Center per gli insegnanti di italiano di tutti gli ordini di scuola che sono nell'area sud dello Stato. Il Centro si aprirà ad aprile ed offre materiali scritti e audiovisivi, oltre che risorse educative relative all'insegnamento della lingua e cultura italiana e alla formazione degli insegnanti. Il Centro, coordinato dalla dott.ssa Elissa Tognozzi, ha lo scopo di offrire risorse didattiche agli insegnanti delle scuole pubbliche. *For contact information see below.*

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AATI; Angelo Gimondo, Presidente dello IACE; Official representatives of NIAF, OSIA and UNICO; and Marco Mancini, First Counselor, Embassy of Italy in Washington. Expect us to be involved in other activities of this type. After the 20 plus years struggle to see the AP exam in Italian become a reality we are determined to see it succeed .

I would like to remind everyone that this year's conference will be held in Washington DC, October 11-13 in conjunction with the annual NIAF. There will also be a AATI presence at the ACTFL Conference in San Antonio, Texas in November 2007.

In 2008 the AATI conference will be in Taormina, Sicily. Here we will repeat our partnership with the AAIS. Prof. Gaetano Cipolla, on behalf of the Regione Sicilia, will be the point person in the organization of this event

I invite you all to become actively involved in the AATI. Your help and ideas are needed and welcomed.

Paolo Giordano

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Christopher Kleinhenz Receives the Association of Departments of Foreign Languages Award for Distinguished Service to the Profession

The twelfth ADFL Award for Distinguished Service in the Profession was presented to Christopher Kleinhenz, Carol Mason Kirk Professor of Italian at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, at the MLA Annual Convention in Philadelphia in December (2006). The first Italianist to be presented with this award, Christopher Kleinhenz is honored for his exceptional contributions to the field of foreign languages and literatures at the postsecondary level. During his tenure as president of the American Association of Teachers of Italian (1999-2003), he spearheaded the movement to create an Italian language advanced placement (AP) program with the College Board. He has served as chair of the Department of French and Italian and as associate chair for the Italian faculty at the University of Wisconsin, overseeing the spectacular growth of Italian at the university. He also assisted in the creation of Italian courses in a number of Wisconsin high schools. He received the University of Wisconsin's Chancellor's Award for Distinguished Teaching in 2004. He is an advocate for a unified curriculum formed of courses in language, literature, and civilization and a promoter of the idea that senior scholars must not disdain teaching language in the undergraduate curriculum. He has also served as president of the American Boccaccio Association and the Medieval Association of the Midwest and has been a member or chair of numerous committees and editorial boards. He has operated as an external consultant for many grants, awards, doctoral committees, and program reviews and has organized over a dozen conferences in the United States and Italy. He is the author of many scholarly books, articles, translations, book reviews, and bibliographies.

The colleagues who nominated Christopher Kleinhenz for the ADFL Award for Distinguished Service in the Profession write glowingly of his accomplishments, his determination to bring Italian to the community at large, and his singular personal traits. As one writes, "One marvels at the energy that any one person could have devoted, not only to his career, but to every aspect of it." Another colleague writes of the unique qualities that have sustained his career, "selflessness, dedication, the willingness to take on often thankless tasks that contribute to the good of the whole, diplomacy, thoughtfulness, and, I believe, great joy in what he does."

Società Onoraria Italica American Association of Teachers of Italian Annual Report 2005-2006

The *Società Onoraria Italica*, The National Honor Society for High School Students, is sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of Italian. The purpose of this program is to give recognition to achievements in Italian as well as to promote a greater understanding and appreciation of Italian culture and civilization.

This year we were able to offer five \$200 scholarships to five students and to members of the *Società Onoraria Italica* who participated and excelled in the AATI High School National Contest. The five recipients were: Barbara D'Agosto of Wethersfield High School, Wethersfield, Connecticut for Level I, Category B; Olivia Waring of Villa Walsh Academy, Morristown, New Jersey for Level II, Category A; Matthew Rienzo of Huntington High School, Huntington, New York for Level II, Category A; Michael Hogan of LaSalle Academy, Providence, Rhode Island for Level III, Category A; and to Ren P. Lento of Melrose High School, Medford,

Massachusetts for Level IV, Category A. The *Società Onoraria Italica* will offer six \$200 scholarships in the 2006-2007 school year.

