

# TESL TORONTO SPRING CONFERENCE

## MAY 1, 2010

MORNING WORKSHOPS: 9:00 - 10:30

### Workshop description

#### 1. Beyond ESL: Five Bad Office Habits Your Students Need to Know About

What bad office habits annoy Canadians the most? Come take a quiz and find out. Office habits may be culturally based. Along with language, good soft skills are needed for getting along at work.

#### 2. Green Teach 1

In this hands-on computer lab session, two blogs with the purpose of greening the LINC/ESL classroom will be presented. A variety of topics with different degrees of difficulty for all levels will be demonstrated.

#### 3. Learner and Teacher Motivation in Content and Language Integrated Classrooms

We'll look at the purported benefits of CLIL and how these relate to the reality for teachers and learners and then we'll relate them to motivation theory. This workshop reflects areas of research and trends useful for teachers to be aware of.

#### 4. Culture Shock: Strategies to Recognize and Overcome it

This presentation will define culture shock and its different stages, and look at practical ways to deal effectively with various aspects of culture shock in the classroom and the community. Activities can be adapted to the LINC/ESL/ELT classroom. Handouts provided.

#### 5. How to Get a (Better) ESL Job at a Private Language School

Learn what private schools look for when hiring, how to improve your resume and ace a job interview, what niche opportunities are available, and where the ESL industry is heading.

#### 6. Pitch and Intonation Simplified

Appropriate use of intonation-the variation in pitch when speaking-is important for non-native speakers of

### Presenter

**Joan Bartel** has been researching Canadian business customs and integrating them into intermediate to advanced ESL classes. Her latest publication is *Office Soft Skills 2. How to Get Along and Get Ahead in Your Career*. She teaches at Humber College.

**Radmila Rakas** is an experienced presenter at TESL Ontario and Peel/Halton/Etobicoke conferences. She co-founded Ripple Effect, a teacher advocacy group for the environment.

**Stephen Allen** came to Canada via a 14 year career in TEFL in Poland, China and the UK. M.A. TESL and Trinity Diploma qualified, Stephen's current interests are adult learner motivation and investigating this phenomenon called CLIL.

**Melissa Pedersen** is the ISAP Coordinator at the Centre for Skills Development and Training and a frequent presenter at TESL Ontario and affiliates, ISAP and higher learning conferences.

**Maria Brzeska** is currently a Settlement Information Specialist at the Centre and has 11 years experience working in various areas of settlement.

**Christien Lee** has been involved in the ESL industry for 18 years. Since 2003 he has hired dozens of teachers for jobs at private ESL schools in Toronto (but rejected hundreds and hundreds more).

**Carolyn Samuel** is a recent recipient of the Principal's Prize for Excellence in Teaching (Faculty Lecturer category) at McGill, where

English to learn because of how intonation affects meaning. This workshop is designed for teachers who would like to learn a vocabulary for talking about intonation and who would like to learn simple activities for teaching intonation. *(Repeated in the pm session)*

### **7. Utilizing Social Networking & Other Internet Applications**

This workshop shows how social networking sites and other internet applications are a rich source of material for the classroom, professional development and networking opportunities. Participants will leave equipped with ideas for using Twitter, Facebook, blogs and a variety of other valuable tools.

### **8. Diversity in the Classroom: An Introduction to Understanding LGBTQ Newcomers**

Newcomers bring many diverse identities and experiences to the classroom. This workshop will introduce participants to LGBTQ terms and definitions, identify challenges for students and teachers and discuss ways to create positive spaces.

### **9. TESL Ontario Certified Membership-Process and Requirements**

This hands-on presentation will cover the process and requirements of the TESL Ontario membership application as well as renewal and reinstatement.

### **10. Literature Circles: A Novel Approach to Language Learning**

The presenters demonstrate their success in integrating weekly literature circles in an intensive English program. They will give a brief overview of the theoretical background, explain how literature circles are delivered in an eight-week program, and share ready-to-implement resources, lesson ideas and an extensive reading list, concluding with a review of student and teacher reactions to this innovative tool.

she teaches EAP, pronunciation /communication, and oral skills methodology. She has experience teaching ESL, EFL and doing teacher training both in Canada and abroad.

**Tyson Seburn** has been an ESL teacher, Program Director and Manager of an industry book distributor over the past 15 years. He has presented at several TESL conferences.

**Aamer Esmail** is the Coordinator for Among Friends, a project that provides free training, workshops and resources to service providers to improve services and create safer spaces for LGBTQ newcomers. Among Friends is part of Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services.

**Reza Mazloom-Farzaghy** has taught ESL and TESL for many years. He joined TESL Ontario as the Certification Coordinator in April 2008.

**Celina Costa, M.Ed.** OISE/U of T (Second Language Education) is a professor and coordinator at George Brown College's Intensive English Program. She is a frequent presenter at TESL Ontario.

