Dear ORTESOL members,

This month, the Oregon ESOL community welcomes the International TESOL convention to our fair state for the first time ever. The phrase, “Think globally, Act locally” has never felt so apt. TESOL 2014 will bring thousands of ESOL educators from around the world, and along with them, the best thinking, best practices and strongest research in our field of English language acquisition.

How will this matter on the ground here in Oregon? Will it make a difference in our schools, colleges, universities, businesses, church basements and anywhere else people are trying to learn English around our state?

As the Oregon affiliate of international TESOL, that depends on us. “Locally grown” is a good motto for lots of things, especially in this fertile region, but as ESOL educators we need to gather the best the world has to offer and apply it to our important work. ORTESOL is our ongoing forum to connect with the global ESOL community and each other to improve instruction here where we live and wherever our travels may take us.

This newsletter is full of information about recent and upcoming ORTESOL activities to help us connect as members and colleagues to “Explore, Sustain and Renew” our vocation in 2014 and beyond. Find something that interests you and join in or think of something we haven’t and suggest it. Your all-volunteer ORTESOL board is here to serve.

As ORTESOL president this year, I feel privileged to work on behalf of all of you and the ESOL community of our beautiful state. Through active membership in this professional organization, we can maintain and strengthen the status of ESOL teaching as a profession and improve instruction for English learners. Our voices are stronger together.

Thank you to all the board members who have helped keep ORTESOL strong since 1977 and to the current 2014 board, working hard to make this special year all it can be for ESOL in Oregon. We hope to see you at the ORTESOL Reception at TESOL 2014 on March 27th, our Fall Conference November 14-15 at PCC Sylvania, and our other events this year.

Thank you for your membership in ORTESOL!
By Megan Kelly

TESOL international Association and ORTESOL have nominated David Bautista, Assistant Superintendent in the Oregon Department of Education, as the 2014 Outstanding U.S. Advocate for his work in promoting equity for English Language Learners.

Mr. Bautista has previously worked closely with ORTESOL, having spoken on a panel discussion at the 2013 Fall Conference along with Kim Miller, Julie Haun and Laura Horani, and has worked as an advocate for English Language Learners since 1989, when he began working on a masters degree in Bilingual-Bicultural Education at University of Arizona. Since then, he has gone on to teach and direct bilingual education programs, coordinate programming for bilingual education in two of the areas of Oregon with the highest levels of English Language Learners, and finally to lead the Equity Unit for the Oregon Department of Education.

Bautista draws on his own personal experiences as an English language learner to inform his views on advocacy and the challenges that face recent immigrant and refugee students. His personal understanding of having moved to the United States when he was getting his masters degree, only to realize upon arrival how little he actually felt comfortable speaking in English, helps him to be able to connect with the students he works with, as does recognizing the advantages that he did have. “I was struggling with many things in addition to the learning of English. However, I was academically prepared in my professional work. My identity as professional educator was also very clear at least to me, so I had a lot of empathy for what the students were struggling with,” he explains, particularly for those students who don’t have the strong educational or professional background in their home language that he came with.

Advocacy can mean many things to many different communities, and Bautista is quick to point out that not all immigrants or refugees have the same needs. “They are a very heterogeneous group,” Bautista explains of ELL students, “and many times they end up in very poor communities that have very needy schools and sometimes not the strongest, well prepared teachers in specialty areas like English as a Second Language or English language development.”

Helping these students to survive and thrive in a new environment is what makes him such a strong advocate. Leading the Equity Unit of the Oregon Department of Education allows Bautista to create space for students to become fully bilingual and bicultural. His work helps teachers to create opportunities for students to build the communities that they live in and find better opportunities. And the importance of being bilingual and bicultural is something that he stresses not only at work, but also in his home life. His two bilingual, multicultural children, both currently in college, “are a true testament to additive programs that support the native language of the student and add English.”

Mr. Bautista will be presented with the award at the 2014 TESOL International Convention morning plenary on Friday, March 28.

