



NEWSLETTER

Vol. 6, No. 2

Winter, 1978

Massachusetts Association for Teachers of Speakers of Other Languages

MATSOL Conference, March 17-18, 1978

Plans are well under way for the annual MATSOL conference, to be held March 17 and 18, 1978, at Boston University. Once again, the conference will take place in conjunction with the Massachusetts Association of Bilingual Educators and with the cooperation of the State Department of Transitional Bilingual Education, the Massachusetts Migrant Programs, The National Bilingual-Bicultural Assessment and Dissemination Center, and the Bilingual Program of the U.S. Office of Education.

Already confirmed as speakers are Donald Knapp, president of TESOL, and Paul Angelis, of the TOEFL Program of ETS. As usual, however, our presentations will, in general, come from you, the members of MATSOL, and we urge you to submit proposals for papers, workshops, and demonstrations as soon as possible. In order to make sure that nobody misses a presentation of relevance to their work, we are asking that all proposals employ the following format:

Name; address; affiliation;

Title of presentation; time required (½ hr, 1 hr, 1½ hrs);

Two-paragraph description;

Format: workshop, paper, hands-on demonstration, panel, film.

Materials needed: projector, video-tape

Suggested audience: ESL in elementary ed., ESL in secondary ed., ESL in higher ed., EFL in U.S., Applied Linguistics, English as a Second Dialect, Adult ed., etc.

Papers should be sent no later than Feb. 25, to Amy Lezberg, Mass. College of Pharmacy, 179 Longwood Avenue, Boston, Mass. 02117.

In addition to receiving proposals, we are also anxious to receive suggestions for presenters whom you have heard elsewhere or before and who you think would be interesting to the MATSOL membership. Please let us know so we can invite them!

The following committees have already met:

Budget: Raffael de Gruttola, Amy Lezberg, Ed Korza

Publishers: Caroline Banks, Alice Fastov, Glynda Bell, Jean Mullen, Jeanette Pollard.

Registration: Bill Biddle, Edgar Sather

A meeting of the paper selection committee (Amy Lezberg, Glynda Bell, Jean Mullen, Caroline Banks, George Draper, Paula Stone) was held on Monday, Jan. 23, at Mass. College of Pharmacy. We can still use volunteers for that committee and for the hospitality and publicity committees. If you are interested and available, please call Amy Lezberg at 734-6700, ext 183.

Report of the Nominating Committee

Maria Fleites, chairperson the MATSOL Nominating Committee, has presented the following nominees for office for 1978-1979:

Vice-President:	Caroline Banks	Catherine Tansey
Secretary/Treasurer:	Mary K. Dennison	Alice Fastov
Members-at-large (3):	Lisbeth Britz	Steven J. Molinsky
	Ed Korza	Margarita Muñiz
	Bryna Kaitz Lieder	Alice Thayer
	Bambi Zimmerman	

(Biographies of the candidates appear on pages 3 and 4.)

Fanselow Talks at Fall Get-together

by Cathe Tansey

As teachers we all know how important feedback is. It tells us when to stop and when to continue, when to guide students in one direction and when to prevent them from going in another. Feedback is an essential tool for both the teacher and the student. But have you ever stopped to analyse what feedback is, and how it affects you or your students?

John Fanselow, Associate professor of Language Arts and Education at Teachers College, Columbia University, led us in an

back to teacher is often non-linguistic, involving a quizzical eye expression or a change in seating position. Furthermore, we should experiment with the different media to see which ones are more effective for particular persons or situations.

Before providing feedback, the teacher should focus on the reason for giving it. Is the purpose of feedback to evaluate a student's performance, illustrate a problem, stimulate a discussion or merely correct an error? Feedback is flexible enough to be used for any number of reasons.



John Fanselow and Vivian Zamel (photo by Caroline Banks)

examination of the source, medium, use and content of feedback at the annual MATSOL fall get-together. We discussed what feedback is, who or what conveys it, and how it is conveyed. The purpose of this examination was to encourage us to be more effective teachers and learners and to urge us to consciously vary and shape the ways we give feedback.

Although teachers and students are the most obvious sources of feedback, Dr. Fanselow pointed out that objects are another common source of feedback. An example of this can be found in a cafeteria in the shape of a spigot on a coffee urn. When the spigot is pressed too hard, coffee splashes on the unwary victim. In this instance it would have been superfluous to tell the victim that he/she had done something foolish because the spigot had a more effective way of presenting this information.

In conveying the message, there are numerous linguistic, non-linguistic and para-linguistic ways of doing so. There are oral or written responses, gestures, sounds, facial expressions or tone of voice. As teachers, we should be aware of the forms feedback assumes because students do not always choose the most conventional ways of showing their comprehension. In fact, according to Dr. Fanselow, student feed-

The last aspect which Dr. Fanselow covered was the message or the content of feedback. We should decide if our message will be positive or negative or simply informational. In addition, we should realize that some students do not need positive or negative feedback because they are their own best monitors. Next, we should be careful that the message is consistent with the means which is used to present it. A sharp rebuke or a high tone of voice may not convey the true message we really want to give to the student.

