

NEWS**For Immediate Release**

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TESOL Announces 2018 James E. Alatis Award for Service to TESOL

Alexandria, VA (9 November 2017) – [TESOL International Association](#) announced today that Christine Coombe is the 2018 recipient of the [James E. Alatis Award for Service to TESOL](#). The award honors outstanding and extended service by TESOL members at international, regional, and local levels. The award will be presented to Coombe at the James E. Alatis Plenary during the [2018 TESOL International Convention & English Language Expo](#) in Chicago, Illinois, USA.

Christine Coombe, former president of TESOL International Association (2011–2012), served as the 2006 TESOL Convention chair in addition to two terms on the TESOL Board of Directors. Recently, she served on the TESOL Research Agenda task force and was selected as one of the 50 at 50, individuals who have made key contributions to the profession in the past 50 years.

Coombe serves as a professor at [Dubai Men's College, Higher Colleges of Technology](#), and has taken on leadership roles with [TESOL Arabia](#), having held almost every leadership position in the association including eight times as conference chair.

She has numerous publications in the assessment field including three with [TESOL Press](#) and is one of the editors of the upcoming [Wiley](#)/TESOL Press publication, TESOL Encyclopedia. Christine is a widely sought after speaker on assessment.

“As a tireless advocate for English language teachers around the world, Christine exemplifies the vision represented by the Alatis Award,” said TESOL President Ester de Jong. “Her leadership in TESOL International Association and TESOL Arabia has been central in moving our research agenda forward and strengthening our connections with affiliates worldwide,” de Jong noted.

The [James E. Alatis Award for Service to TESOL](#) originated in 1987 to honor James E. Alatis for his 21 years of devoted service as TESOL's first executive director. Alatis was a charter member of TESOL International Association and dean emeritus of the [School of Languages and Linguistics at Georgetown University](#).

About TESOL International Association

Founded in 1966, TESOL International Association is a professional community of educators, researchers, administrators, and students committed to advancing excellence in English language teaching for speakers of other languages worldwide. With more than 12,500 members representing more than 150 countries, TESOL fosters the exchange of ideas, research, and peer-to-peer knowledge, and provides expertise, resources, and a powerful voice on issues affecting the profession. Through professional development programs, its international conference, special interest groups, and publications, TESOL engages tens of thousands of professionals to collaborate globally and create a world of opportunity for millions of people of all ages who want to learn English. For more information, please visit [www.tesol.org](#).

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