History of LLC-SIG (Originally the FLES SIG)
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2002 (Salt Lake City, UT)

- More than 100 petitions were signed to establish the ACTFL FLES SIG during the fall of 2002. The FLES SIG was formed at the ACTFL Conference.
- Mission Statement was written.
- Top issues identified at initial Meeting: Advocacy and Articulation
- Officers were elected: 3 Co-chairs: Marcia Rosenbusch, Kathy Olson-Studler and Christi Moraga

2003 (Philadelphia, PA)

- Advocacy Survey was sponsored by SIG; presented at the ACTFL Conference by Marcia Rosenbusch, and later published in Learning Languages as: Rosenbush, M., & Sorensen, L. (2004). Threats and strategies to counter threats: Voices of elementary school foreign language educators. Learning Languages 9 (2), 8-17.
- Collaboration with NNELL (Teleconference, Sharing Business Meeting, FLES Strand for Conference, mutually promoting both groups for networking)
- Communication with members by distribution list (emails), postal service, SIG Corner in FL Annals and SIG Corner on Web site. FLES Strand came out in the Fall of 2003 for Conference.
- At ACTFL Conference: 3 Sessions: Advocacy Panel, Celebrations, Joint NNELL-ACTFL FLES Business Meeting.
- Minutes were typed and sent to all members with current emails.

2004 (Chicago, IL)

- Listserv created in June for member communication. Distribution list is also used for sending attachments. These are periodically updated. Members encouraged to send ACTFL and SIG Co-chairs their updated emails.
- Growing need for LCTL and Pre-School networking (requests at the 2002 and 2003 Conferences by members and during year through email communiqués.)
- During year, information distributed to members on benefits of FLES, 2005: The Year of Languages, articles on brain studies
- FLES Strand for ACTFL Conference distributed in the fall: 60 sessions on Early Language Learning.
- At ACTFL Conference, 3 sessions: Articulation Panel, Less Commonly Taught Languages Forum, Joint NNELL-ACTFL FLES Business Meeting.
- Elections held at Conference for officers. Results: Two Co-chairs are Ana Lomba and Marcela Summerville. Secretary/Treasurer is Kathy Scruggs.
- With SIG funds, the following items were purchased:
  - Large sign to be displayed yearly at all SIG functions
  - 2005: Year of Languages souvenirs for teachers attending sessions and pins for the officers
  - Small supplies for use during the sessions
- Contributions to 2005: The Year of Languages from SIG: two features on the Web site: Alphabet of Languages for student work and Cultural Celebrations for teacher sharing. This, however, never actually happened…the Alphabet of Languages with student work was deemed to time-consuming for Webmaster. The Cultural Celebrations template was put up however additions to this template did not move forward which had been the idea.

2005 (Baltimore, MD)
- ACTFL LLC Officers announced the new name of the SIG “Language Learning for Children SIG” (formerly FLES SIG).
- A new sign was presented.
- Listserv become the communication mode for the LLC SIG.
- Inclusion of Pre-K category in ACTFL.

2006 (Nashville, TN)
- Robert Raymond and Lina Kholaki were elected as Co-Chairs
- It was announced that in 2007 the listservs for SIGs were going to replaced with a discussion board application, thus enabling the archiving of discussion threads.
- At the convention LLC SIG sponsored sessions addressed: understanding by design and early language learning – how to align program goals with assessment and instruction; and, building children’s biliteracy.

2007 (San Antonio, TX)
- This was an off-election year for the LLC SIG.
- Sponsored sessions at the convention addressed: assessment tools for elementary immersion programs; and, affordable, user-friendly digital technologies which draw on learners’ prior experience surfing the Internet.
2008 (Orlando, FL)

