

AZTESOL News is our official publication full of teaching tips, conference news, legislative updates, reviews of books/journals/websites/apps, and articles on all manner of topics relevant to ESL teachers in every setting.

AZTESOL Newsletter

Summer Edition, 2020



President's Message

I wish our readers and their family and friends the very best as we all navigate life in the uncertain times of a global pandemic. This uncertainty has undoubtedly affected our work schedules, teaching practices, and professional activities, among many areas of our life. In the midst of these changes, AZTESOL continues to offer its members support in the form of professional development. You will be pleased to know the Board has decided to move our 2020 state conference (October 23-25) to an online format, thus allowing a wider participation in the conference; and offer workshops that focus on teaching remotely and using a variety of instructional technologies. Participants should learn useful strategies and tips on how to design their classes and engage their students in these new teaching environments. If you have an idea for a presentation or workshop on these topics, or, of course, anything else related to teaching language, I encourage you to submit a proposal, especially since the deadline has been pushed back to August 31, to accommodate your busy schedules.

As I mentioned in my message to you in the Spring Newsletter, there has

been an interest in establishing a stronger connection with ELL educators across the border in Hermosillo, Sonora. I am pleased to announce that the first joint mini-conference will take place online on September 12, 2020, from 9 am - 12 pm, themed, "Inspire Online: Teaching and Learning Beyond Borders." More information will be made available on our website shortly.

Advocacy as you know is a major concern of AZTESOL and that is why we have established three Interest Sections (K-12, Community Colleges, and Teachers of Refugees) over the years. If you have not already joined one or more of these Interest Sections, I suggest you contact our Advocacy Chair, Kate Van Roekel, who is planning an advocacy session at the state conference and possibly other sessions throughout the year.

In the spring, the Board voted to make AZTESOL membership free, a testament to its relentless support of our colleagues. I encourage you to keep your membership active, even though it is free now, by renewing it every year. We need to keep a record of the membership for our internal communication and organizational planning--this is also required of us as an affiliate of TESOL International. As of May 2020, we have 161 active members, but there are hundreds of inactive members. To be active, you simply need to renew your membership, an easy and quick process available on our website. Please spread the word and support your organization so it remain a strong and reliable resource. For more information on membership, click on [Become a Member](#).

Finally, I wish to announce the two vacant positions available on the Board now: The Central AZ Regional Representative and Webmaster. I encourage our members to consider applying for these positions. If you have not served on the board of a professional organization before, I think it would be great for you to serve on the AZTEOL Board. Since I joined the Board years ago, I have found my colleagues to be kind, thoughtful, and supportive. By serving on the Board, I believe I have improved as an educator and a professional, and a person as a result. It is a wonderful professional development opportunity and I strongly encourage you to get involved in it. For more information, click on [Join the Board](#).

Be safe and healthy!

Lutfi Hussein

English/ESL Faculty, Mesa Community College





Advocacy Report

Kate Van Roekel, Advocacy Chair

Four AZTESOL board members were able to attend TESOL International's online Advocacy and Policy Summit in June. This three-day online conference was dedicated to teaching TESOL practitioners how to navigate the complex policies impacting EL's and TESOL professionals and how to effectively advocate for our students and ourselves.

We'll be facilitating a special 2-hour advocacy workshop at AZTESOL's fall conference, sharing what I learned from the Advocacy and Policy Summit. In this workshop, we'll examine some of the policy issues impacting Arizona EL's and TESOL practitioners, and dive into hands-on activities to practice our advocacy skills. [Register now!](#)

We are happy to announce the formation of the AZTESOL Advocacy Committee. This committee will help us keep AZTESOL members up-to-date on policy issues impacting Arizona's English Language Learners. Specifically, the committee will:

- Track and advocate for federal and state policies that impact Arizona English Learners and ESOL teachers
- Engage AZTESOL membership in taking action on federal and state policies that impact Arizona English Learners and ESOL teachers
- Build relationships with state organizations such as:
 - Arizona Education Association
 - Arizona Department of Education Office of English Language Acquisition Services (OELAS) and Office of Adult Education
 - Arizona Department of Economic Security Refugee Resettlement Program English Language Training (DES RRP ELT)
- Facilitate regular continuing education sessions about advocacy for AZTESOL members

AZTESOL Annual Conference Update

To submit a proposal for the Annual State Conference [Click HERE!](#)

To register to attend the Annual State Conference [Click HERE!](#)



THE POWER OF
TRANSLANGUAGING:
LIVING IN TWO LANGUAGES AS ONE

AZTESOL 2020 Annual State Conference
October 23-25, 2020

NOW FULLY ONLINE!

Call for proposals deadline extended until August 31.
Call for proposals & registration links available at aztesol.org

Email alma.sandigo@nau.edu for details or inquiries.



Arizona Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, Inc.
www.aztesol.org

Article Submissions

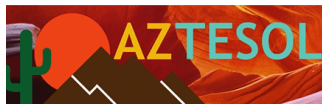
Online Instruction in the Time of Covid-19

Dr. Liza E. Martinez



Dr. Liza E. Martinez has had the privilege of teaching ESL or EFL in Texas, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (Africa), and Arizona. For the past 18 years, she has taught ESL full-time at Arizona Western College in South Yuma County.

AZTESOL-FEPNS Mini-Conference



To Register to attend the AZTESOL- FEPNS Mini- Conference [Click Here!](#)

We are excited to announce our first collaborative mini conference between Arizona Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages and the Federación de Escuelas Particulares del Norte de Sonora (FEPNS). This virtual mini conference will provide participants with opportunities to network with educators throughout Arizona and Sonora while developing new teaching strategies that can be used during online instruction.

Participants will be invited to complete an online learning module in the Canvas learning management system to build community in a virtual environment and to gain background knowledge about the ACTFL language proficiency targets.

Dr. Gabriel Leon from the University of Sonora will present on blended learning and the uses of screencast in online learning.

Dr. Megan Garvy from Mesa Community College will lead participants through activities to practice interpersonal communication, relate interpersonal communication to the ACTFL proficiency guidelines, and explore features of the Canvas learning management system especially for lesson sharing with colleagues across institutions and borders and for online teaching.

Teaching Resources



Back-to-School Special Issue: August 2020

TESOL Connections

Keeping English language professionals connected

The TESOL Connections Back-to-School Issue has many articles and resources to support educators entering new territory. Check it out!

[TESOL Connections August 2020](#)

Board Vacancies

Central AZ Regional Representative

The primary duties of a Regional Representative are to serve as a host for AZTESOL Board meetings when a meeting is held in the representative's area, coordinate regional mini-conferences, and act as a liaison between the AZTESOL Board and AZTESOL members in their regions.

Webmaster

The primary duties of the webmaster are to update and maintain the AZTESOL website by working closely with the other Board members, to monitor and maintain the web hosting of the site, ensure site security, and maintain the domain name.

If any of the positions interest you for future vacancies, please send an e-mail with an attached resumé and cover letter to [Past President Angel Steadman](#).



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