



### **PROPOSED CANDIDATES 2010-2012**

*The following candidates for 2010-2012 were presented by the Nominating Committee to the LILT Executive Board, which the Board approved on April 8, 2010.*



**President – Michele Ortiz** (BA, Italian Studies, MA, Liberal Studies, and SAS, SDA and Post Graduate Certificate, all from Stony Brook University) Michele is presently a Teacher on Special Assignment for Levittown Public Schools, and has taught Italian and Spanish for the past 17 years, with the last 4 years as Department Chair of World Languages, Division Avenue HS. Michele has served LILT as First and Second Vice President, has co-chaired Regional Conferences and Winter Workshops, and is LILT's On-Line Registration Coordinator.

*Candidate's Statement:* "I am honored to be considered for the position of LILT President. I have worked diligently over the last four years as 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. I plan to continue the work of those who have served before me with great effort and pride."



**First Vice President – Anahí Walton-Schafer** (BA, History, University of Buenos Aires; MA, Latin American History and MA, Hispanic Language and Literature, both from Stony Brook University; Certificate in School Leadership Administration) Anahí teaches Spanish at Northport HS and FLEX at Norwood Elementary School. and has served LILT as Secretary and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, as well as presenting workshops and contributing articles to the *LILT Newsletter*. She was a member of NYSAFLT's Leaders of Tomorrow, received a grant from BOCES for her project, Young LOTE Learners and Authors, and received an Achievement Award from the Northport School District.

*Candidate's Statement:* "LILT is in great shape and serves its constituency well.

As First Vice President, I will strive to ensure that LILT continues to offer high quality professional development opportunities, keeps in sync with its membership, and advocates for the study and teaching of **LOTE**."



**Second Vice President – Janet Loehr** (BS, Education; MA, Chinese, both from St. John's; doctoral work in Asian Studies at St. John's) Janet retired from the West Islip Schools where she taught Spanish, Social Studies, Chinese and FLES. She teaches at a Chinese summer camp for Asian adoptees, and has proofed several Chinese grammars, as well as gives calligraphy demonstrations.

*Candidate's Statement:* "I have been a member of LILT for over 20 years. My association with LILT has greatly enhanced my teaching effectiveness in the classroom and as a mentor to new teachers. The sharing of information and techniques presented at various LILT workshops and in the *LILT Newsletter* create an excellent support system. I believe this support should continue. Therefore, I maintain my membership in retirement and seek to give back something to the organization that has given so much to others. As Second Vice President I will be in a position to use my talents to assure that teachers of world

languages will be recipients of the expertise of LILT members. In our present global society we owe it to our students and our country to spread cultural awareness, interchange, and understanding in any way possible. As a member of LILT or an officer, this will always be one of my personal goals."



secretary.”

**Secretary – Richard Zawislak** (BA, French and Italian, MEd, TESOL, both from Queens College, CUNY, and has studied at the Università per Stranieri, Perugia, and the Université Laval, Québec) Richard was the 2001 recipient of LILT’s Lucille DiPietro Lambert Student Award for Excellence in Second Language Studies, and presently teaches French and Italian in the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District, high school and middle school. He also teaches Italian in the Language Center of Lifelong Learning, Nassau Community College.

*Candidate’s Statement:* “As a foreign language educator I have found LILT to be an invaluable resource. Because of this, I feel moved to give back to this great organization. In LILT I have found a group of like-minded individuals who value, and believe in promoting foreign language education. I would be proud to play a more active role in LILT as I so strongly believe in what it stands for. I am, therefore, seeking the position of

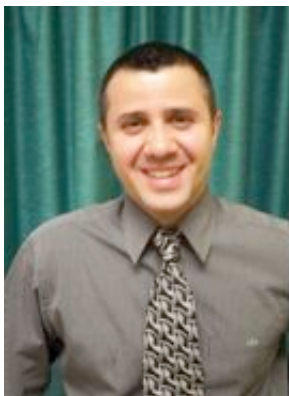


**Treasurer – Ron Taub** (BA, Spanish, SUNY Stony Brook; MA, Secondary Education, Hofstra University; Certificate in Administration and Supervision, Hofstra University; CAS Certification) Ron taught in Kings Park where he was Department Chairman (He introduced Italian to the district.), and after retiring, was Director of Foreign Language Student Teaching Pedagogy at SUNY Stony Brook for two years. He was a LI Director, Registration Co-Chair and AV Chairperson for NYSAFLT, and is now serving LILT as Treasurer, Judge Coordinator, and Chief Administrator for Online Services. He has also served on LILT’s Executive Board as 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, President, and has co-chaired Regional Conferences.

Ron has also participated in a five week Suffolk County Rotary Group Study

Exchange Program Team to Bolivia.

*Candidates Statement:* “I was first elected to the position of LILT Treasurer in 9/86 and held that position until 6/98. I pride myself in making sure that the monies in the Treasury are accounted for down to the penny and are spent wisely with receipts accompanying each expenditure. In 6/98, when I was elected LILT 2nd VP and began moving up the Executive Board ladder, I had to relinquish the Treasury to another individual. Three times, I was reappointed Treasurer along with my current Executive Board position to help out when a Treasurer could not complete his/her term. I was finally reelected to the position of Treasurer in 6/08 and hold that job today. I have seen the LILT Treasury grow from an operation that handled its dues, Conference and Winter Workshop registrations only with mail-in money orders and checks to one that now processes all of the above transactions, with the addition of the Internet payment options, that allow our members the convenience of paying via PayPal, VISA, American Express or MasterCard from one’s computer. As the Chief Administrator of Online Services, I have taken great pride in seeing LILT’s financial operations march into the 21st century, and look forward to continuing that progress as Treasurer in the future.



**Member-At-Large – Riccardo Mancuso** (BA, Italian Studies; MA, Romance Languages and Literatures, both from Stony Brook University, with Italian and Spanish certifications.) Riccardo immigrated from Italy at 15 with his family, and one of his first obstacles was learning English in which he became semi-fluent in six months. His initial difficulties learning English, combined with his love of Italian, permitted him to discover different methodologies for language acquisition. He teaches both Italian and Spanish at North Country Road Middle School, and for the last seven years has been active in NECTFL. Riccardo was appointed Member-At-Large in January 2010 when LILT’s new constitution took effect.

*Candidate’s Statement:* “As LILT’s Member-At-Large, I hope to bring my ideas to improve LOTE instruction. In my classroom, for example, I use different pedagogical and technological tools that students are acquiring, and my ability to use these tools help me spark students’ desire to learn about other cultures and traditions. I am a hard working

individual who welcomes any challenge. I believe I possess the capabilities to become an effective Member-At-Large.”