Governor’s ESOL Awareness Week

In honor of TESOL 2014 in Portland and the ODE/COSA EL Alliance Conference in Eugene this March, Governor Kitzhaber has proclaimed March 24-29 to be ESOL Awareness Week. On March 14, this proclamation was read aloud at the morning plenary of the EL Alliance Conference, a successful event with over 600 attendees from around the state.
TESOL RECEPTION FOR ORTESOL MEMBERS  By Rebecca Valdovinos

Our affiliate would like to encourage all members who will be on site for the TESOL convention to join us for a “get-together.” This is a nice opportunity to meet up with former colleagues or make new ones. The event has been made possible through the financial sponsorships of George Fox University School of Education, Pacific University, Portland State University’s Intensive English Language Program, and the University of Oregon. They will be present with information about their programs. The reception is to be held on Thursday, March 27th from 6-7 pm at the Oregon Convention Center in room E-141. Complimentary appetizers and beverages will be served along with a no-host bar for your pleasure. Don’t miss it!

ORTESOL Networking and Outreach Events

November Networking Event  
by Heather Kalowsky

On Saturday, November 16, 2013, ORTESOL hosted a networking event at McMenamin’s Kennedy School. There were over 30 ORTESOL members as well as three TESOL representatives in attendance. Attendees included current ORTESOL board members, incoming ORTESOL board members, and ORTESOL members from several institutions, including Beaverton School District, Clark College, George Fox University, Lewis & Clark College, Mount Hood Community College, PELA, Portland Community College, Portland Public Schools, Portland State University, and TIUA (Willamette University). ORTESOL hosted drinks and appetizers for those in attendance.

This was a successful networking event not only for ORTESOL but also for the upcoming TESOL Convention. Questions about the convention were answered and several convention volunteers were recruited, especially for the hospitality area, which had several openings for locals to get involved. This was also a nice opportunity for incoming ORTESOL board members to meet current ORTESOL board members and other ORTESOL members. Thanks to the 2013 outreach committee for organizing this successful event: Susan Beddes, Elizabeth Cole, Luciana Diniz, Katie Mitchell, Monika Mulder and Judit Szentirmay.

ORTESOL Wants to Reach Out!

Are ESOL professionals in your area under-represented or underserved by ORTESOL? This organization aims to support and strengthen ESOL instruction at all levels, with all kinds of students, and all across our state. If you have ideas for outreach, please share them with us: newsletter@ortesol.org or president@ortesol.org

Above right: MA TESOL students and ESOL instructors enjoy discussing the upcoming TESOL convention in Portland. The Corvallis networking event brought people together from Salem, Monmouth, and Corvallis on Friday March 7. A Saturday-only TESOL registration and several food and drink gift certificates were raffled off. Thanks to Christine Nile and Carmen Caceda for organizing this event! (Photo by Christine Nile)

Above left: ORTESOL representatives at the COSA EL Alliance Conference in Eugene on March 13. Two dozen names were added to our mailing list at this event, and a Saturday TESOL Convention registration was raffled off to a new ORTESOL member. (Photo by Kay Westerfield)

Right: More than 20 ESOL professionals attended a networking event at Rontom’s in SE Portland on Feb 28. In the raffle, a brand new ORTESOL member won a registration to attend the TESOL convention on Saturday March 29. (Photo by Jake Gerke)
ORTESOL Professional Development Grant Awards 2014
by Eric Dodson, ORTESOL Vice President

The ORTESOL Board and Grant Committee are pleased to announce the award of Professional Development Grants for the International TESOL Convention to fourteen ORTESOL members. The ORTESOL Board allocated $5,000 to distribute to members in order to promote professional development in light of TESOL 2014 taking place in Oregon. Specifically, these grants were created in order to defray the costs of attending TESOL 2014, including registration, membership, and travel costs. The grants were announced in November 2013, and applications were accepted until January 17th, 2014.

The Grant Committee evaluated applications based on applicants' ability to benefit their professional development at TESOL 2014 and their commitment and contributions to their students, institutions, and the larger community of practice of TESOL in Oregon. Also, preference was given to members who had not attended an international TESOL convention recently and those who were selected to present at the convention.

As one applicant wrote, "Attending this convention would give me the opportunity to connect with colleagues in different stages of their careers and learn from their experiences. I hope to learn about different teaching opportunities as well as subjects within the realm of TESOL." Too often, these kinds of opportunities are not possible due to our teaching schedules, other time commitments, or financial constraints. In this case, the ORTESOL Board and Grant committee are proud to provide financial support, transforming possibilities into realities.

