

LaTESOL

2011 Annual Conference

**Cultural Competence,
Courageous Practice**



Louisiana Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages

**November 11, 2011
Quality Inn and Conference Center
Hammond, LA**



Cultural Competence, Courageous Practice

LaTESOL Twenty-Ninth Annual Conference
Hammond, Louisiana 2011

Featuring

Gary R. Howard

Founder of the REACH Center for Multicultural Education

Leslie Lightbourne

Education Program Consultant, Division of Student Standards and Assessments
LA Department of Education

Kathleen Gasparian, Esq.

Senior Associate Attorney, David Ware & Assoc., LLC

CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Registration/Breakfast Publishers and exhibitors available throughout the day
9:00 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.	Plenary: Gary R. Howard <i>Cultural Competence, Courageous Practice</i>
10:30 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions
11:30 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Luncheon
1:40 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions, Invited Speakers
2:40 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Interactive Workshop, Gary R. Howard
3:40 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.	Open Business Meeting and Elections (All members are encouraged to attend.)



Special Thanks



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MORNING PLENARY

9:00 am–10:20 am

Location: Regency Ballroom

Gary R. Howard

Founder of the REACH Center for Multicultural Education

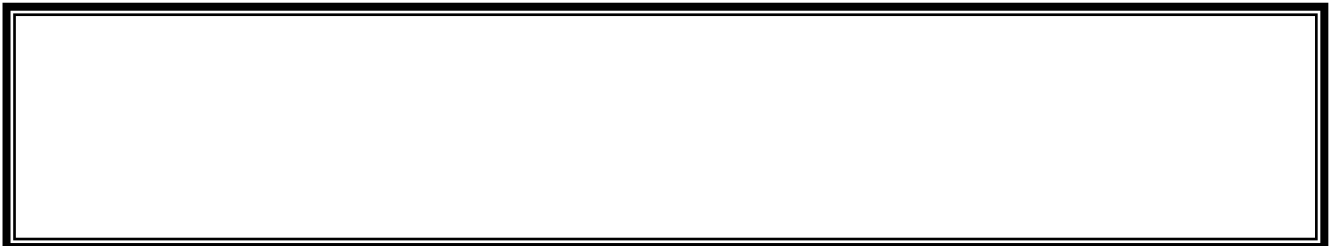
“Cultural Competence, Courageous Practice”

Gary R. Howard has over 35 years of experience working with issues of civil rights, social justice, equity, education, and diversity, including 28 years as the Founder of the REACH Center for Multicultural Education. He is a keynote speaker, writer, and workshop leader who travels extensively throughout the United States and Australia. Mr. Howard completed his undergraduate work in Cultural Anthropology and Social Psychology at Yale University and did graduate work in ethics and social justice at Yale Divinity School. He has served as an Adjunct Professor at both Western Washington University and Seattle University. He holds a masters degree in education.



Mr. Howard has provided extensive training in cultural competence and culturally responsive practice to schools, universities, social service agencies, and businesses throughout the United States and Australia. He is the author of numerous articles on race, justice, and multicultural issues and has developed collections of curriculum materials that are being used internationally. His most recent book, *We Can't Teach What We Don't Know* (Second Edition, 2006), was published by Columbia University and is considered a groundbreaking work examining issues of privilege, power, and the role of White leaders and educators in a multicultural society.

The central focus of Gary Howard's current work is to lead intensive Equity Leadership Institutes that provide educational organizations with the internal capacity to deliver high quality professional development for social justice and systemic change. Mr. Howard is frequently asked to deliver keynote addresses at regional and national conferences. In these presentations he draws on a wide range of experiences and travel exploring diversity and social justice issues with leaders from many cultures around the world. Mr. Howard's speeches employ rich imagery and stories drawn from his annual white water diversity workshops on the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon.



Morning Sessions

Time: 10:30-11:20

Roundtable Discussion: Collaboration of ESL and Mainstream Teachers To Accelerate English Language Learning

Joy Kidstry

Intended Audience: Preschool, Elementary, Middle, High, Teacher Ed

Location: Regency II

A recent trend in Teaching English as a Second Language has involved both the mainstream and ESL teachers in collaborating to assist English Learners to develop language skills. In this roundtable discussion, Joy Kidstry, ESL K-12 and university graduate instructor, will present recent research in this area; the four essential traits of successful collaborators; and her collaborative experiences resulting in accelerated language learning for ESL students. Discussion will be directed towards the collaboration of participants to brainstorm additional ideas for their own classrooms.

Shoot and Share

Marlene Friis

Intended Audience: Middle, High, College/University, Adult Ed, Teacher Ed

Location: Regency III

The size of a cell phone, Flip is a light and truly easy-to-use video camera that is perfectly designed for the language learning classroom. Come see a practical demonstration of this popular no-fuss technology. Although the camera's natural home may be in the conversation classroom, I will show instructive clips of the camera's use in a high-beginner reading class. See how the act of filming engenders the very best in student performance as exemplified through learner autonomy, student collaboration, and in-depth text negotiation of narrative sequencing, summary, as well as character and scene analysis.