During the 2005-2006 school year, 2,819 high school students from 292 schools in 18 states across the country were accepted as members of the *Società Onoraria Italica*. This number represents 163 more than last year. Application to the society may be made online.

Marin County Italian- American Citizen of the Year Award

On October 6, 2006, Petaluma resident Cathy Balestrieri Burton and Novato resident Karen Raccanello were honored by the Cristoforo Colombo Club of Marin as co-recipients of the 2006 Marin County Italian-American Citizen of the Year award. The award recognizes Italian Americans who have made unselfish and outstanding contributions to the Italian community. Mrs. Burton is an Italian teacher at Tomales High School and at the Petaluma Campus of Santa Rosa Junior College; Mrs. Raccanello is an Italian teacher at Marin Catholic High School. The recipients were also presented with a Certificate of Recognition from State Senator Carole Migden.



Cathy Balestrieri Burton and Karen Raccanello

College Essay Contest

Con la presente vorremmo comunicarvi il bando di concorso per il miglior saggio redatto da studenti undergraduate nei college e nelle università del Nord America. Vorremmo dunque invitarvi a presentare i migliori saggi dei vostri studenti perché vengano considerati per questo prestigioso riconoscimento.

Gli argomenti dei saggi coprono questioni di lingua, letteratura, cinema e cultura italiana.

I saggi possono essere sia in inglese che in italiano poiché verranno consegnati due premi distinti di \$500, uno per ciascuna lingua.

I saggi, di 6-10 cartelle (doppia interlinea), devono essere composti durante l'anno accademico 2006-2007 in Word e "formato MLA," e consegnati elettronicamente entro il 1 giugno 2007. I saggi devono essere proposti direttamente da professori regolarmente iscritti all'AATI.

I risultati del concorso verranno comunicati entro il 1 settembre 2007 e la premiazione avrà luogo al convegno annuale dell'AATI a Washington DC (11-13 ottobre 2007).

Il presidente dell'AATI, Paolo Giordano, ha creato il seguente comitato di selezione: Giancarlo Lombardi di The College of Staten Island of CUNY, Colleen Ryan-Scheutz di The University of Notre Dame, e Marisa Trubiano di Montclair State University.

Per ulteriori informazioni e eventuali proposte contattare: Marisa S. Trubiano, trubianom@mail.montclair.edu. Maggiori informazioni sono anche disponibili online sul sito dell'AATI.

Da New York: ITA/AATI di Lucrezia Lindia

Si è svolta venerdì 16 febbraio la Festa di Carnevale al Westchester Italian Cultural Center. L'icona dell'organizzazione è stata la professoressa Lucrezia Lindia, presidente dell'Italian Teachers' Association, capitolo dell'American Association of Teachers of Italian.

All'evento hanno partecipato oltre 120 persone. Tra questi la professoressa Carolyn Di Domenico, fondatrice della scuola LA PIAZZA DI CAROLINA con un gruppo di 15 bambini di età diversa; la professoressa Maria Notaro della New Rochelle High School; il professor Antonio Franze della Edgemont High School; il professor Tony Manganiello della Bronxville Middle/High; la dottoressa Antonella Di Gennaro, segretaria della IHCM; il signor Vito Catania, presidente della Garibaldi Lodge; i professori Maria e Rocco Pallone. Gli studenti hanno recitato, cantato e ballato felicemente, contenti di trasmettere a tutti l'allegria e l'umorismo di carnevale. Alla fine del programma la professoressa Lindia ha ringraziato, a nome di tutta l'associazione degli insegnanti dello stato di New York, Geoffrey Claroni e Patrizia Calce della Westchester Italian Culture Center per il loro fermo sostegno, non solo per aver sponsorizzato la Festa di Carnevale, ma per aver dimostrato ancora una volta di essere promotori della lingua e cultura italiana.