**Dorothy van Grootheest** has been teaching Adult ESL for over 14 years. She is a professor and student success specialist at George Brown College's Intensive English Program, and a Literature Circles enthusiast.

## AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS: 12:00 - 1:30

### Workshop description

#### 11. Creating Critical Reading Materials for EAP Students

This workshop presents ideas for creating materials that encourage the development of critical reading skills. Activities are based on texts from Canadian media sources.

#### 12. Towards Standardization: Designing Exit Tests for Levels

This presentation demonstrates how to apply the principles of language testing to designing exit tests in order to ensure that uniform standards are applied.

#### 13. Sociaesl.com - A Free Teacher Resource

This resource is an attempt to teach teachers how to apply Web 2.0 tools. The site provides teacher notes and complete step by step lessons that can be used in the CALL lab. All teachers are welcome.

#### 14. ESL Stories: Yours and Mine!

Human interest stories are valuable, but often untapped resources that can bring about the best in language acquisition. Self-contained units comprise discussions, vocabulary studies, reading strategies and related CLB skill tasks with separate evaluations. Comprehensive handouts provided.

#### 15. Assessing Writing the Right Way

The presenter discusses the importance of assessing writing and ways of training TEFL instructors to design writing rubrics. This workshop is designed to enhance instructors' knowledge of rubric design and to present tasks for teaching writing.

#### 16. A Framework for Teaching Vocabulary

An innovative approach featuring fundamentals of teaching vocabulary within a framework for lessons involving no preparation or planning. Lessons are completely student-centred and also feature reading, writing, speaking and pronunciation.

### Presenter

**Tania Pattison** has an M.Ed. in English Language Teaching and is an ESL Instructor and Curriculum Coordinator at Trent University. She is a past presenter at TESL Ontario and IATEFL.

**Juanita Huan Zhou** has taught ESL/EFL in post-secondary institutions in several countries. She presented at the 2009 TESL Canada Conference and will present at the TESOL 2010 Convention. She currently teaches at York University.

**John Allan** works with educational technology and TESOL. He has degrees in TESL, CALL, distance education and teaching.

**Fran Marshall** is an independent resource consultant, a frequent presenter at TESL Ontario and affiliates, a guest lecturer at TESL training programs, and an author of ESL reader-workbooks, teacher manuals and CDs.

**Nermine Eltorie** has presented at several TESOL conferences worldwide. With an M.A. in TEFL and teacher training experience in adult and continuing education settings, she focuses on training teachers to develop and enhance their classroom experiences. Nermine is based in Cairo, Egypt.

**Ken Lackman** taught in Prague from 1996-2002 before spending five years as Director of Studies at EF Toronto. He is a frequent presenter at TESL and IATEFL conferences. He is currently working as a coursebook writer and freelance teacher trainer.

### **17. Dealing with Difficult People**

"There's always one in a class!" As a teacher, how often have you heard or said this before? Be introduced to a technique that helps you to connect with people whom you perceive to be "difficult." This technique is based on Dr. Marshall Rosenberg's life's work on non-violent communication. Teachers will be able to better understand the needs of their students and meet them more effectively.

### **18. Creating Webquests: Yes You Can!**

Whether your students are young people preparing to study in Canada or immigrants learning to survive in their new country, more and more of their day-to-day reading occurs in front of a computer. Is your reading class helping them hone this skill? In this workshop, you will learn how to create Webquests so that your students can practise their reading skills online. Familiarity with the internet and basic computer skills are required. You must also be able to access your email address online.

### **19. Pitch and Intonation Simplified**

Appropriate use of intonation - the variation in pitch when speaking - is important for non-native speakers of English to learn because of how intonation affects meaning. This workshop is designed for teachers who would like to learn a vocabulary for talking about intonation and some simple activities for teaching intonation.

### **20. Heart's Desire: A Writing Out Loud Workshop**

With the use of writing prompts/props, participants will write short entries and then share with the group. The workshop is designed to help students self reflect and express, since the prompts are all designed to trigger self-reflection and character building.

**Bhupinder Gill, M.Sc., M.Ed., R.N.** works in the early psychosis unit at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH). She has been studying non-violent communication for more than five years and has taught non-violent communication within various organizations over the last few years.

**Karen Thomson** is an instructor in the English Language Program at the University of Toronto's School of Continuing Studies. During her many years as an ESL teacher, she has taught in a variety of community based and university ESL settings.

**Carolyn Samuel** is a recent recipient of the Principal's Prize for Excellence in Teaching (Faculty Lecturer category) at McGill, where she teaches EAP, pronunciation /communication, and oral skills methodology. She has experience teaching ESL, EFL and doing teacher training both in Canada and abroad.

**Wendy McConkey** is the TESL Trainer & Executive Administrator of One World ESL School.