Congratulations once again to the grant recipients! We hope that all ORTESOL attendees will have a fruitful time at TESOL 2014.

The 2014 ORTESOL Professional Development Grant Recipients are:

Allison Smith
Carmen Caceda
Chelsea Rohweder
Christiane Crosby
Courtney Hearon
Heather Jacobs
J.C. Kizak
Jen Sacklin
Jessica Hanson
Lisa Kunde
Margo Russell
Meghan Oswalt
Patrik McDade
Sheree LeDoux-Leos

Current Grant Committee Members:
Elizabeth Cole
Eric Dodson
Heather Kalowsky
Catherine Kim
Katie Mitchell
Monika Mulder
Patricia Schilasky

Professional Development Grantee Profile: Jessica Hansen

I am delighted to receive a scholarship to attend the TESOL 2014 Convention this year. Attending this convention will provide me with opportunities to connect with colleagues in different stages of their careers and learn from their experiences. As a recent graduate and a new adjunct instructor at Portland State University’s Intensive English Language Program (IELP), this will be a great opportunity to continue learning about the field of TESOL. I am also excited to attend presentations and learn from them as I am currently collaborating in research with IELP colleagues on student use of the IELP Learning Center. We hope to present our research to TESOL professionals in the future, so attending presentations of research will help prepare me for this and help me to grow professionally.

I would also like to deepen my understanding of topics such as corpus linguistics in language teaching, developing reading and writing skills with adult learners, and the role of technology in the classroom. Developing my knowledge and understanding of these areas will allow me to effectively apply concepts in the classroom. I am excited to attend TESOL 2014 for the opportunity to broaden my knowledge and benefit my community of practice as I further develop my skills.

(See more grantee profiles on p. 9 and p. 11)
Tips for making the most of your TESOL Convention Attendance

by Cevia Yellin

For some, leafing through the TESOL International Conference program and deciding which activities to attend is not unlike the “kid in a candy store” scenario: So many wonderful things! So many possibilities! Like the “kid”, a conference attendee or presenter will likely have sacrificed both time and money in order to attend this event. Upon arrival, a person may be consumed by the decisions that need to be made under the constraints of, not money as the kid in the candy store bemoans (you’ve made it this far, now everything is free!) but time and stamina. One might struggle with questions such as: Which events will be the best? Which ones will have the most lasting impact on my work? What if I choose the wrong ones?

Whether a veteran conference attendee or a newbie, here are some tips that may help you get the most out of your conference experience:

1) Do a professional “needs analysis”. Reflect on your current role in your institution. Ask yourself: What knowledge and skills would I like to gain? What am I doing well? What would help me do my work even better?

2) Do a personal “needs analysis.” Reflect on your professional development “style.” Ask yourself: How do I like to experience professional enrichment opportunities? Do I want to sit and listen, talk and do, socialize and share?

3) Do a “reality check.” Reflect on what is realistic given the factors of time and stamina. Ask yourself: How much information am I able to take in? How much time am I able to dedicate? What time of day is optimal for me? Are there any people/events I’ve already committed to?

4) Prioritize: Now, considering your professional and personal needs in addition to the amount of time and energy you have at your disposal, dive into that TESOL 2014 program!

Still overwhelmed by the number of conference activities you’d like to attend? Perhaps even after going through steps 1-4, this is a task easier said than done. If so, you may want to go a step further:

5) Focus: Choose an interest section, such as Second Language Writing or Intercultural Communication, or a more specific topic related to the interest section of your choice, such as: effective strategies for giving feedback on writing or cultural factors that affect language learning.

This final step can help you approach the often time-consuming task of figuring out which events (and how many) to attend. Once you’ve selected an interest section and/or a specific topic, then you can peruse the corresponding events that are in the style and at the times you prefer. Make your selections and enjoy!

By Mira Malupa-Kim

This year marks an important year for me as I celebrate 10 years of being a TESOL member! With the conference just around the corner, I thought I would share my TESOL traditions with you.

Preparing for the conference:

First of all, I never bring a big bag to the conference since TESOL provides a handy tote where you can put hand-outs, pens, book purchases, free stuff, etc. Yes, there are lots of small goodies given and sold at the conference, so I also make sure to leave space in my luggage to bring home more than I came with.

