

Spring 1992

The Fourth Estate



Texas Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages

Spring 1992 Special State Convention Preview Issue Volume IX # 1

STELLAR PANEL OF SPEAKERS TO ILLUMINATE TEXTESOL STATE CONVENTION IN HOUSTON

The big news for ESL/bilingual instructors in Houston this year is that we will be hosting the annual state convention of TEXTESOL at the *Doubletree Hotel - Post Oak, on Friday and Saturday, November 6-7, 1992.* This is a major statewide meeting which brings together teachers, researchers and other specialists in the fields of ESL/EFL, applied linguistics, bilingual education and



public education policy. The theme of the conference is "Discovery: The View of the Discoverer."

The most noteworthy feature of this convention is the list of first-rate speakers who will attend: **Carolyn Graham** (*Jazz Chants, Big Chants*), **Pat Richards Amato** (*Methods That Work*), **Elsa Auerbach** (*ESL for Action*), **Thaddeus Lott** (principal of

Wesley Elementary, featured on "60 Minutes") and NASA astronaut **Bonnie Dunbar**. Even more exciting is the prospect of attendance by world-famous literacy educator and theorist **Paolo Freire**, author of *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*.

In addition to attending the meeting, you have an excellent opportunity to display your latest research or novel teaching techniques to your colleagues. Please take this opportunity to respond to the Call for Papers which appears on Page 7 of this newsletter.

Be sure to mark your calendar to attend this important milestone in our field.

Direct inquiries to Christine Tierney, who is serving as the chairperson of this prodigious undertaking.

In this issue:

- Christine Tierney preps us on the upcoming TEXTESOL Conference in Houston, on Pg. 3
- Jobs galore, on Pg. 4
- You'd be amazed at what's happening with your friends and colleagues! Read it here, not in the supermarket checkout line! Pg. 9
- David Ross lashes out intemperately at "America Firsters", on pg.6
- Literature? In our pages? See pg. 7

TEXTESOL BOARD BUSINESS

From The President's Desk

Resolutions for 1992

by Alice Taylor Lawson
President, TEXTESOL Region IV

The New Year brings resolutions of all kinds. For the TEXTESOL IV Executive Board, it brings the resolution to make 1992 the year of outreach to ESL and bilingual educators who are not yet members of our organization. We need to pass the word, to share this newsletter with

colleagues, and finally, for new and old members to come together at an exciting TEXTESOL State Conference here in Houston in November.

To kick off the new year and the 1992 State Conference planning, the Executive Board met in January at the University of Houston at University Park. We were pleased to have Dr. Michele Hewlett-Gomez as special guest. Since Michele is teaching at Sam Houston State University now, she is a prized new member of our affiliate, and we appreciate her presence at our meeting and her continued good counsel. Key committee chairs are now in place for the Conference. Plans are in progress for inspiring speakers, useful workshops and lots of fun for everyone.

Our theme this year and at the Conference is "Discovery." We surely want to involve all of you in the program, so please send in those presentation topics. Get together and plan a panel discussion or swap session. Call us with your ideas and suggestions. It's an opportunity to reaffirm what a difference it makes when we share our discoveries with colleagues from all over Texas and learn from each other.

A Happy New Year of "Discovery" from all of us on TEXTESOL IV Executive Board.

THE FOURTH ESTATE is a publication of TEXTESOL IV, regional affiliate of TESOL, Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages. All correspondence should be addressed to THE FOURTH ESTATE, English Language Institute, University of Houston, Downtown, One Main St. Houston, TX 77002.

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THE FOURTH ESTATE thanks the English Language Institute and the University of Houston-Downtown for the contribution of office space, and the Houston Community College Intensive English Program for access to computers and other institutional support

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From The Conference Chair

by Christine Tierney

Chair, TEXTESOL State Conference

Right now, I am beginning to feel a lot like Lily Tomlin's character, Edith Anne. This is an awfully big chair I'm sitting in, and that's the truth! Making the arrangements for this year's state convention is a very large responsibility, and to ensure its success, I will be calling on all of you to help!

