Ayanna Cooper has taught English language learners at all levels and serves on the board of Georgia TESOL. Her interests include grant writing and curriculum and professional development. In 2007 Ayanna completed an internship at the Center for Applied Linguistics in Washington, DC. She is completing her doctorate from Walden University with a research focus on teacher efficacy.

– Premier Dekalb County School District, Atlanta, Georgia USA
Ana Wu, born and raised in Brazil, has given presentations about nonnative speakers, CALL and second language writing at TESOL, CATESOL, and AAAL. Holding a Master’s degree in TESOL and a Certificate in Teaching Composition from San Francisco State University, she currently teaches ESL at City College of San Francisco.

– City College of San Francisco, California USA
Rashi Jain is involved in issues pertinent to nonnative English speaking teachers in TESOL, is becoming increasingly interested in researching and teaching about the different contexts in which English is used around the world, and is currently working towards enhancing the international student experience within her doctoral program.

- University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland USA
Olga González Abad
TESOL/TEFL Travel Grant

Olga González is interested in everything concerning the teaching of the English language, but currently has special interest in teacher training, mentoring, and coaching. She has been involved with teacher training for some years and would like to continue in this area.

– Colegio Politécnico, Copol
English Institute, Ecuador
Claire Bradin Siskin was a past chair of the CALL Interest Section, Claire Bradin Siskin directs the Robert Henderson Language Media Center at the University of Pittsburgh. Her principal interests are faculty development and research in CALL.

– University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania USA
Zuzana Tomas is currently pursuing a PhD at the University of Utah where she is conducting research in the area of second language writing and teacher education. She has presented at TESOL and AAAL. Her pedagogical interest lies in teaching ESL composition courses and in creating pedagogical materials.

– University of Utah, Utah USA
Serpil S. Sonmez
Albert H. Marckwardt Travel Grants

Serpil Sonmez is an advanced PhD candidate in the Multilingual/cultural Education Program at the Florida State University. She recently taught an ESOL curriculum development course at a private college. She has presented her work on curriculum materials design, classroom discourse, reading/literacy, learning in virtual environments, and social learning at various national and international conferences and she has written articles on ethics of the classroom and on reading.

– Florida State University, Florida USA
Holly Rae Johnson is interested in program administration, curriculum development, and teacher training for adult learners of English. She is also interested in teaching adult learners of English for academic purposes.

– Northern Arizona University, Arizona, USA
Mario López-Gopar is originally from Mexico. His main research interest is intercultural and multilingual education (Spanish, indigenous languages, and English) of indigenous groups in Mexico. His teaching interests focus on teacher preparation programs based on critical pedagogies that prepare future teachers who would promote multilingualism and enact inclusive language policies.

– OISE-UT / FI- UABJO, Oaxaca, Mexico
Laura Ramm is an MA TESOL candidate at Eastern Michigan University. As an active member of MITESOL, she serves on committees and presented at the 2007 MITESOL conference. Laura is interested in accent and pronunciation research and applying theatre arts methods and creative drama in the adult ESL classroom.

– Eastern Michigan University, Michigan USA
Wei Xu is a PhD candidate in the Department of Educational Specialties at the University of Nevada, Reno. She has been a language teacher in China and Japan. Her research interests include pragmatics, language, and culture. She is working on her dissertation and preparing for a course on World Englishes.

– University of Nevada, Reno, Nevada USA
Aliya M. Zafar

Ruth Crymes TESOL Award Academy Fellowship

Aliya Zafar is a graduate student at the College of Education at the University of Florida. She has over 17 years of teaching experience in K–12 settings and in higher education. Her experiences of teaching in multicultural settings have encouraged her to explore issues of diversity, social equity, and multicultural education.

– University of Florida, Florida USA
Elizabeth Steinbach is a U.S. State Department English Language Fellow at the University of Limpopo, South Africa. Her research interests include English language literacy acquisition among adolescents and ESOL teacher education in low-input, low-resourced environments. She has implemented teacher-training programs in Armenia and South Africa.