Researching Cultural History with National History Day

Nathan Huegen and Esther Perez-Zemmels

Intended Audience: Middle or High School

Location: La Veranda

National History Day (NHD) makes history come alive for America's youth by engaging them in the discovery of the historic, cultural and social experiences of the past. For ESL students in middle and high school, researching a project for NHD allows them to look at their own cultural history, translate documents and passages, and find the connections between the past and the present. Learn how to bring this program from The National WWII Museum to your students.

Can You Repeat That? Better Communication with International Students and Clients

Rebecca (Becca) Guler

Intended Audience: General

Location: Ponchartrain

Learn how you can be a better communicator with non-native English speakers while doing orientation, helping with paperwork, explaining an application process or credentials evaluation, and other functions necessary in working with many internationals. Participants will discover some of the common mistakes we make that complicate our English communication and learn simpler ways to say or write what we need to tell our students or clients for whom English is a second language. Come ready to interact and get some practice!

Time: 11:30-12:20

Perceptions of Stereotypes in Hispanic Children's Literature

Nancy Gomez, PhD

Intended Audience: Preschool, Elementary, Middle, High, Teacher Ed

Location: Regency I

This study attempted to determine the accurateness of the representation of the Hispanic culture in children's literature. The instrument, created for this specific purpose can be applied to determine the same objectives in other diverse/multicultural books. Ten people were interviewed, five non-Hispanic and five Hispanic.

Teaching Tier II Words

Carolyn Jones

Intended Audience: PreK, Elementary, Middle, Secondary Ed

Location: Regency II

Vocabulary is a key component to communication in any language. We all began with the basic words used in our daily lives. Then we study and become familiar with more advanced words needed to understand specific content. So what are Tier II words? These are the high frequency words for mature language users. Knowledge of these high-frequency academic words can significantly boost a student's comprehension level of school-based reading material. What are the words? Who's teaching them? How do you identify Tier II words? How do you teach them? Come discover strategies and participate in activities that will facilitate learning these high frequency words. This workshop is intended for teachers of language learners.

Using Technology in the ESL Classroom

Elena Romañach Dieck

Intended Audience: Elementary Teachers (K-6)

Location: Regency III

Technology can play an integral part in providing ELLs with valuable language experiences. In this presentation, teachers will be exposed to a variety of technology-based activities that make it possible for the ELL to hear language, write language, speak language, and read language. Participants will also be provided a list of websites that allow students to be actively engaged in real-life experiences while learning English as second language.

Dissecting the Teaching of Listening Skills

Allene Grognet

Intended Audience: Middle, High, and Adult Education

Location: La Veranda

Listening is probably the most critical element in language learning, for it is the key to speaking, and beyond that, reading and writing. Yet listening remains one of the least understood processes in language learning. In this presentation, Allene Grognet will try to summarize what is known about the listening process, what happens in the brain to comprehend a message, and why listening should be considered an active process of selecting and interpreting information, rather than a passive process of input only. Finally, Ms. Grognet will look at activities that can be used to teach listening.

Buffet Luncheon

12:30-1:30

(Hotel Restaurant)

Afternoon Sessions and Featured Speakers

Writing Across the Curriculum

Karen Seamans

Intended Audience: Elementary, Middle, High, College University, Adult Ed

Location: Ponchartrain

Do you ever feel frustrated that your students do not want to write? What do you do when the “well runs dry again?” Come join a roundtable discussion that includes hands-on activities and strategies that will help your students embrace the idea that they are thinkers and writers. Be ready to participate and discuss.

Time: 1:40-2:30

ELLs and Louisiana Standardized Testing

Leslie Lightbourne *Featured Speaker*

Intended Audience: Elementary, Middle, Secondary Education

Location: Ponchartrain

In this session, an update will be provided on the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program including the English Language Development Assessment (ELDA), new assessments that will be administered for the first time in 2011-2012, and expected changes in future assessments that will assess the Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

Immigration Update

Kathleen Gasparian, Esq. *Featured Speaker*

Intended Audience: All

Location: La Veranda

Alabama has recently passed very restrictive immigration law. Is this the beginning of a regional trend? Will we see our state follow this path? In this session, we will discuss key state and federal legislative and executive developments and try to predict the future of immigration law.

No Recess, Scarce Resources, and One Month of Ramadan: A First Year Teaching Experience in Adult ESL

Emily Johnson

Intended Audience: Adult Ed, College/University, Administration

Location: Regency II

This presentation will outline the experiences of a first year teacher. The purposes of this presentation are to serve as a preview for future teachers, highlighting key issues, such as classroom management, cultural awareness, and resource allocation, plus aid teacher trainers in understanding the unique needs of beginning teachers, particularly those entering the field of adult ESL education.

Student Activities Made Easy – How to Plan and Promote on a Budget

Amy Dickerson

Intended Audience: Middle or High, College/University, Administration

Location: Regency III

Learn how to plan, coordinate, and promote international student activities while staying on a budget. Participants will discover helpful shortcuts and planning guides, as well as how-to's on navigating travel and discount websites. Come ready to be a part of our effort to give students fun, meaningful activities that enhance their English learning experience.

