Participant Bios

**Dr Carl Blyth** (Ph.D. Cornell University, 1990) is the Director of the Texas Language Technology Center (TLTC) and Associate Professor of French Linguistics in the Department of French and Italian. He has held several administrative positions prior to TLTC: Coordinator of Lower Division French (1993-2002), Acting Director of Technology, Literacy and Culture (2001-2002), and Director/Asst Director of the UT Summer Program in Lyon, France. He has worked with colleagues on an online reference grammar of French (*Tex's French Grammar*), and a multimedia-based first year French program (*Français Interactif*).

**Dr. Thomas J. Garza** (Ed.D, Harvard University, 1987) is University Distinguished Teaching Associate Professor of Slavic and Eurasian Studies and the Director of the Texas Language Center. He coordinated Russian language instruction for 13 years and continues to teach Russian at all levels. With funding from LAITS and the TLTC, he directed the *Rockin' Russian* project, which uses MTV videos as instructional material for language and culture. He also has written a guide to the Russian verb, and contributed to a first-year textbook, *Live from Russia*!

**Dr. Orlando Kelm** (Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley, 1989) is Associate Professor of Hispanic Linguistics in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at the University of Texas at Austin. His professional interests include language and culture for professional purposes, such as Business Spanish and Portuguese. His current research focuses on the creation of instruction materials, including the use of technology in foreign language instruction. He currently serves as the Associate Director of Business Language Education for the Center for International Business Education and Research at UT Austin.

**Kyle Mitchell** (BA, University of Texas, 2010) is web projects coordinator for the Texas Language Center and a graduate student in Russian Studies and Law. He completed UT undergraduate degrees in the Plan II Honors and Russian language and culture programs, during which time he also designed and built web sites professionally. His current projects include a number of online resources for students of Russian, including a searchable morphological dictionary and an expansion of the popular *Rockin’ Russian* music video site featuring performances from the Soviet period.

This event is a collaborative effort of:

Texas Language Center,
College of Liberal Arts &
The University of Texas at Austin

http://www.utexas.edu/cola/counters/tlc/
tlc@austin.utexas.edu
**Morning Session**

**Lone Star Room, Texas Union 3.208**

**9:30 - 10:00**

**Introductions and Welcome**

Dr. Thomas J. Garza  
Director of Texas Language Center and Associate Professor of Slavic and Eurasian Studies

Dean Esther Raizen  
Associate Dean for Research, College of Liberal Arts and Associate Professor of Middle Eastern Studies

**10:00 - 11:15**

Dr. Thomas J. Garza, Director of Texas Language Center and Associate Professor of Slavic and Eurasian Studies

"On Media and Messaging: Incorporating Video and Social Networking into Language and Culture Classes"

While video has long been a staple of language classes, effective exploitation of these materials remains elusive. This workshop will demonstrate effective ways of using video toward proficiency-based objectives. Ways to use social networking media, such as Twitter, to enhance in-class video use will also be shown.

**11:15 - 11:30**

Coffee Break

**11:30 - 12:45**

Kyle Mitchell, Senior Student Associate, Texas Language Center and Graduate Student in CREEES/Law

"Beyond ‘Hypnotizing Chickens’ — PowerPoint, the Internet, and Digital Media in the Language Classroom"

This nuts-and-bolts workshop covers several ways to employ PowerPoint not as a crutch or timesaver, but as a tool for creating rich classroom multimedia experiences. Tutorials will cover the preparation and use of excerpts from films, connecting presentation content to online resources, and integrating social media in real time.

**Afternoon Session**

**Lone Star Room, Texas Union 3.208**

**1:00 - 2:00**

Lunch for Registered Participants

**2:00 - 3:15**

Dr. Carl Blyth, Director of the Texas Language Technology Center and Associate Professor of French and Italian

"Collaborative Reading: New Tools and New Methods for Improving Comprehension"

This talk will explore ways to improve your students’ comprehension of L2 texts with tools and methods that conceptualize reading as a social activity rather than an individual mental activity.

**3:15 - 3:30**

Coffee Break

**3:30 - 4:45**

Dr. Orlando Kelm  
Associate Director of Business Language Education at UT CIBER and Associate Professor of Spanish and Portuguese

"Innovative Technologies in Language Learning: Look at What the Students Are Doing"

This workshop will look at some of the ways that students use innovative technologies in language learning. Examples of their participation in blogs, video digitalization, podcasts, course projects, etc. all demonstrate a sense of a community of learners that provides a support group for one another.

Texas Language Center Blog and Conference Forum

To participate in an on-going discussion regarding the work and ideas presented at this event, please visit the TLC Blog at:  
http://texaslanguagecenter.wordpress.com/