Un altro evento molto informativo per tutti i docenti della AP è stato quello del 20 gennaio al Consolato Generale Italiano di NY che è stato realizzato in collaborazione con il Consolato, la AATI e lo IACE (Italian American Committee on Education). Nel Corso del convegno sono intervenuti: Antonio Bandini, Console Generale d'Italia a New York; Alfio Russo, dirigente

scolastico Consolato Generale d'Italia a New York; Luigi De Sanctis, dirigente scolastico Ambasciata d'Italia negli USA; Carlo Cipollone, dirigente scolastico Consolato Generale d'Italia a Boston; Marco Mancini, primo consigliere Ambasciata d'Italia negli USA; Matilda Raffa Cuomo, First Lady Emerita NYS, leader del Comitato AP Italiano; Paolo Giordano, Presidente Nazionale dell'AATI; Tina Rella, direttore esecutivo dello IACE; Maria Vittoria Cifone, dirigente scolastico presso DGIT del MAE; Francesca Parizzi, Università per Stranieri di Perugia; Paolo Giordano, University of Central Florida, presidente Nazionale dell'AATI; Anthony Tamburi, direttore dell'Istituto di studi italo-americano John D. Calandra della Queens College; Carmela Pesca, Central Connecticut State University e componente del Comitato per lo Sviluppo dell'AP; Beth Bartolini-Salimbeni, Cibola High School, Albuquerque, NM - College Board AP Italian Consulente; Teresa Fiore, California State University Long Beach (CA), College Board AP Italian Consulente; Lucrezia Lindia, Eastchester High School NY, rappresentante regionale AATI-NY e co-autore di *The AP Vertical Teams Guide for World Languages and Cultures-AP Italian Reader*; Vito Recchia, Stuyvesant High School, NY, componente del Comitato per lo sviluppo dell'AP; Ida Wilder, Greece Athena H.S., Rochester, NY- componente del Comitato per lo sviluppo dell'AP e Reader; Tom Matts, direttore dei Programmi AP per le lingue straniere del College Board.

Gli insegnanti presenti sono rimasti molto soddisfatti per le domande/risposte sul nuovo AP di italiano messo sotto il microscopio.



AP Annual Conference 2007 In Las Vegas

The 2007 AP Annual Conference will be held July 11 to July 15 at the Venetian hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Each year, more than 2,500 AP professionals attend, taking advantage of relevant and engaging sessions for teachers of AP Italian Language and Culture and for teachers of all other AP courses.

Why You Should Attend

- * Attend professional development workshops in AP® subjects and Pre-AP® areas
- * Participate in sessions for new and experienced AP teachers
- * Share best practices for AP Coordinators, administrators, and counselors
- * Learn methods and policies for increasing educational access and equity
- * Meet members of the AP Development Committees
- * Join discussions with the executive directors of the AP Program
- * Network with colleagues from across the country and the world
- * Hear prominent speakers from education, science, politics, and the arts
- * Gain information on resources to assist your AP program
- * Visit exhibits for the latest in textbooks and classroom technologies

2007 conference registration and hotel registration are now available online. Visit the links below for complete information.

* AP Annual Conference 2007
<http://click.collegeboard.com:80/47564962.55821.0.22477>

* Registration:
<http://click.collegeboard.com:80/47564962.55821.0.23391>

AP Annual Conference 2007 Scholarship Opportunity

The College Board is pleased to announce the availability of scholarship funding for teachers of Italian to attend the AP Annual Conference 2007. These scholarships will be applied to registration and travel expenses for conference attendees. The AP Annual Conference will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada, July 11-15, 2007. Italian teachers for grades 6-12 teaching in accredited schools may apply. More information will be posted soon on the AP Italian Language and Culture Course Home Page on AP Central.