TESOL does a good job in sending an online itinerary planner early, so I am able to decide in advance which sessions I will attend. I also plan “back-up” sessions in case a session to too full or the rooms are too far apart to make it from one session to the next. I choose sessions related to my professional interests, but I also consider going to a session or two that I do not know anything about.

I check with colleagues who are attending the conference about their plans. This is crucial because I never go to the same sessions with them. The idea behind this is sharing. The more sessions we attend, the more sharing can happen when we get back.

Since I am really good at getting lost, I check out the convention maps as soon as I get hold of them. Oh, and shoes! Yes, I make sure I wear the most comfortable shoes I own, because there’s going to be a lot of walking from one session to the other.

Lastly, I bring business cards. I make at least 30-50 depending on how much I intend to network (and win door prizes!).

While at the conference

At registration, there are ribbons available that say presenter, exhibitor, volunteer, etc. Once I have my name tag, I make sure I attach all applicable ribbons. Then I go pick up my tote bag, and I check the booklet for maps and any session cancellations.

I try to make it to my selected sessions a bit early. If possible, I introduce myself to the presenter(s) before or after their presentation. I also introduce myself to attendees around me. I don’t always get the feeling they want to talk, but this has never slowed me down. :) It’s interesting for me to know what brought them to attend the session and to know where they are from.

I also take advantage of interest section meetings. These gatherings of like-minded professionals are a great networking opportunity.

I find time to visit the exhibits and talk with the exhibitors. I like listening to what they have to say about their products or their institution. There are tables and chairs where I stop, sit down and say hi. Even if I’m not looking for jobs, I always check them out!

I make sure I take advantage of everything that TESOL has to offer, but I also see the city! There are so many things to do in so little time! See you in Portland!
Portland State University and TESOL 2014  
By Gwen Heller Tuason

As the excitement continues to brew for TESOL 2014, the Intensive English Language Program (IELP) at Portland State University is eager to roll out the red carpet as a host institution. Faculty, staff, and students are anticipating this rare opportunity to welcome practitioners from across the country and around the globe. Making the event even more special is the fact that the IELP is celebrating its 50th birthday this year.

As one of the featured locations for the March 26 Educational Site Visits, the IELP is poised to welcome TESOL participants for a behind-the-scenes look at our program. According to IELP Academic Director Wayne Gregory, guests will meet with faculty, staff, and administrators to learn about how the IELP has met the challenges of serving 550-650 students each term. IELP Director Julie Haun and Samudra Kugel, Program and Admissions Outreach Manager, will also present on the curriculum, which focuses on academic preparation for undergraduate and graduate study. Other highlights of the IELP site visit will include a showcase of student cultural performances and a stellar tour of our state-of-the-art Learning Center, which includes tutoring services, test preparation resources, and a computer lab.

IELP participation at TESOL goes far beyond the site visit. According to IELP Faculty Coordinator Lisa McKinney, 22 faculty members are presenting at TESOL, and dozens will also be volunteering at the conference in a variety of capacities. Several faculty members have already been hard at work on the TESOL 2014 planning team. They are Monika Mulder, Local Co-Chair; Lisa McKinney, Volunteer Team Leader; Angelica da Costa, Bag & Program Distribution Co-Team Leader; Joyanna Eisenberg, Bag & Program Distribution Co-Team Leader; and Patti Schilasky, Job Market Place Team Leader. TESOL attendees will also have the chance to chat with IELP faculty and staff at the Study Oregon information table throughout the conference. And the IELP is a co-sponsor of the ORTESOL reception on Thursday, March 27, from 6-7 p.m. in E141 at the Convention Center. Stop by and join us for a 50th birthday toast to the IELP!

