

Maryland TESOL News

A Message from Our President

Welcome and a big thanks to our new and returning board members for volunteering their time and effort on behalf of the students and teachers of ESL/ESOL in Maryland! It's amazing what already busy people accomplish. The MD TESOL Board has been working for you. Since the Spring Dinner in May when the new board was elected, we have been meeting monthly to come up with new and interesting ideas and policies. Highlights of our meetings include voting to provide each of the special interest sections with funds to hold workshops starting early next year.

Our big event for the year is soon approaching and we hope you renew your annual membership and join your colleagues from around the state for the fall conference on November 1st at the College of Notre Dame in Baltimore. After all of this rain, we are looking forward to a beautiful sunny day to enjoy an event with many presentations, publisher exhibitions, and a gallery of student work, as well as a plenary speech by Lorraine Valdez Pierce on student assessment.

Please feel free to contact me with any suggestions you have for the organization. Keep up the good work. We look forward to seeing you at the conference.

Philip Knighton

Nationally Recognized Keynote Speaker

By Becki Maurio

Maryland TESOL is pleased to welcome Dr. Lorraine Valdez Pierce as keynote speaker for our Fall 2003 Conference.

Dr. Valdez Pierce is an Associate Professor in the Graduate School of Education at George Mason University, as well as co-author of the book *Authentic Assessment for English Language Learners: Practical Approaches for Teachers*. She has an extensive background in language teaching and now works with ESOL teachers, particularly on topics of curriculum design and assessment. She is a nationally recognized speaker and member of International TESOL.

Dr. Valdez Pierce will speak to Maryland TESOL members in an afternoon keynote session, addressing the conference theme of "New Challenges: Doing More With Less." Her talk will tackle the struggle between working to meet students' needs while preparing them for high stakes tests. Dr. Valdez Pierce will also offer strategies applicable for helping students at all levels in spite of often-limited resources and the boundaries imposed by standardized testing and other accountability measures.

2003-2004 Board Members

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Fall Conference

Saturday, November 1, 2003 at the College of Notre Dame



TWO in ONE Conference and Membership

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| <u>Save Time:</u> | Fill out ONE form for both (Form A) |
| <u>Save Money:</u> | 2003-2004 members receive a discount for the Conference |
| <u>Save More Money:</u> | Register before October 11 |

Visit our Website for Conference/Membership Applications
<http://www.marylandtesol.org/joinus.htm>

Annual Membership: September 1, 2003 - August 31, 2004

Type of Membership:

| | |
|-------------------|---------|
| Regular | \$25.00 |
| Student/Volunteer | \$15.00 |
| Institutional** | \$45.00 |

MD TESOL Conference Registration for Members ONLY

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|--|---------|
| Pre-registration (received by October 11) | \$35.00 |
| Late registration (received after October 11) | \$50.00 |
| [Conference Presenter - selected presenters will be reimbursed 50% of their conference registration fee] | |

MD TESOL Conference Registration for Non-Members

| | |
|---|---------|
| Pre-registration (received by October 11) | \$60.00 |
| Late registration (received after October 11) | \$75.00 |



**** INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP (limited to 1 institutional membership (of two people) per institution)**

An institutional membership includes mailings, directories, and memberships for two people. The institution can choose and designate any two of their staff to benefit from this, which is a savings of \$5 over regular membership. The mailings typically go to the institution's address, so they can be distributed throughout the program. In addition, Institutional Members are listed individually in the MD TESOL Membership Directory.

What Maryland TESOL Offers You

The **Annual Conference** gives members an opportunity to meet with colleagues and attend sessions about teaching English to speakers of other languages

Workshops and Interest Section Meetings are designed to keep members up-to-date with current research and methodology.

The **Maryland TESOL Newsletter** is published three times a year with information about upcoming events, teaching tips, employment news, book reviews, and articles of interest to area teachers.

Special Interest Sections give members an opportunity to meet with others in their area of interest: Elementary Education, Secondary Education, Higher Education, Adult Education, Program Administration and Teacher Education.

The **Maryland TESOL Directory** lists members' contact information and updated information on ESL Programs, Professional Preparation Programs, and ESOL Community Resources.