Anyone who attended last year's convention in Austin knows that it was superb. There was a wonderful mix of academic research and methodology. There was literally something for everyone who attended. More than anything else, I want to make sure that all segments of our profession will find presentations that interest them, concern them and motivate them at this year's convention as well. We are still lining up our keynote and plenary speakers. We have some truly exciting prospects, such as Carolyn Graham, Pat Richards Amato, Elsa Auerbach, Principal Thaddeus Lott, Astronaut Bonnie Dunbar, and, most exciting of all, Paulo Freire.

This brings me to the purpose of my message. You will find enclosed in this newsletter the call for papers. Even if you have never thought about presenting before, please do so now. Demonstrations are often the easiest for first-

time presenters. Take those wonderful ideas that you use in the classroom everyday and share them with your peers. They may be old hat to you, but I assure you that your audience will enjoy hearing about your methods. Tell us about your research. Let us know what effect site-based management has had in your program. What is going on in workplace literacy pro-

grams? It is not just the big names we want to hear; we want to hear from you.

I look forward to seeing you in November. As if networking with your colleagues, learning from the experts, and sharing your ideas were not enough incentive, the Doubletree Hotel-Post Oak is one of the most luxurious places I have ever seen. Their management has assured me that they will do every-

thing possible to make our stay unforgettable and our conference a success. The hotel is half a block from the Galleria and directly across from the Pavillon. Restaurants, shopping, comedy clubs are all close by.

Mark your calendar now. November 6 & 7. Make this conference the best one yet.

DIRECTOR OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTITUTE PASSES AWAY

The ESL community mourns the loss of one of its leaders, Marilyn Sunda Holmes, who passed away on March 17, after a long struggle with cancer. She had served as the director of the English Language Institute at the University of Houston Downtown, one of Houston's most successful Intensive English programs. Friends and colleagues who wish to contribute remembrances may make a donation in her name to the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, General Research Cancer Fund Donations, 1515 Holcombe, Box 197, Houston, TX 77030

JOBS, JOBS, JOBS!!!

OVERSEAS

**Kyoto University
English Language Institute
Oklahoma State University**

Twelve-month contract with possibility of renewal, teaching adults in an Intensive English program.

Qualifications: M.A. in ESL, linguistics or related field.

For further information: contact Kay W. Keys, Director, English Language Institute, Oklahoma State University, 210 USDA Building North, Stillwater, OK 74075-0437

**27 venues around Japan
Overseas Service Corps
YMCA of the USA**

Two-year contract with possibility of renewal. Good benefits.

Qualifications: Bachelor's degree, fluent English.

For further information: contact Bonnie Main, OSCY Program Administrator, YMCA of the USA, International Office for Asia, 909 Fourth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104. (206) 382-5008

**8 venues around Taiwan
Overseas Service Corps
YMCA of the USA**

One year contract with possibility of renewal. Benefits included.

Qualifications: Bachelor's degree, fluent English.

For further information: same as above

**Worldwide locations
Peace Corps**

Contracts all over the world, including locations in the former Soviet Union.

For further information: contact Elaine L.

Chao, Director, Peace Corps. 1-800-424-8580, ext. 2293

UNITED STATES

**ELS Language Center
Oklahoma City, OK**

Associate instructors needed - full-time, part-time, and as substitutes.

Qualifications: B.A. with training and/or experience in second-language methodology.

For further information: contact Julie Blevins, Director of Courses, ELS Language Center, 1915 N.W. 24th St. Oklahoma City, OK 73106

HOUSTON AREA

**Intensive English Program
Southwest College of Houston Community
College
Houston, TX**

Due to expanding enrollment, we are in need of substitute teachers, as well as applicants for benefits-eligible hourly instructors.

Qualifications: Master's degree in ESL, linguistics or related field; intensive English experience a plus

Salary/Benefits: \$16.50/ hour for substitutes; \$16.50/hr. for 30 hours plus health insurance and retirement for benefits-eligible hourly instructors.

