

ricula and instructional practices can be very rewarding.

- 3. Offer quality training to new teachers to the field.** In an era when new positions for Chinese language teachers open every day, it is more important than ever that we expand our role of examining, facilitating, and innovating language teaching. We need to ensure that the increased *quantity* of teachers is accompanied by ever-improving *quality* of teaching. This year two workshops on teaching were offered at the annual conference. One was on Form-focused and Task-based CFL Instruction, led by Professor Hong Gang Jin. The other was on “Preparing a Lesson Step By Step,” led by Professor Hsin-hsin Liang. Both were well-attended and well-received. We have also received some funding from ChinaSprout to offer more workshops on teacher development. The Board will discuss how, when, and where to implement this initiative.
- 4. Increase operational efficiency and effectiveness.** With the help of our web master Professor Marjorie Chan and our Executive Director Professor Cynthia Ning and her colleague Daniel Tschudi, we are working to get the CLTA membership database online. This will afford our members the convenience of renewing membership and updating contact information online. We are also exploring the possibility of conducting e-voting this year, which will be led by our Vice President, Professor Audrey Li.
- 5. Continue fundraising campaigns and membership drives.** The fundraising campaign this year was successful, with monetary pledges totaling \$11,005, not including the T-shirt sale at the conference (see the announcement section in the newsletter for details). Non-monetary donations include software and Chinese couplets as well as English translations on the plaques for recognition of donors. The money will allow us to offer more and better grants to our members to enhance research and teaching skills. In 2007, we hope to continue raising

funds to address our expanded mission. Thus, I make a special plea to you: help us take advantage of the growing opportunities and truly make Chinese language learning the biggest and *best* that it’s ever been. Please support CLTA, your professional organization and your advocate. Your contribution can come in many different ways, e.g., making a monetary donation, offering your time and expertise, providing leads to potential donors, or working as a fundraising volunteer. Please contact our fundraising chair, Professor Jerry Packard ([jpackard@uiuc.edu](mailto:jpackard@uiuc.edu)) about any ideas or contributions. I also encourage you to introduce CLTA to your colleagues and students at all levels and settings, either in the US or abroad. If they care about Chinese learning and teaching and desire up-to-date information about the field, invite them to join us now!

- 6. Build a coalition of Chinese teaching organizations in all sectors and unify Chinese language professionals at national, regional, and state levels.** To this end, I am pleased to report that as of November three regional CLTAs were established: CLTA-TX, CLTA-FL, and CLTA-WI. We expect to see further growth at various regions and the Board will examine this phenomenon carefully and discuss relevant procedure and policy. In addition, CLTA will continue to work with CLASS (Chinese Language Association of Secondary-Elementary Schools), CSAUS (Chinese School Association in the United States) and NCACLS (National Council of Associations of Chinese Language Schools), and reach out to other language teaching organizations in the United States and in the world.

I would like to conclude by thanking each and every Board of Director and Officer. Without their support and contributions, none of the above could be contemplated or accomplished. We are grateful to outgoing members of the Board: Professor Yea-fen Chen, Professor Richard Chi, Professor Michael Everson, and Professor Hong Gang Jin. Special thanks go to our beloved JCLTA editor, Professor Vivian Ling, who finished her four-year