Time: 2:40-3:30

Interactive Workshop:

Cultural Competence, Courageous Practice

Gary Howard *Featured Speaker*

Intended Audience: All Educators

Location: Regency Ballroom I, II, III

In this interactive session Gary Howard engages teachers in exploring both the personal and the professional dimensions of Culturally Responsive Teaching. Participants work intensively with ways to integrate into their classrooms the seven principles for building culturally responsive learning communities. The keynote address and workshop are centered on building the culturally competent leadership skills that are necessary for educators to be successful in their efforts to create inclusive schools and close the achievement gap through developing instructional practices and school environments that are productive, safe, welcoming, and excellent for all students and their families.

Mr. Howard will show how true cultural competence goes beyond cultural awareness, beyond multicultural content, and beyond mere conversations about differences. This is the deeper work of personal, professional and systemic transformation for the purpose of achieving social justice and equity in our schools and our nation.

Time: 3:40 – 4:15

LaTESOL Business Meeting and Elections:

All members are encouraged to attend.

Location: Regency I



Presenters 2011

Amy Dickerson is an instructor as well as the International Student Advisor of ELS Language Centers–Ruston at Louisiana Tech University. Before beginning with ELS, Amy taught in the public school system for 15 years. Amy has a 19-year-old daughter and a 21-year-old son.

Elena Románach Dieck, a native of Cuba, holds a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction with a concentration in English as a Second Language from the University of Southeastern Louisiana. She is presently employed as an ESL teacher with the St. Tammany Parish School System.

Kathleen Gasparian (*Featured Speaker*) Managing Attorney for David Ware and Associates, earned her law degree in 2002 from Loyola University New Orleans where she earned the Joseph V. Bologna Prize for 1998-1999 as well as outstanding achievement awards in the Administration of Criminal Justice I and Property Law. While attending Loyola University's evening program, Ms. Gasparian began her career in immigration by working in the Loyola University Department of International Student Affairs. Upon completion of her degree, she served in the Attorney General's Honors Program as a Judicial Law Clerk for the Executive Office of Immigration Review. She has authored and co-authored several articles on various aspects of immigration law. She is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association and has served as the AILA Mid-South treasurer. She is currently the AILA Mid-South Vice Chair and is liaison to the New Orleans Executive Office of Immigration Review.

Nancy Gomez, Ph.D., a native of Chile and teacher of English as a Second Language, received her Ph.D. in Education from Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge in May 2003. She is also received her Certificate of Advanced Study in Library and Information Science as well as her Master in Library and Information Science from LSU. In April of 1991, Dr. Gomez received her Master of Arts in Linguistics with a Minor in English from la Universidad de Chile.

Ilene Grognet is the Emeritus Vice President of the Center for Applied Linguistics and Director of CAL's Sunbelt Office. She holds a PhD in linguistics, and has been involved in teaching, teacher training, research, writing, assessment, and administration of TESOL for the past 50 years.

Rebecca (Becca) Guler is the Center Director of ELS Language Centers-Ruston, at Louisiana Tech University. Before beginning with ELS in Sept. 2005, Becca taught ESL in Ankara, Turkey for 3 years and in Bangalore, India for two semesters. She is part of a bi-lingual family with a 5-year-old son.

Nathan Huegen is the coordinator for National History Day in Louisiana, which is sponsored by The National WWII Museum.

Emily K. Johnson has just completed her first year of teaching ESL to international, adult students. She is working on her second Master's Degree in Curriculum & Instruction for ESL.

Carolyn Jones has taught in schools in Jefferson Parish Public School System for over 30 years where she currently works as an ESL Instructional Strategist. She is especially interested in learning practical ways to engage language learners in the learning process. Her education includes a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education from the University of New Orleans and a Master in Education degree from Our Lady of Holy Cross College.

Leslie Lightbourne (*Featured Speaker*) is an Education Program Consultant for the Louisiana Department of Education, Division of Student Standards and Assessments. She works with issues regarding statewide assessments and special education, limited English proficient, or Section 504 students, coordinates test security issues, and is the contact for charter schools regarding statewide assessments. Since the 1970's and in several states, she has worked with individuals with disabilities in K-12 schools, colleges, and vocational centers. In addition, she has taught at the university level in special educations, statistics and research, and assessment.

Joy Kidstry earned her M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction, TESOL, from Southeastern Louisiana University and currently teaches ESL K-12 in St. Tammany Parish Schools and graduate ESL classes online through the University of Phoenix.

Karen Seamans is an English as a Second Language teacher in Livingston Parish. She currently teaches 6-12 grades. She is part of the Southeastern Louisiana Writing Project and completing research for a Master of Education with a concentration in ESL.

Esther Perez Zemmels teaches ESL at Adams Middle School in Jefferson Parish. Her students have participated in National History Day in Louisiana for three years.



Exhibitors

LaTESOL is grateful to the following exhibitors for their support:

ELS Language Centers--Ruston

Holmes Educational Consultants

Pearson

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