



news

For Immediate Release

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TESOL "Spanning the Globe" in Seattle, March 21–24, 2007

Alexandria, VA (February 2007)—With English quickly becoming the language of global communication, where can one go to learn the latest developments in the field of English language teaching?—to the Washington State Convention & Trade Center, in Seattle, Washington, USA, March 21–24, 2007, when Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, Inc. (TESOL) hosts its 41st Annual Convention and Exhibit.

Under the banner "Spanning the Globe—Tides of Change," the 2007 TESOL convention will feature more than 1250 lecture/discussion sessions presented by 1900 speakers representing more than 20 countries. Among the variety of topics are language testing and assessment, technology in language learning, bilingual education, education standards, and refugee/immigration concerns. In addition, the convention will feature one of the largest exhibitions of its kind in the world, with over 160 exhibitors offering some of the finest products and services for English language educators and their classrooms.

Focusing on the global aspects of second language education, a dynamic series of plenary speakers has been arranged. Speakers include Mawi Asgedom, named by *Ebony* magazine as one of "30 Black Leaders Under 30," who will inspire audiences with his story "From ESL to Harvard—an Immigrant's Perspective," and TESOL President Jun Liu, who will share his experience going from English language learner to English language professor in "From Shanghai to Seattle: Tides of Change."

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TESOL “Spanning the Globe” in Seattle (cont’d)

Also featured among the plenary speakers are leaders in the TESOL field, who will offer their insights on issues affecting the profession. Betty Azar, one of the field’s most widely published authors, and Diane Larsen-Freeman, of the University of Michigan, will address how the English as a second language (ESL) field is affected by change, especially over the past several decades. Ron Carter, of the University of Nottingham, will discuss everyday language in the classroom, and author H. Douglas Brown will moderate a panel of plenary speakers addressing global changes and perspectives on language teaching.

Keeping with the theme of change, the 2007 TESOL convention will feature a special event: the Symposium on Adult Civics and Citizenship Education in the United States. Sponsored by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services’ Office of Citizenship and the U.S. Department of Education Office of Vocational and Adult Education, the symposium will feature a panel of distinguished speakers discussing a history and analysis of citizenship and the naturalization process in the United States. In addition, the symposium will feature a first look at the newly revised U.S. Naturalization Test and Study Guide.

Other key events for attendees include a research symposium, pre- and post-convention institutes, visits to education sites, and a Job Marketplace featuring hundreds of recruiters and employers. In addition, a special evening forum will be held on change management in the English language teaching field.

Press can register for the convention either in advance or on site. To register in advance, visit the online press room at <http://www.tesol.org/>, and click on TESOL 2007. To register on site, please go to Room 504 at the Washington State Convention & Trade Center. Other press releases and more information about presenters and sessions are available at the TESOL 2007 online press room.

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Founded in 1966, Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, Inc. (TESOL), is a global education association with more than 13,500 members and 90 affiliates in over 120 countries. Representing a multifaceted academic discipline and profession, TESOL offers members serial publications, books, and electronic resources on current issues, ideas, and opportunities in the field of English language teaching. TESOL also conducts a variety of workshops and symposia, including an annual convention, regarded as the foremost professional development opportunity for English language educators worldwide. TESOL's mission is to ensure excellence in English language teaching to speakers of other languages.