BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF EXCELLENCE

TESOL INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT
1 NOVEMBER 2011 – 31 OCTOBER 2012
Building a Community of Excellence is an apt description of a great year for TESOL International Association. This year saw the launch of the new TESOL web site, increased activity in the Online TESOL Community, a record number of convention proposal reviewers, along with a white paper and policy brief. This is only a small slice of the increased engagement of members in their professional association.

More involvement and interaction of members ultimately means that students will benefit from better prepared and knowledgeable teachers. This, of course, is the overarching goal of the excellent Board of Directors that we both have the privilege to lead.
My involvement in TESOL over the last 13 years has given me the best and most valuable professional development opportunities. Thanks to TESOL, I have met and learnt from many great leaders in our field and have developed and grown professionally and personally.

Lillian Wong, TESOL Member since 2000
The launch of TESOL’s first web site update in 9 years was the most important addition to the resources available to TESOL members. The updates have made finding information much quicker and simpler. The TESOL Resource Center now provides resources for both members and nonmembers. All groups can share their lesson plans, teaching tips, and other resources with the field.

Many TESOL interest sections have taken advantage of the technology in the Online TESOL Community to upload resources to their online libraries to share with their members.

The TESOL white paper, “A Principles-Based Approach for English Language Teaching Policies and Practices,” was published online and made available to the field. In September, TESOL published a policy brief, “Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals: A Program for Undocumented Youth in the United States.” TESOL expects to publish at least 3 white papers, research papers, and policy briefs on a variety of issues each year.

“Being a member of TESOL, I can easily communicate with fellow educators, access current research in the field, and find tips to improve my own classroom teaching. It’s great!”

Tara Arntsen, New TESOL Student Member
Getting involved in Speech, Pronunciation, and Listening Interest Section has been a tremendously enriching experience for it has helped me to expand my professional network and, ultimately, to get into a fully funded PhD program in Australia.

Michael Burri, TESOL Member since 2007
TESOL continues to build a stronger professional community through in-person and online professional development and education. Fiscal Year 2012 saw record numbers taking advantage of the Pre- and Postconvention Institutes at the annual convention, along with more than 500 teachers attending the third annual K–12 Dream Day in Philadelphia.

TESOL added two new courses in 2012. Both Training of Trainers and ESL for Secondary Math Teachers received very positive reviews and will be offered again in 2013.

In an effort to provide more regional education, TESOL offered two TESOL Academies in 2012. With the support of two affiliates, CATESOL and Michigan TESOL, successful academies were held at the California State University, Fullerton, and Eastern Michigan University.

More than 3200 people registered for 10 virtual seminars. These seminars, offered as member benefits, create a community each time they are presented. Seminars allow for interaction among the attendees through questions submission and polling of the participants. All seminars are archived so that members can access them when they wish.

The TESOL Core Certificate Program has now grown to a community of more than 100 graduates since its inception. The partnership with Peace Corps continues, with all three Peace Corps regions now participating. There were 71 Peace Corps participants through November 2012.

**MORE PROGRAMS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY**

In 2012, TESOL began planning for numerous events in all parts of the globe. Events have been scheduled for Cameroon, Brazil, China, Egypt, and Korea in the next 2 years. Puerto Rico played host to a 1-day symposium, Facilitating Learning Through Student Empowerment, as part of the 39th PRTESOL Convention and the 11th Central American & Caribbean Basin Regional Conference. This symposium was coordinated with the assistance of PRTESOL and supported by National Geographic Learning.

**TESOL INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION & ENGLISH LANGUAGE EXPO**

The 2012 convention in Philadelphia really highlights the depth and breadth of the global TESOL community. The convention featured more than 800 sessions. There were a record number of reviewers for 2,479 proposals. And for the first time, all reviewers took reviewer training. The convention made it possible for 7,333 attendees from 118 different countries to learn, network, and make new friends.

The English Language Expo, always a hub of activity, featured 128 exhibiting organizations, and the successful Job MarketPlace offered jobs from 39 companies.

TESOL International has been a highly valuable source of professional development for me over the past 20 years. The many fruitful conventions and forums that I participated in were invaluable for me personally and professionally.

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Sufian Abu-Rmaileh, TESOL Member since 1989
I am the teacher I am today because I have stayed in the conversation and listened carefully to the stories of others.

Anne Marie Foerster Luu, 2013 TESOL Teacher of the Year, TESOL Member since 1997
This year, TESOL trained a group of 50 advocates representing 25 U.S. affiliates at the annual advocacy day held in June in Washington, D.C. Attendees learned about current legislation affecting English language teaching in the United States and visited nearly 100 congressional offices.