- University of Limpopo, Polokwane, South Africa
Leticia Perez Rodriguez

TESOL Award for International Participation

Leticia Perez Rodriguez’s biggest passion is education. She is interested in the teaching-learning process itself. She likes to reflect on what hinders and enhances foreign language acquisition in order to cater to students’ needs, wants, and intelligences. As an administrator, she encourages ongoing professional development among the staff through workshops and presentations.

– Director of the American School of Tampico Language Institute, Mexico
Leticia Vela Gonzalez has been teaching English as a foreign language since 1996. Her interests include CALL and promoting authentic communication in the classroom. After being head of a student advisory committee for 6 years, she is also interested in autonomous learning. Currently a supervisor, one of her research interests is in teacher development.

– The American School of Tampico Language Institute, Mexico
Angela Yi-ping Hsu

TESOL Award for International Participation

Angela Yi-ping Hsu is an assistant professor in the Department of Foreign Languages & Literature at National Tsing Hua University in Hsin-chu, Taiwan. Her research interests include plagiarism issues in ESL and EFL student writing, bridging the gap of research and teaching, and the correlation between teacher commentary and student writing development.

– National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan
Yuichi Kanemaru

TESOL Award for International Participation

Yuichi Kanemaru is currently interested in teaching productive skills such as speaking and writing at the high school level of instruction. Another interest is learner autonomy or autonomous learners, and he would like to conduct research in this field in the future.

– Tokyo Metropolitan Hitotsubashi High School, Japan
Elizabeth Wagenheim teaches in a pre-academic program and is interested in incorporating the Academic Word List into reading courses, adapting process writing to ELLs, and expanding her instructional technology skills. Many of her students are World English speakers and Generation 1.5, and she is interested in techniques that address their needs.

– Prince George’s Community College, Maryland USA
Tetyana Lunyova’s research interests include cognitive dimensions of lexical and text semantics. Her teaching interests include the integration of modern achievements in linguistics into teaching English; the development of new methods of teaching, focusing on the ways of disseminating democratic values while teaching English; and integrating new technology into the process of teaching.

— Poltava State Pedagogical University, Ukraine
Redouane Madaoui

TESOL Award for Teacher as Classroom Action Researcher

Redouane Madaoui is currently teaching EFL in a public technical school, training high school graduates to become technicians in Computer engineering, electro-mechanics, and business. Madaoui also works in the American Language Center, teaching different classes (beginning to advanced) with different learners (junior and adult program). A doctoral student at the faculty of Education, Rabat-Morocco, he is majoring in applied linguistics and TEFL. His primary area of research is EFL reading pedagogy, and his teaching interests include grammar, writing and language testing.

– Idrissi Technical School and American Language Center, Morocco
Yongyan Li

TESOL Award for Distinguished Research

Yongyan Li is currently a researcher at the City University of Hong Kong. Her areas of interests include second language education and academic discourse study. She has taught English in Mainland China and has published widely on the problems of Chinese scholars writing for publication in English.

– City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR China
Judith Dillon is a dedicated ESL professional. She enjoys helping students improve their skills and reach their maximum potential. Recently, her interest has focused on finding ways to teach multilevel classes of students with diverse cultural backgrounds and English proficiency; she finds it challenging to meet their individual needs in such teaching environments.

– ELS Language Centers
Robert B. Griffin

TESOL Award for an Outstanding Paper on NNEST Issues

Robert B. Griffin is currently the acting director of the MATESOL program at Oklahoma City University. He completed his PhD in Linguistics at Indiana University–Bloomington, specializing in second language acquisition, and has interests in teacher education, classroom-based research, pragmatics, and computer assisted language learning.

– Oklahoma City University, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma USA
Gail Weinstein directs the Center for Immigrant & Refugee Community Literacy Education (CIRCLE) at San Francisco State University. Her textbooks and professional books reflect her commitment to strengthening families and communities through learner-centered practice. Her current passion is engaging teachers in community-based curriculum development using learner stories for immigrant ESL, global English, and peacemaking.

San Francisco State University, San Francisco, California USA