

meet and communicate with the cognitive scientists, psychologists and computer tool developers. The presentations were very engaging, with great discussions following. Some photos from the symposium are posted at: <http://www.xinterra.com/symposium07/>

The 2007 PSLC Chinese LearnLab Symposium info. is below:

Purpose: The PSLC Chinese LearnLab Symposium aims to provide an opportunity for Chinese teaching professionals and researchers to share their interests and experiences, discuss their research findings, and explore the use of technology. It is hoped that the Symposium will promote mutual understanding and help establish future collaborations.

Theme: Bridging Chinese pedagogy, research and technology

Place: The Adamson Wing Auditorium, Carnegie Mellon University

Time: October 19 (Friday), 2007, 9:30-3:30

Website & Online registration:

<http://ml.hss.cmu.edu/courses/suemei/symposium.html>

Symposium organizer: Sue-mei Wu (leader of PSLC Chinese LearnLab)

For questions, please contact Sue-mei Wu at [<suemei@andrew.cmu.edu>](mailto:suemei@andrew.cmu.edu)
(Reported by Sue-mei Wu)

CHINESE LANGUAGE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS 2007 ANNUAL MEETING

CLTA-TX held its first annual meeting on November 3, 2007, at the Chinese Community Center in Houston. The meeting theme was **Connecting Chinese Schools through K-16**. There are at least 20 weekend heritage Chinese schools in Texas. These schools have valuable resources and strong community support and educate a large number of students. We think it is crucial that the formal K-16 schools work together with the heritage schools in advancing the Chinese language education in Texas.

To outline the common goals, we invited Dr. Madeline Spring, academic director for the Oregon Chinese K-16 Flagship program, as the keynote speaker on the topic of **Shared Visions: Setting Goals for K-16 Chinese Language Programs in Diverse Learning Environments**. In addition to Madeline's talk, the one-day conference included four panels: "AP Chinese," "Finding Common Threads in Teaching Chinese at Universities,

K-12 Schools, and Weekend Chinese Schools," "Communication-focused Language Activities," and "Strategies for Conversational Chinese." The twelve presenters were from universities, K-12 schools as well as heritage schools.

About seventy teachers attended the annual meeting. Six publishers displayed their textbooks in the Book Exhibit and provided numerous door prizes. The CLTA-TX fundraising committee raised enough funds to invite the keynote speaker and provide dinner for all participants. Many attendees found the panels and the keynote speaker's talk very effective and practical. They also commented that this is the first time in Texas that so many Chinese teachers at all levels and from various institutes gathered together to share teaching methodologies and exchange ideas.

The CLTA-TX Board believes that it is important that Chinese teachers share ideas with other world languages teachers instead of working in isolation. The Board is currently seeking the possibility of collaborating with Texas Foreign Language Association and joining the TFLA annual conference.

CHINESE LANGUAGE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS 2007 YEAR IN REVIEW MENG YEY (MYEH@RICE.EDU)

The Chinese Language Teachers Association of Texas (CLTA-TX) was established in December 2006 and, since its inception, has had an exciting and eventful year. CLTA-TX is a nonpolitical, nonprofit educational and professional organization created to promote the teaching and learning of the Chinese language in Texas. The mission of the CLTA-TX is to

- enhance quality Chinese language teaching at all education levels
- serve as a resource network for Chinese language teachers
- share ideas and disseminate information
- conduct professional development for Chinese teachers in both language teaching and cultural awareness
- provide a base for common pedagogical improvement and individual career development.

In the first half of 2007, with the effort and commitment of the Board of Directors, CLTA-TX established a website (www.clta-texas.org), wrote and passed bylaws, and applied for 501(c)(3) status. The CLTA-TX Board consists of eleven elected Chinese language educators from