**HONORING THE BROADER TESOL COMMUNITY**

*James Alatis Award for Service to TESOL*
presented to Mary Ann Christison of the University of Utah

*TESOL Presidents’ Award*
presented to BRAC (http://www.brac.net/) in recognition of their Post-primary Basic and Continuing Education (PACE) program

*Outstanding U.S. Advocate Honor –*
presented to Len Rieser of the Education Law Center

*Excellence in Teaching Award –*
presented to Lia Kamhi-Stein of the Charter College of Education, California State University, Los Angeles

*Distinguished Research Award –*
presented to Paula Winke of Michigan State University

*D. Scott Enright TESOL Interest Section Service Award –*
presented to Christine Bauer-Ramazani of Saint Michael’s College

*Virginia French Allen Award for Scholarship and Service –*
presented to Jodi Ruback of the College of Southern Nevada

*Ruth Crymes TESOL Fellowship for Graduate Study –*
presented to Cui Zhang of Northern Arizona University

**WHITE PAPERS, STATEMENTS, AND BRIEFS FROM TESOL**

- First white paper: “A Principles-Based Approach for English Language Teaching Policies and Practices”
- First policy brief: “Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals: A Program for Undocumented Youth in the United States”
- Revised “Position Statement on Academic and Degree-Granting Credit for ESOL Courses in Postsecondary Education”
- Statement in response to 2012 State of the Union Address
- Statement in response to President Obama’s 2013 Budget Proposal
- Written comments in response to legislation in the U.S. Congress H.R. 4297, the Workforce Investment Improvement Act of 2012

TESOL has given me the opportunity to associate with some of the biggest names in the business. This association has helped me progress professionally.

Kendon Kurzer,
New TESOL Student Member
My TESOL membership allows me to be a part of the ongoing conversations in English language teaching. What I really enjoy most is the variety of resources (books, webinars, workshops, online courses) presented. TESOL has enhanced my ability to conduct research, stay current within the field, and provide resources to my students.

Sarina Molina, New TESOL Member
A GROWING AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY

TESOL membership continues to grow not just in numbers, but in diversity as well. International membership is now 27% of the entire membership, and TESOL has members from more than 156 different countries.

The Board of Directors, recognizing the need to provide easier access to TESOL membership, authorized a number of changes to the TESOL membership structure. Most important was approval of a “lower income” Professional Membership. The Board approved the lower income membership, recognizing that many teachers in all parts of the world may be only working part time, temporarily unemployed, or just not being paid as much as they are worth. In addition, many new teachers do not make a great deal of money when starting out. The New Professional membership accommodates them with a discount during their first 3 years of teaching.

TESOL ended the year with 12,378 members, a 2.4% increase over the previous year.

The Online TESOL Community saw its second highest usage ever in February 2012, when more than 50% of the membership participated in some way. On average, 46% of the membership is engaged online either through communicating with colleagues through the interest section lists or posting comments in the various online discussions held throughout the year.

More than 100 members volunteer their time through participation in Online TESOL Committees, and a record number, more than 900, of TESOL members signed up to be convention proposal reviewers.

TESOL AFFILIATE COMMUNITY
TESOL Affiliates were formed in four new countries, including TESOL Kuwait, TESOL Sudan, AMELA (Mali), AAELTA (Ethiopia).

SPELLEVENTS
TESOL and Franklin Electronic Publishing partnered for the last year of SpellEvents. The events were held between April and June 2012. The following countries participated: Argentina, Chile, Czech Republic, France, Italy, Mexico, Russia, Senegal, South Korea, Turkey, and the United Arab Emirates.

TESOL is grateful to the TESOL Affiliates in those countries for the hard work and volunteer hours spent in organizing these very successful events.
My TESOL membership provides me with access to professionals worldwide with similar interests. I enjoy collaborating and staying connected with other members in between conferences.

Ayanna Cooper, TESOL Member since 2006
For me, TESOL has been a launching pad for global projects that have resulted in meaningful collaborations with people all over the world. It is an amazing organization, and I am so glad that I took the initiative to become an active part of it.

Kevin Knight,
TESOL Member since 2008
TESOL FISCAL YEAR 2012 (NOVEMBER 1, 2011–OCTOBER 31, 2012)

TESOL generated the required funding from non-dues revenue (i.e. annual convention and exhibition, publications, professional development programs, grants, and corporate sponsorships) to support the activities and administrative expenses of TESOL’s member service programs and strategic plan objectives.

As of October 31, 2012, TESOL’s unrestricted investment reserves total $3,053,000, equivalent to approximately 7 months of projected operating expense for the 2013 fiscal year. The TESOL leadership has endeavored to build reserves to enable the association to address financial demands when economic downturns occur or allow for significant expenditure of resources to fund projects and initiatives which support the association’s mission, policies, and strategic objectives.

FY 2012 REVENUE AND EXPENSE BY COST CENTER
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