The **Job Bank** helps match potential employers with members seeking employment.

Professional Growth: Maryland TESOL provides many opportunities for members to share their knowledge and expertise. Members are encouraged to give a workshop, publish in the Newsletter, and/or serve on a committee.

MDTESOL CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 1, 2003

Sarah Shin Addresses Error Correction

By Tamara Jones

Grading student writing can be a daunting task. How can educators be sure we are using the best approach to error correction? In order to address these concerns regarding error analysis, Higher-Ed (thanks Silvio Avendano) offered a workshop, conducted by Dr. Sarah Shin.

On August 13th, a number of educators and some interesting visitors from Uzbekistan gathered at UMBC to learn more about error correction from Dr. Shin. She primarily advocated prioritizing student errors: determining which mistakes are the most stigmatizing and correcting them is more important than correcting every mistake.

Dr. Shin offered several tips for teachers to apply to that next stack of papers. Following is a short list of "favorite" tips gleaned from her presentation, with apologies to Dr. Shin, if I misrepresent her words.

1. Start with praise!
2. Use requests when correcting errors, for example "Can you provide a thesis statement here?"
3. Use summary statements, such as "Check your verb tenses."
4. Use conferencing to check whether students are making the same mistakes in speaking as they do in writing.
5. Students should make meaning-level changes after teacher and peer feedback.

Although I continue to struggle to put down my red pen when I read student writing, I certainly learned a lot at the workshop. Thanks again to Dr. Shin for sharing her expertise.

What's New in Delmarva?

By Dr. Joaquín S. Vilá

Salisbury University (SU) hosted the **Fifth Annual Bilingual Education Summer Institute** on June 26-27, 2003, jointly sponsored by the Bilingual Education Careers Ladder Program (BECLP) and the Training for All Teachers Project (TAT) under the direction by Ms. Karen Gianninoto. Invited presenters included Dr. Debra Suarez from University of Maryland, College Park, Dr. Dough Ball, from Salisbury University and other distinguished speakers.

The **Spring'03 ESOL Professional Development Conference** was well attended by over 250 participants from the Eastern Shore. SU faculty and staff will continue to provide free workshops for K-12 in-service and pre-service classroom teachers, adult educators, teacher trainers, and college faculty and staff on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia. For more information, contact Ms. Karen Gianninoto at 410-677-5316 (klgianninoto@salisbury.edu) or Dr. Joaquín S. Vilá at 410-546-6214 (jsvila@salisbury.edu).

Good News! SU has been awarded a grant from MHEC Maryland Higher Education Commission to fund the **Teaching All Learners Mentoring Project (TAL)**. This Project will provide Wicomico County Public School secondary teachers, principals, and student interns with training and classroom mentoring support to be able to address the academic needs of diverse student populations in core content area classrooms. For more information, please contact the English Language Learning Center at 410-677-5009.

August 31, 2003 marked the conclusion of the **BECLP** at Salisbury University. The program served ten school districts in Delmarva, eight in Maryland and two in Virginia. Preliminary results show that the project had a significant positive impact on the in-

creased availability of ESOL trained professionals serving the three states in the region. The major goals of the BECLP project entailed administering three scholarship programs aimed at providing opportunities for teacher training and professional development in the area of TESOL.

Nine bilingual individuals obtained BS (8) and AA (1) degrees in an education-related field. These included elementary education, science education, French, and English language education. The recipients also volunteered more than 1,000 hours of community service in local schools and educational programs serving English Language Learners (ELL) in Delmarva. In addition, BECLP staff made more than 100 presentations to over 1,000 people.

There were fifty-six participants in the **Career Enhancement program**. This scholarship was intended to help bilingual individuals in the community pursue professional goals in education. Most students received financial assistance, but several have graduated with 2 or 4 year degrees due to the scholarship program. Students from this program have contributed more than 2,000 volunteer hours working with ELLs.

The **MA/TESOL Program** had thirty-two participants, with twenty-four graduating by August, 2003. The participants in this program provided over 150 presentations and in-service trainings on topics related to ELL to over 2,000 people.