Western Oregon University and TESOL 2014  
By Carmen Cáceda

Western Oregon University, Division of Extended Programs, signed a memorandum of agreement with TESOL recently to continue supporting teachers’ professional development. Any teacher attending the K-12 Dream Day (K12 DD) can sign up for a one-graduate-credit class (currently at $50). First, to obtain the credit, participants will attend sessions of their interest (see http://bit.ly/1hOyhC to get specific information about the workshops). Second, participants will write a reflection paper based on the strategies, rationale, or skills they were exposed to during the sessions. Third, participants will also submit a video-clip where they share part of the expertise gained and adapted to their unique teaching context. To get further details about signing up for this option go to http://bit.ly/1kkULkc. At Western, we are thrilled with this agreement since we would like to continue to support teachers to the best of our abilities, particularly in the ESOL field (see http://bit.ly/1mNmAtF or http://bit.ly/1i2GI8T for more information about our programs). We understand that our colleagues will translate this gained repertoire into their classroom and our English language learners will be the immediate beneficiaries. We are also hopeful that colleagues from other states and countries can join us for the K12 Dream Day option.

Western Oregon University is also funding a group of students to attend this one of a kind event that will take place in Oregon for the first time. Four students in the ESOL/Bilingual Program (in the College of Education) will receive funding to offset the cost of the registration. Moreover, five undergraduate students in WOU’s Teaching English as a Foreign Language Certificate program (in the Department of English, Writing, and Linguistics) have had their yearly membership dues and TESOL Convention registration fee paid by a WOU Foundation Grant. For many of these students, this is their first opportunity to attend a professional conference, and they are excited to experience the premier event in our academic field.

For further information, you can get in touch with Drs. Carmen Cáceda, cacedac@wou.edu, Maria Dantas-Whitney, dan-tasm@wou.edu, or Robert Troyer, troyerr@wou.edu
**Things to do in Portland**

We asked some ORTESOLers from Portland to give their tips to out-of-town Oregonians:

What should we see and do while visiting for TESOL? Read on for their answers…

*by Meghan Oswalt*

I used to work at the front desk of a hotel in Portland, and it always broke my heart when guests would tell me that they weren’t willing to leave downtown. So much of Portland is across the river, so I’m thrilled that the Convention is on the east side! I love this city—it’s where I got married, had a baby, and, of course, where I study TESOL—and as you may notice in my recommendations below, I love Southeast Portland most of all. If I were a visitor coming in for the Convention, I would spend my free time eating, drinking, sightseeing, and taking part in some free events. All but one of my recommendations below are between one and three miles from the Oregon Convention Center (OCC), and the list is arranged by proximity. Have fun!

1. **Fire on the Mountain (FOTM).** The best hot wings (and maybe fries) in town! When my husband and I first arrived in Portland, this was the very first place we ate. We found it haphazardly, yet it remains one of our favorite places to go. Try the cilantro lime sauce! Vegan options are available also. While I’m partial to the one on N Interstate, there just happens to be another location on E Burnside that is only a mile away from the OCC (12 minutes by public transit; 20-minute walk; 3 minutes by car/taxi). If wings aren’t your thing, East Burn is also good and is just one block east of FOTM.

2. **Portland City Grill.** On the 30th floor of the US Bancorp Tower, this place has great views of the city, not to mention great cocktails. We shared cocktails with friends there after our wedding ceremony (see picture), and one of my friends still raves about the Lavender Cosmo she had there years ago. Personally, I recommend the Ten Sage. Some of our guests have felt a little under-dressed when we took them there (though I disagreed with them), so it’s something to keep in mind. (1 mile from the OCC; 15 minutes by public transit; 20-minute walk; 3 minutes by car/taxi).

3. **Portland Farmers Market, NW 6th and Couch St.** (Click for directions: http://goo.gl/maps/KcL2b). No visit to Portland would be complete without a stop at the farmers market. It’s been rated one of the best in the country, and has nearly 200 vendors with an incredible variety of food, art, and other needful things.

*by Brenda McTighe*

Getting around Portland without a car is easy, convenient, and inexpensive. It’s $2.50 for a two-hour pass, or $5.00 for an all-day pass. This pass is good for all public transportation, so you can use it on the streetcar, the MAX, or the bus.

You can buy tickets from a bus driver, on a MAX platform, or on the streetcar. You can also download the free TriMet Tickets app for your Smartphone, load a ticket, and show the phone ticket when necessary. The easiest way to plan your journey is with the free PDX Bus app. It is an excellent and easy-to-use app that can help you not only figure out where you are, but how to get where you want to go. Just enter your destination, and the app will help you find a way to get there. Or click the transit icon on the google maps links below.

