

# 2015 Governance Restructuring Town Hall Chat Transcript

12 February 10:30 AM EST

John Segota: Welcome to the TESOL Virtual Town Hall! Please introduce yourself.

Judith O'Loughlin: Good morning from foggy San Ramon, CA. This is Judy O'Loughlin.

Andrea Hellman: Good morning, John! This is Andrea Hellman from Springfield, MO.

Chris Hastings: Good evening from Guangzhou, China. This is Chris Hastings

Gabriela Kleckova: Good afternoon. This is Gabriela Kleckova from Plzen, Czech Republic.

Rosemary Orlando: Rosemary Orlando: Hello from snowy New Hampshire!

Heidi Vellenga: Good morning from around the corner in Alexandria (VA). This is Heidi Vellenga.

Konstantinos Pitychoutis: Good evening from Riyadh, KSA. This is Konstantinos Pitychoutis

Maxine Stefano: HI! This is Maxine Stefano, from sunny Houston Texas, but sitting in snowy Grand Rapids, Mi today.

Elisabeth Chan: Hi all, Elisabeth Chan, Alexandria, VA.

Ryuko Kubota: Hi from Vancouver, Canada

Deborah Healey: Hello from Oregon! Deborah Healey

SAMBA KEBE: Good afternoon from Nouakchott, Mauritania, North West African Country. This is Samba Kebe. Happy to be around.

Jayne Adelson-Goldstein: Greetings and salutations! I'm Jayme from windy and sunny (and early) Northridge California.

Doreen Ewert: Doreen Ewert San Francisco

Peter De Costa: Greetings from East Lansing, Michigan.

John Schmidt: Good morning. This John Schmidt from sunny Austin City Limits. Wish you were still here, Chris, but I hope you're enjoying Guangzhou City Limits.

T. Leo Schmitt: Hi, this is Leo Schmitt joining from NYC.

Lavette Coney: Greetings from West Newton, MA.

Nicholas Taggart: Good morning! Nick Taggart in Dayton, OH

Kelly Sippell: Greetings from Kelly Sippell, University of Michigan Press and former IS chair.

Dawn McCormick: Greetings from Dawn E. McCormick in Pittsburgh.

Tomeka Blue: Hello from North Carolina!! Located Near Wilmington NC....

Rob Clement: rob clement here in Oman

Aya Matsuda: Hello everyone! Aya Matsuda from Arizona USA.

Marilyn Rymniak: Marilyn J. Rymniak. Greetings from New York City.

Ann Frentzen: Hi from snowy central Pennsylvania

Andrea Lynes: Andrea Lynes: Hello from Maine, USA!

Valerie Jakar: Hi friends. Greetings from chilly, windy Jerusalem.

Deborah Short: Hi, Deborah Short, from slightly snowy DC

Mark Algren: greetings from chilly Columbia, Missouri!

Tracey McGee: Is anyone else having trouble hearing?

Maxine Stefano: It's coming in clearly for me.

Rosemary Schmid: Hello, friends. It's sunny but chilly in Charlotte, NC. Re sound - slide up sound on your computer. That was my problem.

Rob Clement: no can hear fine

Elisabeth Chan: No, sound is working fine for me

Carol Ogden: Carol Ogden, Universtiy of North Texas, IELI

Cydney (TESOL): Please limit the use of internet for the best sound quality.

Chris Hastings: I've got no sound, but the internet connection in China is almost always problematic

Deborah Crusan: Hello from Deborah Crusan, Wright State University, Dayton, OH

Cydney (TESOL): Chris, we will send out the recorded version after the session ends.

Robyn Brinks Lockwood: hi Everyone, Robyn Brinks Lockwood, Stanford University, CA

Luciana De Oliveira: Hello everyone from sunny Miami, Florida. This is Luciana de Oliveira

Kyung-Hee Bae: Hi everyone! This is Kyung-Hee Bae, Rice University, Houston, TX :)

Elisabeth Chan: 1. Regarding task force to look at IS's- what's the exact objectives of this task force? Would it look at the possible "condensing" of IS's? Or with them reporting directly to the BoD, will they be 'tasked' with objectives from the BoD? 2. Can you tell us more about the decision behind which Standing Committees were not kept in the proposal.

Judith O'Loughlin: Will advisory councils have "expiraation dates," in other words be disbanded after a specific time frame?

Mary Romney: Greetings to all from the Arctic Circle (Connecticut, USA)

Valerie Jakar: For clarification, please: Who will be appointing people to the Task Forces and Advisory committees?

Chris Hastings: Thanks Cydny, I've just reconnected and have sound.

Dawn McCormick: The implementation described in the proposal is very general. Are there specifics for each affected group?

Lavette Coney: What would this change mean for both the Diversity & Inclusion Committee and BELPaF? Would Diversity and Inclusion be a part of all the Board Committees?

Jayne Adelson-Goldstein: In the new Governance Model document it states "All Interest Sections will be expected to connect to and support the strategic plan with planned activities throughout the year, not just at the convention" Could we get a little clarification on this concept?

Suchada Nimmannit: Hi this is Suchada from thailand.