For further information: send resume and cover letter to David A. Ross, Intensive English Program, Southwest College, HCCS, 5407 Gulfton, Houston TX 77081. (713) 661-2393

**Houston Community College
Houston, TX**

The HCCS, in cooperation with the Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Mexico in Toluca,

Continued on next page

Ctd. from previous page

Mexico (about 40 miles north of Mexico City), will have two 6-week positions from around Aug. 1 to Sept. 15. One position will be for teaching a group of about 10 students from Toluca in Houston, and the other will involve teaching about 40 students in Toluca. The subject will be teacher-training for ESL instructors, with emphasis on applied linguistic theory, application of technology to ESL instruction (e.g. computers, language labs, etc.) and classroom techniques.

Qualifications: Ph.D preferred, M.A. required, in Applied Linguistics or related field;

Deadline for application: June 30

For further information: Contact Dr. Bernardo Vallejo, Department of International Studies, Central College, HCCS, 1300 Holman 77004; (713-630-1856

JOB BROKERS

Foreign Language Forum CompuServe Computer Network

Free advertising of foreign-language-related job openings, both foreign and domestic. List available 24 hours a day to CompuServe and affiliated network subscribers.

For further information: contact CompuServe Incorporated, PO Box 20121, Columbus, OH 43220. 1-800-848-8199

TESOL Placement Service TESOL, Inc.

Employment information and grants announcements available to TESOL members who pay an additional \$12 per year.

For further information: contact TESOL Placement Service, 1600 Cameron Street, Suite 300, Alexandria, VA 22314-2751. (703) 836-0774

AWARDS AND GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

TOEFL Research Award

The TOEFL Research Program is offering an annual award of \$2,500 for outstanding doctoral dissertation research in the area of second language/foreign language tests and testing. If you teach in a doctoral program, you may have a prospective winner to nominate. Contact TOEFL at PO Box 6155, Princeton, NJ 08541-6155

Mini-Grants Available

Hands-On English, the periodical for teachers and tutors of adult ESL, is pleased to announce its first annual Mini-Grants awards.

A small number of grants of up to \$100 each will be awarded to teachers and tutors of ESL for an instructional project. These mini-grants are part of the *Hands-On English* mission to encourage and assist teachers and tutors in a practical way.

Applications will be accepted through April 30, 1992. For further information and an application form, contact:

Hands-On English
attn. Grants Manager
P.O. Box 589
Dewitt, NY 13214

Subscriptions to the periodical (6 issues per year) are also available at the above address for \$16 per year (\$10 discounted rate for tutors and aides; \$22 multi-user rate for libraries and institutions).



VIEWPOINTS AND COMMENT

XENOPHOBIA: AMERICA'S BRAIN ON DRUGS

*David A. Ross
Houston Community College*

Have you heard? We've won the Cold War! Communism is in rout around the world, and there is no longer another superpower to contest us anywhere on the globe! The troops will be coming home, defense budgets will be slashed, and those of us in education can just sit home and begin clipping those coupons of the "peace dividend."

So why aren't I smiling? The truth is that the recent turn of events in the world has given rise to a kind of introspection among Americans, which at its best is a healthy desire to begin taking our domestic problems seriously, but which at its ugliest gives rise to nasty trends of racism, isolationism, protectionism and xenophobia.

The crudest example of this anti-foreign sentiment is, of course, Pat Buchanan, with his "America First" slogan. He asserts that the U.S. is first of all a "European" nation, with "European" values. I'll be darned if I can figure out what a "European" value is, except possibly a Eurailpass. But this is music to the ears of uneasy Caucasians who ride down Bellaire Blvd. and can't read the signs at the shopping malls because they're in Chinese and Vietnamese.

Buchanan, upset because his beloved Washington D.C. now has more Ethiopian restaurants than Irish bars, wants to limit immigration from non-European countries. He forgets, of course, that when his ancestors came to the States, the same tune he's now singing was

the anthem of the New England Protestants.