**Things to See:**

1. **St. Johns Bridge, U.S. Highway 30.** (Click for directions: http://goo.gl/maps/8QgGN). The tallest bridge in Portland, this unique, Gothic style span is also the only suspension bridge in Oregon.

2. **Pioneer Place, 700 SW Fifth Avenue.** (Click for directions: http://goo.gl/maps/lgA4). An urban shopping mall in the heart of downtown in the midst of a bustling square popular with locals and tourists alike. Retail shops, dining, and parking are located between four buildings which are connected by skywalks or underground sections.

3. **Portland Farmers Market, NW 6th and Couch St.** (Click for directions: http://goo.gl/maps/KcL2b). No visit to Portland would be complete without a stop at the farmers market. It’s been rated one of the best in the country, and has nearly 200 vendors with an incredible variety of food, art, and other needful things.

*Continued on page 8*

*Continued on page 9*
3. **Walking.** Stop in Powell's (Less than 1.5 miles from the Convention Center; 20 minutes by public transit; 30-minute walk; 3 minutes by car/taxi) and grab a copy of Laura O. Foster's Portland Hill Walks, and use it to lead yourself on walks around town.

4. **Devil's Dill Sandwich Shop.** Amazing late-night sandwiches on Hawthorne! They have vegan options, but for you non-vegans, I'd go for the #4: "Red Wine Braised Beef, Grilled Onions, Peppers, Cheddar, and Horseradish Aioli." According to their Facebook page, they recently made sandwiches for the Black Crowes and the Pixies post-concert meals, so they must be cool. If you're staying close enough to the shop, they'll even deliver your order as late as 2:30 in the morning. (Less than 2 miles from the OCC; 20 minutes by public transit; 35-minute walk; 5 minutes by car/taxi)

5. **FREE Fourth Friday at the Portland Art Museum.** Visit the museum for free on 3/28, 5-8pm. (Less than 2 miles from the OCC; 20 minutes by public transit; 35-minute walk; 5 minutes by car/taxi)

6. **Timbers Soccer.** Unfortunately, the Timbers will be in Dallas on 3/29, but you can always check out the game live in various venues around town, including 442 Soccer Bar on Hawthorne (2 miles from the Convention Center; 20 minutes by public transit; 35-minute walk; 5 minutes by car/taxi).

7. **Eye Candy.** If you like old school music videos and dive bars, this could be for you. VJs take your music-video requests. Wed. 3/26 9pm @ Firkin Tavern (Less than 2 miles from the Convention Center; 20 minutes by public transit; 30-minute walk; 5 minutes by car/taxi), Thurs. 3/27 9pm @ Backstage Bar (On Hawthorne; Less than 3 miles from the Convention Center; 25 minutes by public transit; 1-hour walk; 10 minutes by car/taxi) or 11pm @ the Know (On Alberta; about 3 miles from the OCC; 30 minutes by public transit; 1-hour walk; 10 minutes by car/taxi). Since the Hawthorne and Alberta areas have a lot going on, this would be easy to coordinate with other plans.

8. **The Pied Cow Coffeehouse.** Hookahs, desserts, and carafes of wine come to mind when I think of the Pied Cow. It is located in the Belmont area in an old Victorian house with festive outdoor seating. And just two blocks down the street is a nickel arcade where you can play skeeball and other games—Think Chuck E. Cheese for adults. (Just over 2 miles from the OCC; 25 minutes by public transit; 45-minute walk; 10 minutes by car/taxi.)

9. **The Horse Brass.** This English-style pub offers the best and most reasonably priced fish & chips in town (just get a half order), as well as 50+ local, regional, and international beers on tap at any given time. (3 miles from the OCC; 30 minutes by public transit; 1 hour walk; 10 minutes by car/taxi)

10. **Mount Tabor.** Admittedly, this park, which is atop an extinct volcano, is the farthest from the OCC of all my recommendations. And of course, you're Oregonians who have probably been to Portland and have probably already gone here. But if not, it's one of my favorite places. There are a few different ways to get to the top, but I like to take the stairs at SE Yamhill & 69th (4.5 miles from the OCC; 40 minutes by public transit; 10 minutes by car/taxi).

If you're out of shape like I am, expect to be winded. From the top you can see downtown to the west, and if it happens to be clear, you can see Mount Hood in the east.