SAMBA KEBE: thank you Cydny we appreciate

Heidi Vellenga: How will the two task forces be convened? (both Interest Sections and Affiliates) Is there a sense of the size of each task force (number of members?)

Christel Broady: This is Christel Broady joining, hello all

Andrea Hellman: What is the calendar for the IS Task Force? What is the calendar for sunsetting the standing committees?

Rosemary Schmid: I've just had a look again at the notes from the affiliates meeting. I am concerned about the quality of the affiliates in the USA and across the world in regard to openness / transparency etc. I refer to affiliates with a fiefdom or cabal of members, thus excluding other professionals. Also, budgets and expenditures of membership and funds raised by conferences, meetings, etc Outreach is a major service of some affiliates, but not of others. AND underlying all is what is "free" to the world-wide community of professionals and what is "members only."

DJ Kaiser: Will the new governance model allow standing committees and advisory councils to work directly with the Interest Sections? For example, if the new Research Standing Committee is addressing an issue that deals with higher education, will the Research SC work directly with the Higher Education IS?

Doreen Ewert: Can you explain the rationale for opening Advisory Council membership to non TESOL members?

Judith O'Loughlin: I wonder about the same question asked by DJ for the Standards Committee, now to become an Advisory Council. Will there be connections to Research to address K-14 education for English learners?

Ann Frentzen: If the restructuring plan is adopted, are there plans in place to evaluate whether or not it is achieving the purposes for having undertaken it?

Judith O'Loughlin: Also wonder about what Dorren Ewert has asked. Rationale for opening an Advisory Council to non-TESOL members? I may be getting ahead of myself asking how will membership be offered to nonmembers--what criteria will be used to offer membership to nonmembers?

Rosemary Schmid: Diversity and inclusion are basically about communication within the community! The world enjoys so many alternative ways to communicate with others besides the face to face time at the convention. I have attended so many conventions at my own expense (= no financial support from wherever I'm teaching) and I considered each convention money well spent. However, we really need to explore and USE other means to keep us united.

Lavette Coney: I can appreciate our need to be more effective and efficient by downsizing, however, since diversity and inclusion is a part of our crucial DNA we should have a plan on how we will weave this throughout the organization. How do you propose the organization make sure the all the committees are diverse and inclusive?

Rosemary Schmid: PLEASE address the forums and caucuses that have been completely omitted from this discussion today.

Rob Clement: i second that Rosemary

Mary Romney: Thanks for that question, Lavette. It is the same one that I was about to ask.

Doreen Ewert: The internal organization, membership, and process of member selection of the advisory councils in the new governance structure seems quite different than the current structure of standing committees. What is the plan for maintaining continuity in ongoing projects already in process and the individuals who are currently on these committees?

Rosemary Schmid: However, what is working well needs to be mentioned and the structure of communication between these parts of the group and the association as a whole is part of structure, is it not?

Rosemary Schmid: I can see how many people are commenting in the Chat. Can someone say how many are listening at this meeting?

Rosemary Schmid: THANK YOIU, Ylin!

Cydney (TESOL): Hi Rosemary, there are currently 51 people live streaming this meeting

Rosemary Schmid: Cydney and all, I hope the audio and chat messages of this meeting will be made available to all members of TESOL. I have to leave now because I have a class at 11:30. So many have probably been unable to attend because of schedule conflicts - or they're asleep! Profitable use of my time! Thank you to all.

Cydney (TESOL): A transcript of the Open Chat thread as well as the recorded presentation will be made available after the event.

Christel Broady: thank you to the presenters for their time and care

Doreen Ewert: It appears that the new plan puts more decision-making power into the hands of the executive committee and executive director in terms of determining the make-up of standing

committees and advisory councils. Will this fulfill the strategic goal of inclusiveness of our diverse membership?

Andrea Hellman: Thank you for the forward looking presentation. It's exciting to ponder these changes.

Lavette Coney: Is it possible to get some feedback from the Diversity and Inclusion Committee about how to weave the committee's concerns into the new 5 standing committees?

Elisabeth Chan: Can I suggest that if you have ideas/comments/concerns about how diversity & inclusion be addressed in a non-committee format, please email me. I'll bring it to the diversity committee meeting and we can collect those suggestions and pass it to the BoD? [elisabethlchan@gmail.com](mailto:elisabethlchan@gmail.com)

Jayne Adelson-Goldstein: Thank you so much for this opportunity to meet. I look forward to learning more in March in Toronto and am very interested to see how this process moves forward.

Li-Te Li: Thank you for the presentation and thoughts on these issues.

T. Leo Schmitt: Thank you for all your work on this.

0212: Thank you to everyone, for your participation, for your questions and comments. Please continue giving feedback.

Mary Romney: Much gratitude to the Executive Committee and TESOL staff for all your information and suport. Thanks for this opportunity to ask questions and contribute to the process.

Judith O'Loughlin: Thank you for the opportunity to hear what is in process for the future of TESOL. I, too, look forward to learning more over the next year and hope for more opportunities to ask questions, reflect and respond to governance plans.

Dawn McCormick: Thanks for the meeting, the opportunity for questions, and the partiicpants.

Christel Broady: See you all in Toronto for more planning and discussion

Konstantinos Pitychoutis: Thank you so much for your work and the presentation.