

President's Letter

Dear NYS TESOL Colleagues,

I am happy to report to you that the NYS TESOL leadership team has been working tirelessly this winter to plan some exciting events for our members. I'm looking forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming events—and hoping they will be accompanied by warmer days!

Before I outline the various events that have been planned with such great care, I would like to thank Dr. Andy Curtis, president of TESOL International Association. Being president of TESOL International carries tremendous responsibilities, yet he took the time to attend our 45th Annual Conference on November 13–14, 2015. We were particularly honored that he wrote an article on his [President's blog](#) about his experience at the conference.

Now, it is with great pleasure that I share with you here the announcements and the wonderful events that will take place throughout the year!

The 46th Annual Conference will be held November 4–5 in Syracuse. This year's theme is "Collaboration in the Classroom and Beyond." Maureen Edmonds and her team have been diligently preparing for this event, and I am happy to announce that the [Call for Proposals](#) is now open. I am asking every member to consider presenting at this year's conference. Also, I would like to encourage you to integrate topics related to the [Student Essay Contest](#) throughout your classroom instruction on writing. The deadline is May 31, and winners will be honored at the conference. Finally, is there a colleague who is exemplary in his or her teaching, dedication to the profession, or advocacy for the education of ELLs? Please consider submitting a nomination for an [award](#) or [Member of the Month](#). We are eager to recognize and honor our members!

There are several events happening this spring throughout the state. The [37th Annual Applied Linguistics Winter Conference](#), "Meeting of the Minds: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Language and Education," will be held March 5 at Teachers College, Columbia University, and features over 30 presentations, including plenary speaker Dr. Drew S. Fagan. The Long Island ESOL (LIESOL) Conference, "The Changing Landscape of Instruction for ELLs," will be held April 16 at Molloy College in Rockville Centre. In addition, our sister organization, the [New York State Association of Bilingual Education](#) (NYSABE), is having their Annual Conference on May 21. For a complete list of upcoming events, please visit our website.

Along with fellow executive board members, I will be representing NYS TESOL this year at the 2016 TESOL International Convention in Baltimore. We will have an affiliate booth on Wednesday, April 17, 12:30–1:30. Come by and say hello! You're also invited to the NYS TESOL reception on Thursday, April 18, 4:00–6:00, at Kona Grill in Baltimore.

Finally, I welcome comments from all membership on what NYS TESOL can do to better support you as a member. Please reach out to me or any of the [Executive Board members](#) with suggestions. We need and value your input!

Wishing you well,

Sarah E. Elia
President, NYS TESOL
State University of New York at New Paltz