

## **World Language Teachers Chosen for Prestigious Projects and Awards**

I wanted to let you know that each of the 7-12 World language teachers at Lancaster have recently been chosen for rather prestigious projects and awards.

Ryne Ponsler, MS/HS Spanish Intern, has been chosen as a research assistant for a three week summer project in Costa Rica. He will be working with a professor from UW-La Crosse. Ryne was chosen because of his excellent Spanish language skills. He will be interviewing native Spanish speakers as part of his work.

Kalee Crist, HS Spanish teacher, is one of thirteen teachers from across the United States who has been selected to participate in a Fulbright-Hayes sponsored group project in Costa Rica. Here is the official release from MSU:

Michigan State University's Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies in collaboration with the College of Education a five- week intensive language and culture program, "Teaching the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals (MDGs): Costa Rica," for thirteen U.S. K-12 educators to Costa Rica, summer 2013. Aimed at building teacher capacity and skills needed for teaching in and preparing students for an increasingly interdependent and global world, this GPA offers a unique opportunity to strengthen Spanish language skills, deepen knowledge about the MDGs and Costa Rica, develop curriculum, and engage with communities through an in-depth study of Costa Rica's progress toward attaining the UN MDGs.

Peg Jonas, HS French Teacher, has been notified by the French Embassy in New York City, that the Republic of France has recognized her as a knight in the order of the "Palme Académique" This medal is in recognition of her constant enthusiasm for, and tireless work in promoting the French language and culture. The cultural attaché from the French consulate in Chicago will officially induct Mrs. Jonas into this select group of educators.