(by Meghan Oswalt)
4. Portlandia Statue, 1120 SW 5th Avenue, Portland Building. (Click for directions: http://goo.gl/maps/fxf19S). This well-known artwork, based on the Portland city seal, is the second-largest copper statue after the Statue of Liberty. Portlandia depicts a woman holding a trident, crouching over 5th avenue.

5. Chinatown Gate, N.W. 4th Ave. and Burnside St.. (Click for directions: http://goo.gl/maps/aZhly). The entrance to Portland’s Chinatown is marked by this impressive gate.

6. Shemanski Fountain (Rebecca at the Well), SW Park & Ninth Ave. (Click for directions: http://goo.gl/maps/88SYq). This beautiful bronze sculpture and fountain is one of Portland’s favorites.

7. Union Station, 800 Northwest Sixth Avenue. (Click for directions: http://goo.gl/maps/8RjAI). This Victorian-era train station has been fully refurbished and features a beautiful clock tower.

Local Hikes:

1. Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge Center, three miles, 100-foot elevation gain. An easy hike through a wildlife habitat just 10 minutes from downtown. Excellent bird-watching and views of the Willamette River along paved paths and woody trails. To get there, click for directions: http://goo.gl/maps/LFAJf.

2. Marquam Trail to Council Crest, 3.8-mile loop, 700-foot elevation gain. This medium-level hike travels through woody areas and urban areas both. At the top, Council Crest – one of the highest elevations in Portland – offers beautiful city views and, on a clear day, a glimpse of four volcanoes. To get there, click for directions: http://goo.gl/maps/HG7CB.

3. Pittock Mansion Hike, five-mile loop, 900 foot elevation gain. This moderately difficult hike passes through Forest Park and ends at the Pittock Mansion, an architectural landmark of the Pacific Northwest. The house is $9.50 for adults to enter and tour, but the grounds offer some of the best views in the city and can be enjoyed for free. To get there, click for directions: http://goo.gl/maps/OGMCq

(By Brenda McTighe)

Professional Development Grantee Profile: Chelsea Rohweder

I’ve taught English for 12 years in the U.S and Oaxaca, Mexico. I currently teach in the Intensive English Language Program at Portland State and at Mt. Hood Community College.

As part of my commitment to growing as an ESOL educator, I take advantage of the opportunity to attend professional conferences. The 2014 International TESOL convention will be my first international conference; however, I’ve been regularly attending ORTESOL conferences since 2009. I appreciate connecting with fellow professionals, reinforcing that we are a true community committed to our field.

Conferences affirm my preferred teaching methods and inspire me to improve instructional approaches. They have educated me about exciting trends like “classroom flipping” and taught me new techniques. A session on working with lower-literacy immigrants inspired me to return to working with that demographic. I leave conferences rejuvenated and fired-up to experiment.

Attending the international TESOL conference will undoubtedly be as beneficial. One particular topic about which I hope to gain greater understanding is the future of TESOL, and the implications of its rapid growth for both ESOL educators and administrators.

I greatly appreciate this grant awarded to me by ORTESOL. It’s clear evidence of the strong desire of this organization to support Oregon ESOL educators in our professional development.

(For more information, see “ORTESOL Professional Development Grant Awards,” p. 3)
University of Oregon and TESOL 2014
By Rachel Drummond Sardell

Nearly 70 teaching faculty and administrative staff members from the University of Oregon look forward to engaging with you at the TESOL Convention in Portland. Here are a few ways that we can cross paths:

AEI BOOTH
The easiest way to find us is at our American English Institute (AEI) booth #727, right across from the TESOL booth on the exhibit floor. In addition to providing information about the American English Institute, there will be a variety of showcase sessions and meet the author events happening at our AEI booth. A few of our session topics include: Online Language Teacher Education, Shaping the Way We Teach English, Best Practices in ESP and EAP needs analysis, Women Teaching Women English, and a Q&A session about our Language Teaching Specialization graduate program.

If you are a UO and/or AEI alum, interested in our graduate degree program in language teaching, know a colleague of ours at the AEI, or just wish to check out our offerings at the booth, we would love to see you!