The **ESOL Resource Center**, located at Camden House, now has over 1,400 items now available for checkout.

Joaquín S. Vilá, Ph.D. is the TESOL Advisor at Salisbury University



Dorrie Brass, Secretary

Dorrie teaches ESL at the English Language Center (ELC) at UMBC, where she has taught levels 0 through 6 in both reading/writing and speaking/listening. Dorrie also teaches freshman composition at the university. She holds master's degrees from Harvard University and Notre Dame College in Manchester, New Hampshire. Her ESL career began with a multi-level, open-entry refugee class in New Hampshire in 1992. A member of the ELC staff since 1995, Dorrie has also been an instructor in the Egyptian teacher-leader program, mini-courses in Business Communications, TESOL teacher development, and thesis/dissertation revision.

Lynne Ewing

Program Admin IS Rep

Lynne is now serving her fourth year as the ESOL Program Director for Kent, Queen Anne's and Talbot Counties on the eastern shore of Maryland. She holds a BA degree in Russian and an MA in TESOL from West Chester University in PA. Lynn has worked her way up and down the educational ladder teaching ESOL to adults and also working with adults and children birth to 3 at Even Start in Greensboro, Caroline County, MD. She enjoys working with both ESOL and classroom teachers trying to best meet the needs of ELL.

Vickie YuKyung Hong-Smith, Program Admin IS Rep

Vickie has been working in ESOL higher ed over ten years, teaching both college and graduate level ESOL students. Currently, she is Assistant Professor in the Department of English at the Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC), Essex, teaching and directing the ESOL Program which serves over 400 degree-seeking students per year.

Maria Reamore, Secondary Ed Rep

Maria currently works in the Baltimore City Public School System's ESOL Program as an Academic Coach providing instructional and administrative support to both ESOL and mainstream educators. For the past three years she has taught ESOL at Southwestern High School and West Baltimore Middle School. Prior to coming to Baltimore City she was a Lecturer in the English Department of Seirei Women's Junior College in Akita, Japan. In addition to her teaching responsibilities, Maria has written curricula for Baltimore City's secondary ESOL program and for Seirei Women's Junior College culture and literature courses. Maria has developed and facilitated workshops and given presentations on meeting the needs of English language learners to teachers in the Baltimore City schools and to undergraduate elementary student teachers at the College of Notre Dame of Maryland.

Ryan Monroe, Teacher Training IS Rep

Ryan is the coordinator of the English Learner Educational Services program at McDaniel College in Westminster, Maryland. He has also taught ESOL, SDAIE Science and Bilingual Science in Northern California, Washington DC and Maryland. Ryan holds a Master's degree in ISD/ESOL from UMBC and is currently a student in the Language Literacy and Culture PhD program at UMBC. He is a former Peace Corps volunteer in Honduras from 1984-1987.

Ilhye Yoon, Elementary Ed IS Rep

Ilhye is currently teaching ESOL at Rippling Woods Elementary School in Anne Arundel County. She received her BA degree from Catholic University in Seoul, S. Korea and a MA degree in TESOL from the College of Notre Dame in Maryland. Bringing her unique experience as a former English as a Foreign Language (EFL) student, she builds empathy and connects with her students. Ilhye is originally from Korea.

Laurette Simmons, Treasurer

Laurette is new to TESOL. She started her ESL career at Greater Homewood and is now teaching at Howard Community College. She has also taught Global Perspectives in Teaching in the graduate school at the College of Notre Dame where she is completing an MA in TESOL. Prior to her ESL career, Laurette taught math to middle and high schoolers in South America and Texas followed by a 20 year career in Information Systems at the University of North Texas, East Texas State University and Loyola College in Maryland from which she is retired. International teaching assignments include the Catholic University of Belgium, Alberto Hurtado University in Chile and Jilin University in China where she was on a Fulbright award. Laurette's main claims to fame are that she has visited 49 countries plus all 50 states and that although she and her parents were born in the US, she didn't learn English until age five.

