Welcome to Minneapolis and the 2020 CSCTFL convention!

Thank you! Whether this is your first CSCTFL or whether you are a regular attendee, a member of the Advisory Council, a delegate for your state, an exhibitor, or a presenter, thank you for being a part of the Friendly Conference!

Our theme! We invite you to find your place among us as there is “Room for All at the Table” here in Minneapolis for everyone. I grew up in a large farming family in Indiana where we always managed to squeeze in visiting family and guests for meals. Celebrations were always held around the table at home and I found that to be true as I learned about other cultures in my travels abroad. My mother-in-law also taught me that sharing the table meant not only sharing a plateful with those who happened to drop by but also via a plate to take home to who couldn’t come to the family gathering. No one seemed to be turned away. No matter where I’ve been, the table is the place to gather with food and drink for conversation, laughter, sharing, and learning.

Our program! Our program focuses on setting the language learning table. Workshops and sessions will help you learn about teaching all types of learners and using varied approaches and strategies to improve teaching and learning for all. Our keynote speaker is Dr. Katy Arnett. Katy specializes in inclusion practices in the language classroom and will be making the case for inclusion in the world language classroom.

The wide range of workshops and sessions will help you take your professional practice to a whole new level! Look specifically for Dr. Arnett’s “Making the link: Best practices for inclusion in the world language classroom” on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning! In addition, workshops and sessions will specifically target activities and strategies, advocacy and policy, assessment, culture, diversity, the Seal of Biliteracy, technology, and more! Remember that workshop enrollment is limited, so register soon.

With thanks! In closing, let me take a moment to say thank you to:

- The Minnesota Council on the Teaching of Languages and Cultures, especially their leadership team, who have prepared so well for our visit.
- The Board of Directors of CSCTFL for their work on the different aspects of the conference.
- Dr. Anne Nerenz, the CSCTFL Executive Director, who invests many hours on behalf of the organization.
- Melissa Dalton, the 2020 Assistant Program Chair who quickly embraced all the details needed to pull the program together and who is organizing CSCTFL’s first ever Grand Central gathering area and our Rejuvenate, Renew, and Refresh events and activities.

Also be sure to take advantage of all that Minneapolis has to offer! Visit the “Twin Cities Bucket List” for some ideas! We truly hope that you will meet or reconnect with professional colleagues around the table!

Todd Bowen
2020 Program Chair