

ISSUE 13
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This newsletter is brought to you by
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Margarita Johnson



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WHILE YOU'RE WAITING FOR THE NEXT
WTL PODCAST EPISODE TO COME OUT...



Send in your questions by May 31!

Ask Richard Kiely and Eric Hartman your questions about global learning, service learning, or community-engaged learning, and you will be entered to win a copy of their forthcoming book. Your question might be featured on the podcast!

You can submit your questions in audio or written format. For audio submissions, call our Google Voice number (629)888-3398 and leave your question as a voicemail. Or you can record on your own laptop and send the file (or a link to the file) to our email weteachlang@gmail.com.

BOOK GIVEAWAY!

We Teach Languages

ASK US A QUESTION ABOUT COMMUNITY-ENGAGED LEARNING, SERVICE LEARNING, OR GLOBAL LEARNING, AND YOU CAN WIN THIS BOOK!

Enter in the month of May by sending us your questions and contact info by voicemail or text at (629) 888-3398, by email at weteachlang@gmail.com, or message us on Facebook or Twitter. Submissions must be received by 5/31/18.

More info at weteachlang.com/giveaway

The graphic features a central image of the book cover for "Community-Based Global Learning: The Theory and Practice of Ethical Engagement at Home and Abroad" by Eric Hartman, Richard Kiely, Christopher Boettcher, and Jessica Friedrichs. The cover is white with blue and green accents. The title is in large blue letters, and the authors' names are listed below. The cover also features several small photos of people in various settings, including a group of people in a classroom and a person in a field. Green arrows point from the text towards the book cover.

RESPONSE TO EPISODE 53: #LANGCHAT STORIES

This week's episode reaction is from Megan Sulewski (@mllesulewski on Twitter), one of the current #langchat moderators.

I just listened to Sara-Elizabeth Cottrell and Diego Ojeda's conversation on this week's podcast, and the first thing that struck me was that I had no idea how #langchat actually came to be! As a current moderator of #langchat, it was a treat to hear the story behind the creation of the community that helped revolutionize my teaching. Many thanks to Sara-Elizabeth and Diego for not only creating #langchat, but also for allowing all of us to make our marks and help mold the community into what it is today.

I love #langchat for all of the reasons that Sara-Elizabeth and Diego highlighted; participating in #langchat has allowed me to make connections with colleagues that I would never have otherwise known, and has given me access to so many different resources and opportunities for collaboration. I really can't count how many times I've been able to tweet a question or a need to #langchat (sometimes even during the school day), but each time I've gotten a response or a solution from someone in just minutes. If it takes a village to raise a child, then it certainly takes a village to teach one - and #langchat is without a doubt my village.

That said, with so many minds coming together to share one space, conflict is inevitable. As Sara-Elizabeth pointed out, #langchat is not immune to disagreements. I've found that most often, this conflict does not arise from a desire to be antagonistic, but because we are so passionate about what we do and how we do it that we want other people to share in that passion with us. Teaching is a deeply personal and individual experience. When faced with collegial conflict, Sara-Elizabeth and Diego are absolutely right when they note that disagreeing with someone does not excuse you from still treating that person kindly and, most importantly, listening to what they have to say. The importance of listening to understand - not just listening to respond - is really understated. We cannot afford to become fossils - who knows what new research or developments there will be in the future that may change how we approach language teaching and challenge what we thought we knew? I'm so thankful to have a place like #langchat where we'll never have to go it alone!

You can read more of Megan's writing, including a blog post on collegiality online, on her blog [Tales from the Salle de Classe](#)

Interested in reading more from Sara-Elizabeth?

- A guide to the ACTFL can-dos
- Becoming Officer Hopps
- Adapt, incorporate or ditch
- Is your lesson plan out of whack?

Reactions to past episodes:



Nicole Scully
@Sra_Scully

Follow

Replying to @weteaching

Just finished listening. Very inspiring. I'm aHS Spanish teacher returning to teaching (at the community college level!) after being out of the classroom for quite some time. A lot has happened over the last several years. This episode gave me the push to figure out Twitter!



Sra. T
@SraTrimmer

Follow

Replying to @weteaching

The teachers & leaders on #langchat, #charlae1 #langbook, the various WL podcasts (like this one), & the professional WL FB groups have inspired me to dive deeper into the research & the ACTFL standards to best serve my Ss.

Updates from Past Contributors



Nikki Yiran Wei (episode 2) created a YouTube video on SLA principles in language learning apps. She just graduated with her MEd and will be working in China to develop language learning apps.

Jasmine Junyue Wang (episode 7) also created a YouTube video in which she evaluated the three leading English textbooks in China based on SLA principles.. She graduated with her MEd in May as well.