Tamara Jones, Higher Ed IS Rep

Tamara has been teaching English to international students for almost eight years and holds a MEEd (ELT) from the University of Sheffield in the United Kingdom. She taught in Russia and South Korea before moving to the USA, where she taught in Nashville, Tennessee at an independent Intensive English Program for two years. She currently teaches at Howard Community College in both the credit and non-credit divisions and she is the Activities Counselor for HCC's IEP, the English Language Institute.

Christa de Kleine, Teacher Training IS Rep

Dr. Christa de Kleine is Assistant Professor of Education at the College of Notre Dame in Baltimore, where she coordinates the MA in TESOL program. She holds degrees in linguistics from the University of Groningen (the Netherlands) and the City University of New York, and has taught ESL and TESOL courses in the U.K and the U.S. Her research interests focus on the acquisition of standard American English by speakers of English-based creole languages, and on the role of online technology in teacher education programs.



MEMBERS ABROAD

A Mexican Experience

by Diana Siemer

I had the opportunity to spend two weeks in Guanajuato, Mexico this past summer. I went with my 17 year old son and was joined by a friend from Colorado and her 12 year old daughter. Together we attended a Spanish Language school called Escuela Mexicana for those two weeks.

Guanajuato is a small historic and touristy city set amidst rolling hills. The climate was pleasantly non-humid compared with Baltimore, but the local folks did not consider it to be dry because they said it rained there regularly. The city is only about 30 minutes across by foot, and much of the city is pedestrian only, since about 15 years ago several subterranean tunnels were created for much of the automobile traffic. The city also has dozens of "walking only streets" which go up the hillsides out of the city by steps or steep ramps, because there aren't many roads for cars, and yet most people live on the hills surrounding the town. We stayed with one family, arranged by the school, and my friends stayed with another family. Our family lived up 113 steps!

Guanajuato is the birthplace of Diego Rivera, one of Mexico's foremost painters, and it is also historically important regarding the Mexican Revolution. Much of the city is historically protected from making any changes to architecture or the layout of the city streets, and so the feeling of the city is rather medieval. The streets are mostly cobblestone, narrow and winding, and the sidewalks are narrow and many shops are small.

Escuela Mexicana was just one of many Spanish schools in the city. I had four classes; conversation, grammar, practical Spanish (phrases and survival language), and culture. My son took cooking instead of culture.

We had a great time overall. The city was very pretty and easy to get around, and the local people were accommodating of "us foreigners." Next time, I will take the advice of the school and schedule myself to be there for at least three weeks.



A Letter From Korea

By Ronda Critchlow

In my last email, I shared with you my apprehensions about what our next drama campsite would be like. Actually, for a camp, we are living and working in very comfortable conditions, which is good for us since Korea is currently in its monsoon season!

We are residing in the beautiful countryside of Jun-jeu, a city renown for its food and spices. I think the most exotic food I've eaten this time is spicy, buttered squid. It caught me by surprise because it looked like a noodle dish! It was quite tasty, much better than the bug larvae I ate in January!

Thankfully, once again, my kids are super, and their English is fantastic! Their group name is the "Blue Heroes," and they are planning to perform Beauty & the Beast. At the end of the play, I am planning to have Beauty & the Beast waltz while the other characters sing the chorus to the song "Beauty & the Beast." They are making the costumes & props for our play as I am writing. I will teach them how to waltz this afternoon, and we also must rehearse blocking for our play on the stage. Tomorrow, another teacher from UMBC and I plan to sing a traditional Korean folk song entitled, "Arirang." The tune & words are a bit complicated, but as the Russians say, "Repetition is the mother of learning!"

Our next campsite will be in Busan. They have a superb beach there. Guess where I'll be spending most of my free time!

PRIZES

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The theme of our fall MDTESOL Conference is "New Challenges: Doing More With Less."

Please tell us about what has happened in your life as an ESOL/ESL teacher that colorfully illustrates this theme.

Send your real-life experiences by email to Susan Bresee at sbrese1@umbc.edu by October 20, 2003.

Prizes will be awarded for different categories -
most ingenious, funniest, most pedagogical, most economical (cheapest), or most useful.

Entries may also be posted on a reading wall at the Fall Conference and published in the next Newsletter