



LOUISIANA TEACHERS OF ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

EDUCATING AND SERVING THE
CITIZENS OF THE WORLD IN THE STATE
OF LOUISIANA

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VOL. 30 ISSUE 1

HELLO LATESOL,

It's almost summer. I hope that your school year was productive and rewarding. As teachers, we always seem to be working. I'm sure this year was no different!

In this letter, you might expect to read about the yearly conference we hold in the fall. Last year around 200 of you came to the Lafayette Cajun Dome Convention Center to gain knowledge on relevant topics in your area of expertise and to network. Thanks to you, our conference was a great success. However, this year we will not hold our annual conference. As an affiliate member of TESOL, we are gearing up for an extraordinary event: TESOL 2011, which will be held at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans from March 17-19, 2011. The 2011 convention theme is Examining the 'E' in TESOL. This is an international event, which welcomes members from around the world. Last March in Boston, TESOL proudly welcomed over 7,000 registrants. What a fantastic opportunity for our educators, our state, and the city of New Orleans!

As ESL professionals, we are committed to our careers, students, and our profession. To that end, the conference will feature over 1,000 educational sessions focusing on higher ed, K-12, and adult-ed.

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EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR UNDOCUMENTED HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES IN LOUISIANA

By Elizabeth Anderson (5/5/2010)

"The Urban Institute estimates that 65,000 undocumented students—that is, children born abroad who are not U.S. citizens or legal residents—graduate from U.S. high schools each year." (CollegeBoard.com) The majority of these students were brought to the United States by their parents, and have grown academically, linguistically, culturally and socially in our education system. Many of them have little recollection of their home countries and consider themselves to be U.S. Americans in all ways, only lacking the paperwork to prove their legal status.

In Louisiana, these secondary students have taken and passed the required Graduation Exit Examinations and have participated in the comprehensive curriculum including taking and passing the proper Carnegie credit courses required to attend a state university. Many of their parents have lived in the state for a number of years and some have even paid state and federal taxes.

Undocumented children are legally guaranteed an education in the U.S. public

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The LaTESOL Newsletter, publication of the Louisiana Affiliate of Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, is published four times a year: January, April, July, and October. Send newsletter items by the first of each publication month to: Wilbur Bennett, Newsletter Editor
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Some of our confirmed invited speakers include Walt Wolfram, Christian Mattheissen, Jim Martin, Braj Kachru, Yamuna Kachru, Carolyn Graham, and Andy Kirkpatrick. There will be something for everyone. Our 2011 conference chair, Ahmar Mahboob, explains the 2011 Vision Statement:

In today's world where English has become the primary language of business, education, science and technology, it has evolved and changed to meet these and other global needs. What implications does this globalization of English have for TESOL and for you? This year, as we continue to re-imagine TESOL, we invite you to consider what 'E' means in your contexts and to examine what E we teach, for what purposes, how, to whom, and with what results. We invite you to examine the E in TESOL in a context where e-communication, easy travel, and e-pedagogy are changing the English language and effecting current approaches to the learning and teaching of the language; where these changes are influencing our experience, expertise, and evaluation of the field; and where issues of equity, excellence and effectiveness have taken center stage. In such a context, it is essential for us to understand what it is that we teach and how that understanding can influence our actions, theories, and practices.

We hope that you will take advantage of the educational sessions and the world class networking possibilities. The latest technology will also be on display along with the latest educational products and services.

In the upcoming months, I ask that you visit TESOL.org for information on registration and hotels. As the conference nears, the information will be updated. One thing you will find on the website is information on TESOL-sponsored awards and grants (www.atesol.org/awards). In 2009, I applied and received a grant, so be sure to check this out. There will also be lots of volunteer opportunities for everyone. Getting involved is rewarding on both a professional and a personal level, so consider volunteering, and spread the word to your colleagues.

Have a great summer! I hope to see you in New Orleans in 2011.

-Denise Marceaux

JOB LISTINGS

Full-time ESL instructor at St. Joseph Seminary College near Covington, Louisiana. Must have Master's degree in TESOL or related field. 5yrs experience. Must be flexible regarding scheduling and experienced in teaching multi-level, integrated course content. Salary range from mid 30's to 40 depending on degrees and experience. Benefits available. Start date August 15, 2010. Send vita and transcripts to

Jude Lupinetti

St. Joseph Seminary College

75376 River Road

St. Benedict, LA 70457

or acdean@sjasc.edu

If you would like to list a job opening here, send them to newsletter@latesol.org

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education system through grade 12, but could, in due course, face legal and financial obstacles if they pursue admission to an institute of higher learning.

