

1st FCTA Annual Conference Guest Speaker' Biography

Ms. Gudrun Martyny's speech is scheduled on March 14, Saturday morning, 2015

Gudrun Martyny hails from Iceland. She came to the US to complete her language studies and graduated with a BA in Spanish from the University of Pittsburgh. During her career she has taught in many states and has held teaching certificates in 3 languages.

Gudrun has served on the Board of Directors of the Florida Foreign Language Association in the position of Executive Director for the last 5 years.

She has a long history of language advocacy and served as the Foreign Language Specialist in Fairfax County Virginia, before moving to Florida. At Timber Creek High School in Orlando, she served as the department chair for six years. While in that position, she was instrumental in establishing a Mandarin Chinese, Russian, and Arabic program at the school. She also served as the Spanish Honor Society advisor and the sponsor of the Florida State Spanish Competition team each year. She and her students were the host school for the FSSC Competition in 2008..

Gudrun has served on the board of the Florida Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese for more than 5 years and is also on the executive council of the Florida State Spanish Competition, Inc.

Gudrun was responsible for Arabic being added to the list of languages taught in Florida. She was also instrumental in the state establishing a coherent system of certification for Less Commonly Taught Languages teachers.

She constantly looks for ways to encourage and support new teachers and is very open and willing to share her knowledge and materials with others.