

President's Letter

Summer 2016

Welcome to the summer 2016 issue of *Idiom*!

I am excited to announce that this summer, the Executive Board has decided to offer *Idiom* free to the public for a trial term. This will enable articles to be shared electronically, thus both promoting NYS TESOL and, it is hoped, gaining more readership and a stronger membership. If there is a noticeable increase in readership, we will keep *Idiom* public. So, please share!

NYS TESOL was well represented at this year's TESOL Convention in Baltimore by its members and officers on the Executive Board. We are proud to announce that the Vice President of Advocacy, Juliet Luther, was elected as the Chair-Elect-Elect of TESOL's Bilingual Education Interest Section. Other highlights included presentations at the affiliate workshops by our Business Manager and Past President, Cynthia Wiseman, and a well-attended reception at Kona Grill hosted by the Vice President of Membership, Ashley Fifer. The intent of the reception is to thank our members and to promote NYS TESOL's presence. Also, a big thank you to our Board members and volunteers who were at the affiliate booth to share information about NYS TESOL.

The ballot for the upcoming 2016 Executive Board election is now complete and will be available for online voting starting in September. Make sure you are a current member so you are able to vote.

The planning of the Annual Conference is in full swing. If you haven't submitted a proposal for a presentation, consider doing so and encourage your colleagues to submit as well. If you would like to volunteer for the conference, contact our conference chair, Maureen Edmonds, at vpconference@nystesol.org. You still have time to participate in the Student Project Contest (formerly the Student Essay Contest), as the deadline is extended to June 23.

Each year, NYS TESOL offers many opportunities to recognize outstanding professionals in our field. I encourage you to nominate a colleague for Member of the Month or for an award to be presented at the Annual Conference. Also, we look forward to unveiling new grant opportunities for our members. Visit our website by the end of the summer for more information, and consider submitting a grant application.

I welcome you to e-mail me at pres@nystesol.org and hope to see you at one of our upcoming [events](#). Have a great summer—and keep in touch!

Yours in NYS TESOL,

Sarah E. Elia

President, NYS TESOL

Lecturer, Haggerty English Language Program, State University of New York at New Paltz