Goucher College AP Institute

The AP Italian Language and Culture Institute will be held at Goucher College from June 18 - June 22, 2007. This course will provide an overview of the content and structure of the AP Italian Language and Culture curriculum. Teachers will learn how to develop a course which focuses on the structural aspects of the Italian language while interweaving cultural content throughout the course. The course will focus on vocabulary building, writing, speaking, listening and reading the AP course; integration of authentic cultural materials; print and web resources; and the creation of syllabi. Teachers will become familiar with the goals and objectives of the AP Italian course and learn specific instructional techniques for teaching content and the cultural components incorporated into the exam.

Goucher College, established in 1885, is an independent coeducational liberal arts and sciences college accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. The college is located in Towson, Maryland, about eight miles north of Baltimore and within a short driving distance of Washington, DC.

The Pacific Advanced Placement Institute AP® Italian in California

A summer Institute for AP Italian will be held in Belmont, California from June 25 - June 29, 2007 at Notre Dame de Namur University. NDNU is a small, Catholic, independent, co-educational institution founded in 1851. The campus is built around the mid-nineteenth century Ralston mansion nestled in the peaceful wooded community of Belmont, California in the heart of the San Francisco Peninsula. The NDNU campus is a short walking distance from Belmont's coffee houses and ethnic restaurants.

The Pacific AP® Institute is a College Board endorsed summer institute offering an intensive five day teacher-training workshop designed to develop and fine tune the skills of both beginning and experienced AP® teachers. All sessions are conducted by faculty members chosen for their dynamic presentation skills and involvement with the Advanced Placement® program. An overall view of the course syllabus will be presented along with extensive discussions of course planning and management. The sessions will also focus on selecting materials and preparing students for the AP® Italian exam.

For more information about the Institute, registration, and the course syllabus, go to: <http://www.pacificap.org/italian.htm>. For a discount, apply before April 2, 2007. The Registration deadline is June 1, 2007. Questions? Email Dick@PacificAP.org

2007 AP Italian Winter Update Now Available

The 2007 AP Winter Update is now available on AP Central. To learn the latest information about the AP Italian Language and Culture course and exam, visit:

<http://click.collegeboard.com:80/47564962.55821.0.22489>

What is Langnet?

Langnet is a part of LangSource, a searchable database for language resources used both by teachers and learners in different languages such as, Arabic, Chinese, German, Italian, Spanish, Yoruba, etc. It was created by the National Foreign Language Center at the University of Maryland, whose goal is to promote foreign language learning in the US by working with global institutions, organizations, and enterprises in the US. LangNet was created with the support of the US Government, in particular the Departments of Defense, Education and State.

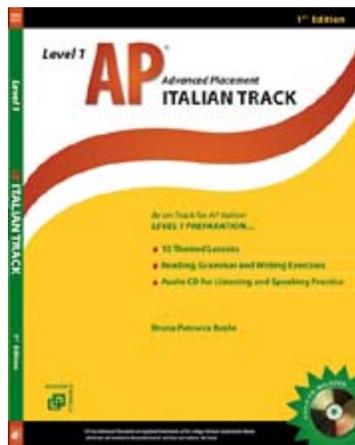
LangNet is specifically an integrated language e-learning support system, a searchable collection of language learning materials, self-assessments, reading and listening comprehension activities based on authentic materials such as magazines, newspapers, radio and TV broadcasts. The aim is to help learners to improve their target language reading and listening skills as well as to develop socio-cultural understanding. Those activities are divided into different levels according to the ILR proficiency scale. The Interagency Language Roundtable (ILR) scale is a set of descriptions of abilities to communicate in a language and it consists of five levels of language proficiency. It was developed by the United States Foreign Service Institute, and is commonly known as the FSI scale.

The activities were created by experts in the target languages, in this case in Italian, and in pedagogy or second language acquisition, who work at major universities or belong to national language teacher associations.

LangNet is available to government agencies and academic institutions which have subscribed to LangNet. The users belonging to those organizations can set up a personal account at no cost by going to the website.

New Publications

“Level 1-AP Italian Track with Audio CD” First of its kind in an AP Italian track series from Edizioni Farinelli to prepare students for Italian AP. 10 themed chapters, 80 practice exercises modeling the AP exam, vocabulary builders, level 1 grammar and audio CD recorded by native speakers. \$24.95 plus s/h.