ADMISSIONS

Many undocumented students falsely believe they must be able to prove U.S. citizenship in order to legally attend college in the United States and so they don't even apply. The reality is that there are no federal or state laws that prohibit undocumented students from attending a public or private U.S. college or university. However, institutional policies vary from state to state and from school to school.

TUITION

Another controversial issue is whether undocumented students who can prove state residency should be eligible for in-state tuition rates. Many public colleges and universities choose to charge undocumented students out-of-state tuition fees, even those who have lived in a state for numerous years and have graduated from an accredited high school in that state. This policy unfortunately makes attending college financially unfeasible for many students.

In recent years, 10 states—Texas, California, New York, Utah, Illinois, Washington, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Kansas—have passed laws that permit undocumented students to pay in-state tuition rates under certain conditions. In Louisiana, the decision has been put into the hands of each individual institution or before their board of directors.

FINANCIAL AID

Compounding the financial problem, undocumented students cannot legally receive any federally-funded student financial aid, including scholarships, loans or grants. Federally financed work-study programs are also inaccessible to undocumented students. This policy stretches to most state-funded financial aid, as well.

THE DREAM ACT

There is a possible solution to this conundrum on the horizon. In 2007, the DREAM (Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors) Act was reintroduced in the House and Senate. If passed, this legislation would authorize undocumented students to begin a 6-year process leading to permanent legal status. As part of legal residency, students would then qualify for in-state tuition rates in all 50 states. Conditional residents would be eligible for private loans, but would not qualify for federally-subsidized Pell Grants.

Among other requirements, eligible students would have to

- graduate from a U.S. high school
- enter the U.S. at least 5 years before the legislation is signed into law at the age of 15 or younger

To complete the process they would, within the 6-year period be required to

- graduate from a community college
- complete at least 2 years towards a 4-year degree, or
- serve at least 2 years in the U.S. military.

The DREAM Act could be merged with other legislation as part of comprehensive immigration law reform in 2010 and has a very good possibility of being enacted into law this legislative session.

LOUISIANA 2010

Currently, Louisiana's colleges and universities, both public and private, offer a range of choices for our undocumented students. It is important for high school teachers, counselors and administrators to make their students of foreign origin aware of these opportunities offered in their own state of residence.

It is also important for those who support the advanced education of these undocumented students to contact their legislators in support of the Dream Act.

"Advising Undocumented Students," CollegeBoard, inspiring minds. <http://professionals.collegeboard.com/>

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[guidance/financial-aid/undocumented-students](#)

“The Dream Act - Immigration Law Reform in 2010?” Ezine Articles. <http://ezinearticles.com/?The-Dream-Act---Immigration-Law-Reform-in-2010?id=3361262>

LaNAFSA Listserv. 2010 survey conducted by Elizabeth Anderson to all participating colleges and universities.

LOUISIANA COLLEGE ADMISSIONS FOR UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS - 2010

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY	CONTACT	IN-STATE FEES	OUT-OF-STATE FEES	OTHER
Delgado Community College New Orleans	Ana Wilson awilson@dcc.edu 504.671.5090			Part-time students pay resident fees
Louisiana State University Baton Rouge	Marina V. Pereira mperei1@lsu.edu 225-578-7334			Must show proof that parent or student paid LA taxes
Louisiana Tech University Ruston	Dan Erickson daniel@latech.edu 318.257.4321			Parents must show proof of LA employment and payment of state taxes
Loyola University New Orleans	Kristy Magner kmagner@loyno.edu 504.864.7550			All students regardless of residency pay the same fees
Nicholls State University Thibodaux	Marilyn Gonzalez marilyn.gonzalez@nicholls.edu 985.449.7038			Students or parents must prove residency with tax returns, driver's license, diploma, etc.
Southeastern University Hammond	Amber Brown Amber.brown@selu.edu 985.549.2360			Students or parents must prove residency with tax returns, driver's license, diploma, etc
University of Louisiana Monroe	Mara Loeb, Ph.D. loeb@ulm.edu 318.342.5225			Possibility of academic-based, out-of-state waiver
University of New Orleans New Orleans	Jorge Franco jfranco@uno.edu 1.800.256.5.UNO			May qualify for scholarship (out-of-state tuition waiver) after completing 18 UNO credits