However, Buchanan is but the most odoriferous symptom of a deeper malaise. As our complexion becomes more multi-cultural, as we become more intricately bound up with the world economy and world culture, many native-born Americans fear a loss of identity and, what is worse, a loss of confidence in their standing in the world. Besides Pat Buchanan, the most serious protagonists of protectionism and isolationism are, surprising to say, liberal Democrats, who, in their eagerness to find sources of popular discontent to pin on the Reagan/Bush regime, have discovered that Japan- and Mexico-bashing play well among labor-union members and minorities (especially Blacks). Hence the enthusiasm of Jerry Brown and Tom Harkin to attack the U.S.-Mexico free trade agreement: "They'll send our jobs to Mexico!" - a sentiment which hardly resonates as a chant of liberation and humanistic values.

We in the "language game" are sort of in the line of fire of these reactionary movements. First of all, if the xenophobes have their way, we'll be out of jobs! Remember that the same people that are so anxious to make English the "official language" of the U.S. are also usually the leaders of taxpayer revolts and other attacks on public education.

But more importantly, we are squarely confronted with the ethical question: Shall we treat our students as pesky anomalies, to be tolerated but nudged into a forced assimilation into the country with "European values"? Or shall we treat them as precious national resources, whose diversity contribute to our national cultural wealth?

AT THE CROSSROADS:



TEACHING ENGLISH IN
A WORLD OF CHANGE
AND CHALLENGE



For more information write:

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Organized by the Institute of
International Education
in conjunction with

- The Ministry of Education,
Youth and Sport
of the Slovak Republic
- Comenius University, Bratislava
- Hunter College,
City University of New York

Session I: July 6-20, 1992

Session II: July 18-31, 1992



MARK YOUR CALEN- DAR

April

- **Louisiana TESOL (LaTESOL) State Conference.** Louisiana State University. Contact: Josette Beaulieu-McFaull, Publishers' Exhibit Chair (504) 286-6112.
- **TexTESOL V Spring Conference.** Collin County Community College, Plano, TX. Contact: Steve Lewis, President, University of Texas at Arlington (817) 273-3133, ext. 4630.
- **Association for Supervision and Curricular Development (ASCD).** "Transforming Learning: Paradigms, Practices, Possibilities," New Orleans, LA, April 4-7. Contact: Michelle Kelly, ASCD, 1250 N. Pitt St., Alexandria, VA 22314 (703) 549-9110, ext. 317.
- **National Center for Family Literacy (NCFL).** First National Conference, April 12-14. University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Contact: NCFL, 501 S. 4th Ave., #610, Louisville, KY 50202-3449 (502) 584-1133.

May

- **May 1:** Call for Proposals, TESOL Interest Sections, *TESOL '93*, "Designing Our World," Atlanta, GA. Contact: TESOL '93 Convention Dept., 1600 Cameron St., Suite 300, Alexandria, VA. 22314-2751
- **International Reading Association (IRA).** "Literacy: The Language of Freedom," Orlando, FL, May 3-7. Contact: Conferences Division, PO Box 8139, Newark, DE 19714-8139 (302) 731-1600.
- **NAFSA - The Association of International Educators 44th Annual Conference,** "International Education at the Crossroad," Marriott Hotel, Michigan Ave. Chicago, May 24-27. Contact: NAFSA, 1875 Connecticut Ave., Suite 100, Washington, DC. 20009-5728 (202) 462-4811.

September

- **September 1:** Call for Proposals, Poster, Video Theater, and IN Progress sessions, *TESOL '93*.

November

- **TexTESOL State Conference,** "Discovering New Worlds: The Discoverer's Viewpoint," Doubletree Hotel-Post Oak, Houston. Contact: Christine Tierney, Houston Community College, 5407 Gulfton, Houston, TX 77081 (713) 661-2393

RUMORS ABOUT

A star is born: *Doug Milburn*, formerly with the HCC Refugee Program, was one of the many people who worked on Oliver Stone's Oscar-bait hit, *JFK*. Look closely as the credits run by.

