

## **Sarah Sahr, EdD**

Amideast/Tunisia

Tunis, Tunisia

### **Education**

- EdD, Education Administration and Policy, The George Washington University
- MA, Leadership in Teaching: ESOL, Notre Dame of Maryland University
- BS, Communication and Theater Arts, Eastern Michigan University

### **Professional Work Experience**

- EL Program Director, Amideast/Tunisia, April 2021-present
- English Language Specialist, U.S. Department of State, Worldwide, 2011-present
- EL Program Manager, Amideast/Tunisia, October 2020-March 2021
- Adjunct Professor, The George Washington University, Washington DC, Aug-Dec 2020
- EAL Program Director, American International School Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India, 2018-2020
- Director of Professional Learning & Research, TESOL International Association, Alexandria, VA, USA, 2013-2018
- Education Programs Manager, TESOL International Association, Alexandria, VA, USA, 2010-2013
- English Advisory Teacher, FHI360 (formally Academy for Educational Development), Doha, Qatar, 2008-2009
- Academic Director, ILA Vietnam, Vung Tau, Vietnam, 2006-2008
- Teacher Trainer Lecturer, Gyeonggi Institute for Foreign Language Education, Anjung, South Korea, 2005-2006
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade ELA teacher, Harford County Public Schools, Aberdeen, MD, USA, 2001-2005
- Director of Education, Sylvan Learning Center, McLean, VA, USA 2000-2001
- Traveling School Teacher \* administrator, Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, USA, 1999-2000
- Secondary English Teacher, Peace Corps, Chuko, Sidamo, Ethiopia, 1996-1998

### **Professional Affiliation**

- TESOL International Association: member (2004-present); Award Professional Council Member (2018-present); ISLC staff liaison (2011-2018); Research Professional Council (2013-2018)
- ELLSA, (English Language Learning Specialists in Asia), Chapter leader (2018-2020)
- ASCD: member
- National Peace Corps Association: member
- AAAL: member

### **Relevant Presentations**

- US Department of State, New Delhi RELO: A three-part series on CLIL in the virtual classroom, Sept – October 2020
- AISC: SIOP – a blended learning experience, biannually, from 2018-2020
- TESOL International Convention & English Language Expo: Empowering Students to Utilize their Full Language Spectrum, Virtual Convention, March 2020
- PakTESOL, in partnership with US Department of State: Virtual Learning – A new normal, virtual seminar, Pakistan, May 2020

- Amity University, in partnership with US Department of State: The 6 Principles for Exemplary Teaching - A series of workshops, India, May 2018
- State Council of Education Research & Training, in partnership with US Department of State: TESOL Core Certificate Program – Foundations course, India, December 2017
- ACTFL Annual Convention: The Summit on the Future of the TESOL Profession – an overview, Nashville, TN, USA, November 2017
- 51Talk, China, New York Stock Exchange: Grand Final, Elementary-Age Speech Competition – Celebrity Judge, August 2017
- TESOL Symposium: Personal Reflection Leads to Reflective Teaching – an interactive workshop, Valencia, Venezuela, May 2016

**Candidate’s Statement:** What kind of leaders does the association need? Why are you a good candidate to choose them?

TESOL International Association (TESOL) has been an extraordinary leader during these last 18 months. With most of its services going online, TESOL has connected with like-minded organizations around the world and strengthened our English language teaching (ELT) community. It has built teacher agency in underserved communities. It has used its resources, global brand, and association savvy strategically. In reaching more corners of the Earth, TESOL has become more diverse, equitable, and inclusive. I believe TESOL needs leaders who will continue making these global connections and pivot as the ELT field evolves around the world.

For the past 25 years, I have worked as teacher and administrator in various international settings, most notably as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Ethiopia, traveling school teacher/administrator with Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey circus, curriculum reformer in Qatar, and Director for Professional Learning & Research at TESOL International Association. I am an active English Language Specialist with the U.S. Department of State. My research focuses on K12 topics including online communities of practice, combating teacher isolation, co-teaching, and translanguaging. I believe that I am well known and positively viewed, both in schools and non-academic settings. I have built a healthy rolodex of professional and personal relationships in our field. These experiences have helped me craft the profile of what makes a good leader. It is my hope that the TESOL Community feels I am a viable candidate and elects me to this year’s Nominating Committee.