“Uffa! Espressioni idiomatiche e molto di più” Uffa! is the first text on idioms and expressions developed specifically for high school students. Through 19 dialogues exploring issues foremost among young people – relationships with parents, friendship, school exams, choosing a career and more – students quickly develop familiarity with Italian idiomatic expressions, and a feel for how to use them in conversation and writing. \$26.95 plus s/h.

To order: www.edizionifarinelli.com or call 212-751-2427 or email jfarinelli@mindspring.com

ITALICA

Italica is the official organ of the American Association of Teachers of Italian; as such, it is committed to the diffusion of information and studies – pedagogical, cultural, and literary – on Italy and its culture at large. The pedagogy issue is generally the first issue of the year and is published in the spring. To be considered for the next publication, articles should be submitted to the Editor of Italica by November 15, 2007 at the following address:

Andrea Ciccarelli, Editor, *Italica*
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 Ballantine 642
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For specific admission guidelines, please consult the AATI website (*Italica*) at aati-online.org.

Digital Archives

AATI is proud to introduce to our users, scholars, students, and visitors, the Digital Archives of *Italica*. The link to the archives is found on the AATI website at <http://www.aati-online.org/archives.html>. On the site you can search our database for books, articles, book reviews, and other materials related to Italian Studies, published in North America or by North American scholars. You will find information on materials published in *Italica* or in other North America journals. The results of your search will consist of the bibliographical information and/or a summary of the article. In order to search the archives you need to register first (one time only) and then log in.



Concordia Language Villages

We are excited to announce new programs for teachers this summer:

*Immersion and Second Language Methodologies for all world language teachers: July 5 - 15; 3 or 4 graduate credits.

*Immersion and Second Language Methodologies for teachers of Arabic: July 2 - 14; 4 graduate credits; scholarships available.

*Immersion and Second Language Methodologies for teachers of Chinese: July 2 - 14; 4 graduate credits; scholarships available.

*Immersion and Second Language methodologies for teachers of Spanish in Argentina: July 18 - 27; 3 or 4 graduate credits.

*Master of Education in World Language Instruction: 18-month program combining online coursework during the academic year with two three-week summer sessions in-residence at Concordia Language Villages. For information contact:

Concordia Language Villages
Education and Research Office
901 South Eighth Street
Moorhead, MN 56562
800.222.4750
educators@clv.edu
ConcordiaLanguageVillages.org

Corsi di Lingua e Cultura a Venezia

Istituto Venezia è attivo da anni nel campo dell'insegnamento dell'italiano a stranieri ed è conosciuto sia in ambito locale che internazionale. Membri di Tandem Schools e Asils, dal '98 collaboriamo con il Laboratorio Itals del Dipartimento di Scienze del linguaggio dell'Università Ca' Foscari di Venezia nella formazione degli insegnanti di italiano lingua straniera e seconda e dal

2000 coordiniamo e organizziamo i corsi di *Italian for foreigners* della Venice International University.

Per promuovere lo studio dell'italiano nel 2007 intendiamo offrire a studenti segnalati da insegnanti associati all'AATI la possibilità di fruire di una borsa di studio che copre il 50% del costo dei corsi intensivi di gruppo nelle nostre sedi di Venezia e Trieste. Le borse saranno utilizzabili per un corso che vada da un minimo di due settimane ad un massimo di tre mesi.

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University of Wisconsin-Madison

The Italian program continues to enjoy high enrollments with some 800 students registered in Italian language, literature, film, and culture classes at all levels each semester. We are pleased to welcome to the Italian faculty our newest colleagues: Kristin Phillips Court, a specialist in Renaissance literature, completed her doctoral work at UCLA and comes to us from Yale; Renata Grilli, who completed her doctorate in our program and taught for a year a Penn State, is coordinating our first-year language courses. Patrick Rumble and Grazia Menechella will be in Florence for academic year 2007-08, where they will be directing and teaching on the study program, which we share with the University of Michigan at the Villa Corsi-Salviati in Sesto Fiorentino. Patrick is currently completing his three-year term as Director of the Center for European Studies and has just received one of the Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Awards. Grazia is serving as Associate Chair for Italian this year and, together with Patrick Rumble, organized the very successful international conference, "Italy Ink, Italian Writing Today," which took place in Madison last November. Stefania Buccini, recently returned from Florence