- At the convention, sponsored sessions addressed: a compelling account of the development of a 50/50 two-way immersion program in rural Illinois; and, the use of digital technologies (i.e., movie maker, power point, voice recording, and BubbleShare) to support interaction in the classroom.
- The year 2007-2008 presented some challenges for the LLC SIG. Though the membership was healthy, we experienced poor attendance at the business meeting in 2007, and minutes were never archived. In addition, ACTFL announced the discontinuation of the listserv. Though we continued to have access to the listserv, ACTFL’s announcement of the discontinuation of the listserv brought the regular and frequent exchanges on our listserv to a halt. The discussion board application, which replaced the listserv, never gained traction. The membership declined for the first time in the LLC SIG’s short history.
- Lina Kholaki and Robert Raymond came to the convention requesting support for the search for new officers. An informal task force was set up to advise Robert, who agreed to stay on as Interim Co-Chair until the time new officers were elected. This was the first time the LLC SIG conducted an online ballot to elect new officers.
- Lina and Robert felt that efforts to work together with NNELL had lapsed, or at least never developed fully. The new NNELL President, Paula Patrick, and the Immediate Past President, Theresa Caccavale agreed to attend the business meeting. It was agreed that the two entities collaborate. Efforts made to that end, included using the listserv to circulate news about NNELL events, and Robert went to Fairfax, VA to present on advocacy at the NNELL southern states regional workshop.
- In the winter of 2009, members were asked to write to their Congress men and women on the Hill, to urge them to support changes in the language of ESEA (a.k.a, NCLB Act) which would require states to take the initiatives to develop assessments for foreign language.
- In the spring of 2009, a survey of the membership was conducted. The aim of the survey was to identify members needs and to receive input about how the LLC SIG could better serve them. The information collected was made available to the new officers, and a report appeared in the SIG Corner of the August 2009 issue of “The Language Educator”.
- In June 2009, Teresa Kennedy and Jennifer Eddy were elected Co-Chairs, and Jennifer Pedersen was elected Secretary/Treasurer.

2009 (San Diego, CA)

- Teresa Kennedy and Jennifer Eddy began term as LLC-SIG Chairs; Jennifer Pedersen elected as Secretary, for a 2-year term for all three: 2009-2010 and planned for the 2009 LLC-SIG sessions for the ACTFL conference.
- Sessions included two featured presentations (one prior to the business meeting and one on Saturday).
  - **LLC-SIG Business Meeting**, Friday, 20 November, 3:30-4:30PM, Location: San Diego Convention Center, Room 1A
    - Over 40 members attended the business meeting which mainly dealt with the topic of the newly proposed Immersion SIG, led by Tara LaFortune,
who expressed their desire to form their own SIG. LLC-SIG members and Chairs requested to combine the SIG’s into one large group with 2 Co-Chairs for LLC and two Co-Chairs for LLC to ensure a strong unified group since many topics in K-8 programs are of interest to both groups.

- **LLC-SIG Session 1**: Friday, 20 November, 5:00-6:00PM, Location: San Diego Convention Center, Room 1A  
  “World Language Learning in Early Childhood Programs”

- **LLC SIG Session 2**: Saturday, 21 November, 5:30-6:30PM, Location: San Diego Convention Center, Room 3  
  “Oral Proficiency Development of K-8 Spanish Immersion Students.” It was reported that this session was not well attended due to the date and time and since it had been separated from the rest of the LLC SIG activities.

- Minutes were typed by Jennifer Pedersen, edited by Teresa Kennedy, and sent to ACTFL to post on the LLC-SIG Web page.

### 2010 (Boston, MA)

- Attempts were made to combine the LLC-SIG with a proposed Immersion SIG. ACTFL instead granted probationary SIG status to assist the new Immersion SIG to form. The LLC SIG is hopeful for collaborations with the Immersion SIG.

- Numerous posts to the LLC-SIG listserv were made from Fall 2009-Spring 2010 by the Co-Chairs to engage members in discussions. Interaction was limited by membership on the LLC-SIG Web page, however a few posts were made by members.

- Announcements for the 2010 LLC-SIG sessions at the ACTFL convention were posted to the list serv in September and October.

- The LLC-SIG sessions were combined into one (1) long running session from 1:15-4:45, Friday, November 19, at the Sheraton Hotel / Back Bay Ballroom A, as requested by LLC-SIG Co-Chairs Teresa Kennedy and Jennifer Eddy. This format ensured a longer networking session for SIG members and allowed for a series of invited speakers to present. Over 300 people were in attendance between the three sessions and members were provided with the opportunity to provide input into the election at the end of each session. We would like to extend a special thank you to our presenters, Laura Terrill, Helena Curtain and Frank Morris.

  - **LLC SIG Session One**: 1:15-2:15  
    Laura Terrill - “The Power of Image”

  - **LLC SIG Session Two**: 2:30-3:30  
    Helena Curtain - “Creating Captivating Lessons Using Stories and Children’s Literature”

  - **LLC SIG Session Three**: 3:45-4:15  
    **Part 1**: James Morris - “FLES Latin at Stella Niagara Education Park: A Case Study”  
    **Part 2**: LLC Business Meeting - Final collection of all LLC-SIG Officer endorsements

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- Patricia Davis-Wiley and Jo Sanders were elected as Co-Chairs (2010-2012) and Jennifer Pederson was re-appointed a second term as Secretary (2010-2012).