Local woman makes good: *Jane Krickenbarger-Oliver* is now the instructor with Alcon Surgical, Inc.

Wilted flower responds to treatment:

Texas A&M is pleased to welcome back *Wynell Biles*, who has bounced back after her December surgery.

Parental leave needed ... by new moms *Debra Webne*, who wishes to enjoy the joys of motherhood with her son Daniel; and *Gwen Charvis*, a birthed-again mother of a son. By the way, Debra's friends may help her raise Daniel in the luxury all of us deserve by referring students to her for ESL tutoring.

Bells will ring, are you listening?

Donna Kruszewska, now in the University of Houston Continuing Education Department, and *Dan Teal*, with RSA, have become engaged.

Peace Dividend in Career Development: *Marsha Abramovich*, late of the

English Language Institute at U. of H. Downtown, and our beloved former Second Vice-President, will spend the summer in St. Petersburg (that's Russia, not the city trying to get the Seattle Mariners!) participating on a project to remodel a luxury hotel. Good luck, and take lots of swatches!



Vancouver: We came, we presented, we conquered. Many of the TEXTESOL members attended the TESOL Convention, held in Vancouver during the week of March

2. The skies of Houston wept from loneliness.

Another year older and deeper in debt. Birthday felicitations to *Mel Shaw*, *Marsha Abramovich*, *Christine Fuentes* and *Vickie Loeb-Williamson*.

TEXTESOL BOARD MEMBER RESIGNS

Marsha Abramovich, First Vice-president of TEXTESOL IV and former co-editor of *The Fourth Estate*, resigned her position in January to pursue other objectives. *Marsha* has been an active member of TEXTESOL IV for several years, and her enthusiasm and dedication will be sorely missed.



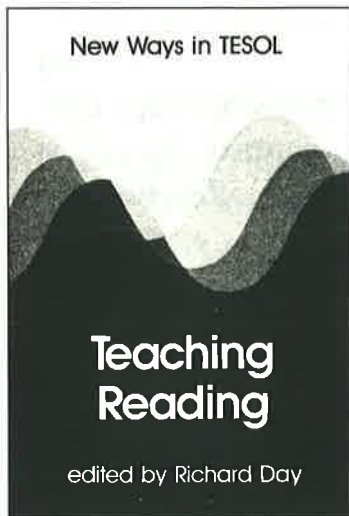
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THE FOURTH ESTATE
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New Ways in TESOL



Each volume in the *New Ways* series will be edited by a well known specialist in the field. The following are the editors for each title:

- Kathleen M. Bailey *Teaching Speaking*
- Richard Day *Teaching Reading*
- John Esling *Teaching Pronunciation*
- Donald Freeman *Teacher Training*
- Paul Nation *Teaching Vocabulary*
- David Nunan *Teaching Listening Comprehension*
- Martha Pennington *Teaching Grammar*
- Linda Schinke-Llano *Teaching Young Children*
- Ron White *Teaching Writing*

Guidelines for contributors

TESOL members are invited to contribute to one or more of the series. More than one contribution may also be submitted for a particular book in the series. Contributions should be short (1-4 pages), and will consist of descriptions of techniques or activities. Contributors will not be paid, but contributors' names will be included. Proceeds of the sale of the series will support TESOL's publication program.

How to contribute

Contributors should first send in the following form to TESOL Central Office. Detailed guidelines on how to prepare submissions will then be provided. Contributors will then send their articles to the individual editor concerned.

To: TESOL Central Office
New Ways Series
1600 Cameron St., Suite 300
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-2751 USA

I would like to contribute to the following title(s) in the *New Ways* series:

Please send me guidelines for the preparation of my contributions(s). I enclose a self-addressed envelope for mailing.

TESOL invites contributions to a new series of practically oriented books which contains techniques and activities for the classroom teacher. Each book will be a resource book of classroom-tested teaching techniques, which can be implemented or used with little adaptation.