where she was teaching in our program, has recently published several articles on Francesco Pona and has a book, *Francesco Pona e 'l'ozio lecito della scrittura*, forthcoming with Olschki. She is organizing a conference on Carlo Goldoni for the coming academic year. Ernesto Livorni, recently back from a sabbatical leave, will serve as Associate Chair for Italian next year and will continue to edit *L'anello che non tiene*. Ernesto's book of poems, *L'America dei Padri*, was awarded the Premio Letterario Internazionale "Città di Penne" in 2005. Tom Cravens, whose edited volume *Variation and Reconstruction* recently appeared (2006), is pleased to report that his course on "Introduction to the Romance Languages" has almost 100 students enrolled. Giovanna Miceli Jeffries continues to serve as the departmental liaison with the Italian-American community in Madison and to represent our faculty in the WisItalia initiative, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to introducing Italian to the K-12 curriculum around the state. Chris Kleinhenz, who will retire at the end of the summer, has organized a symposium on "Dante and Medieval Cultural Traditions" this spring and continues to serve as Director of the Honors Program of the College of Letters and Science.

The program sponsors an Italian floor in the university dormitories – Piazza Italia – which is now in its third year. It offers students an "immersion" experience, under the guidance of a resident house fellow, Matteo Gilebbi, who is one of our Italian graduate students. Piazza Italia is part of the International Learning Community.

The University's Center for the Humanities is engaged in a year-long project – Dante's *Inferno* in Wisconsin – which is aimed at the teaching of the *Inferno* in high schools throughout the state. Several workshops for teachers have taken place, and a year-end conference featuring high-school students and their teachers will take place on May 1. Keynote speakers for the conference will be Robert Pinsky and Gina Psaki.

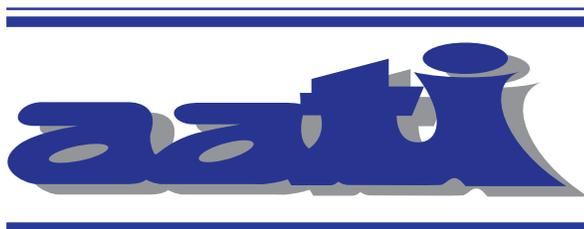
In Memoriam Amilcare A. Iannucci



On Friday, February 9, 2007, the University of Toronto flag was flown at half-mast in memory of Professor Amilcare A. Iannucci, former Director of the Humanities Centre. Amilcare passed away on the evening of February 6, after a long battle with leukemia. A graduate of Harvard and a world renowned Dante scholar, Amilcare was appointed at the University of Toronto in 1973. He was a former Chair of the Department of Italian Studies, a fellow of University College and a former Director of the Humanities Centre that he founded in 2000. Amilcare joined the core faculty of the Centre for Comparative Literature in 1999. During his career, he gave over one hundred lectures and seminars throughout North America and Europe and was a Visiting Professor at many universities, including: Johns Hopkins, McGill, UCLA, Calabria, Rome (Tor Vergata), Siena and Venice. He is the author of numerous articles and books on various topics, focusing especially on issues of literary and cultural appropriation and reception. A dedicated father, a great scholar, a wonderful teacher, a superb colleague and a caring friend to so many of us, Amilcare will be sorely missed. He left three children, a brother, his parents and all of those who were very close to him. Our sincerest condolences to his family.

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The *AATI Newsletter* publishes information about new publications, forthcoming conferences, events, contests, and awards. It also provides a forum for discussion on pedagogy and teaching strategies. Short articles or brief notes (1-2 paragraphs) dealing with direct classroom experience, teaching tips, and successful application of linguistic theories are welcome.

Information about your school or local organization, and other items of interest, should be sent to the Editor by September 15, 2007, for inclusion in the Fall issue.

AATI Newsletter:
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