PRESENTATIONS
We are proud to have 26 faculty members presenting on a variety of topics during the Portland TESOL Convention. You can interact with our teaching faculty via presentations, poster sessions, interactive workshops, pre-convention institutes, electronic village workshops, a round table discussion, and an ESP & IEP intersection. Presenters will be discussing a wide variety of topics, including: online learning, student advising, student evaluations, CALL and MALL, teacher mentoring, portfolios in writing, LGBTQ research inquiry, and strategies for teaching vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation. A full list of AEI faculty presentation titles, dates, and times is available at the AEI Booth.

SPECIAL TESOL SESSIONS
AEI faculty Kay Westerfield and Deborah Healey are featured speakers at the 2014 TESOL Convention. Former TESOL board member and renowned leader and author in the area of ESP, Kay Westerfield, will co-present on English for Specific Purposes as an agent of social change in an invited speaker session. Deborah Healey, an AEI faculty member and newly elected TESOL Board member, is the host of a Tea with Distinguished TESOLers event, where she will lead discussion on gamification in an educational language-learning context.

Best wishes to you for a great convention, and we look forward to seeing you there!

Portland ESL Network and TESOL 2014
by Heidi Dryden

Designed for Sharing resources for English Language Learners in the Portland-metro Area, the Portland ESL network is a free, open source collection of class locations, cultural, community and online resources that promote learner autonomy, community networking, computer literacy, and civic engagement. We will be highlighted in a Poster Session at the TESOL conference on Saturday, March 29th at 12:30 pm in the Poster Session area in Expo Hall at the Convention Center!

The Portland ESL Network is a reliable up-to-date network sharing resources, information, and locations of ESL programs in the Portland metro area. Our explanatory exhibit will provide a visual overview of the Portland ESL Network by displaying the website’s information in 3-D! The exhibit will visually display how the Portland ESL Network website aids with CALL, promotes learner autonomy through online ESL website links and a map of all the area’s ESL classes. The exhibit will visually highlight the network’s development of professional and community networking through the wiki as well as social media. The poster will also show ideas of how to incorporate basic literacy, computer literacy, and civic engagement for both ESL students and teachers into any ESL class.

Welcome to the Portland ESL Network!

Check us out before the conference at PortlandESL.pbworks.com

Please stop by and tell us hello! We would love to meet you!

Sincerely,

The Portland ESL Network team: Heidi Dryden, Patrik McDade, Emilia Gilroy-Saundra, Ariana Chandler and Stephanie Gurung
Note from the Editor:

I hope you have enjoyed this special TESOL Convention issue of the ORTESOL Newsletter. I enjoyed working with the contributors to put it together.

The next issue of our Newsletter will be published in June. It will feature the Adult Education Special Interest Group (SIG), and profile ESOL institutions and educators in southern Oregon. If you have any stories or reports to contribute related to these themes, I would love to hear from you. Also, we are always looking for very brief teaching tips, articles for our technology corner, and information about upcoming ESOL events in your area.

In September we will profile the work of our Refugee concerns SIG, and the following two issues will feature the K-12 and Higher Education Special Interest Groups. I am always interested in profiling regions, institutions, or individuals who are doing unique or excellent work in the ESOL field. Please tell me about them! Finally, feel free to email me if there is a story you would like to write; we can work together to find the right place for it.

I am always open to your suggestions about the ORTESOL Newsletter. You can reach me at newsletter@ortesol.org.

Best wishes and happy teaching!

Beth
See you in Portland!

ORTESOL Fall Conference

Save the date
November 14-15
PCC Sylvania

Our Fall Convention is a great opportunity to meet your colleagues from around the state, hear new ideas, and share yours.

Think about what you might want to present, and watch for our call for proposals coming soon after the international TESOL convention.

We hope to see you there!

ORTESOL is an association of professionals concerned with the education of students for whom English is a non-native language. Newsletter submissions may be e-mailed to newsletter@ortesol.org. Those accepted for publication may be edited. The newsletter is not responsible for the opinions expressed by its contributors. Send all inquiries concerning the organization to ORTESOL, c/o Dept. of Applied Linguistics, Portland State University, PO Box 751, Portland, OR 97207.

Beginning with this issue, the ORTESOL Newsletter is available in electronic format only. However, if you would like a printed copy mailed to you, you can request one by emailing newsletter@ortesol.org. The cost will be $7.50 for a color copy, or $3.50 for black and white.