By studying, discussing and experimenting with feedback, we can become more aware of the uses and limitations of this tool. If teachers become more sensitive to the source, means, purpose and content of feedback, we could work towards increased effective communication not only in the classroom, but also outside it.

Guest Editor for this issue of the Newsletter was Cathe Tansey. Those interested in working on the next issue of the Newsletter should attend a working meeting on Monday evening, Feb. 27 at 6 pm at CELOP. For further information, call 739-1800.

Nominees

Vice-President

Caroline Banks is an ESL teacher in the Arlington Public Schools. Prior to that, she worked for several years in modern language textbook editing and teaching French and Italian. She is especially concerned that elementary and secondary schools in Massachusetts be well represented in MATSOL and that the link between public schools and institutions of higher education be a strong one. Caroline has been a member-at-large of the 1977-78 Executive Board.

Catherine Tansey began her career in TEFL as a Peace Corps volunteer in Morocco over seven years ago. While there,

she received one of the highest teacher evaluations in the country by the Inspector of English. After Morocco, she returned to the United States to get her MAT in ESL at the School for International Training. In 1973, Cathe became a teacher at the American Language Academy in Newton and has been its director for the past two years. She is a member of TESOL and NAFSA.

Secretary/Treasurer

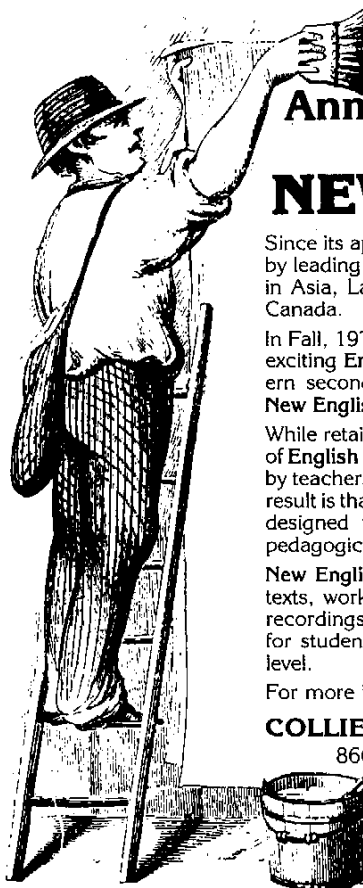
Mary K. Dennison is the Director of International Programs at the Northfield Mount Hermon School. She spent four years in the Peace Corps teaching ESL to high school students. She has an A.B. from Marquette University and an MAT in ESL and French from the School for International Training. Her particular area of interest at present is learning to apply Counseling-Learning techniques to ESL. She has been a member of MATSOL for two years.

Alice Fastov is an ESL teacher (K-12) in the Brookline Public Schools and is currently enrolled at the Boston University School of Education working toward an MA in TESOL. Alice has also worked in various capacities with recent immigrants. She has been a MATSOL member since 1972 and MATSOL Job Bank Coordinator since 1975. Her other professional affiliations include TESOL, NEA, BEA, and MTA.

News from the Executive Board

At the Executive Board Meeting on December 14, 1977, the following amendments to the constitution were proposed:

1. Nominees for office must have been members of MATSOL for the year prior to nomination.
2. Nominees should have exhibited some active interest in the organization such as serving on a standing committee or making a presentation at the annual MATSOL conference.



Collier Macmillan Announces the Publication Of: **NEW ENGLISH 900**

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Members-at-large (Three to be elected)

Lisbeth Britz is presently the Haitian-French Parent Advisory Committee Coordinator in the Cambridge Bilingual Department. She has worked as an elementary bilingual Haitian-French teacher as well as an ESL assistant teacher. She has an AB in Psychology from the University of Michigan and has done graduate work at Boston State College and Lesley College.

Ed Korza, Title VII Project Director in Cambridge, has worked in bilingual education as an ESL teacher on both high school and community college levels. He has an MA in TESL from Ohio University and is presently enrolled in a doctoral program at U. Mass-Amherst in bilingual-bicultural education. His professional affiliations include TESOL, ACTFL, and MABE. For the past two years he has been the Secretary/Treasurer of MATSOL.

Bryna Kaitz Lieder is an ESL teacher at Watertown High School. (No resume submitted)

Steven J. Molinsky, Associate Professor in the Boston University School of Education, is director of the MA Program in TESOL as well as of undergraduate programs in Modern Foreign Language Education. He has a BA from Trinity and an MA and PhD in Linguistics from Harvard. He has been a presenter at the '76 MATSOL Conference and has given workshops at two College Roundtables and the '77 TESOL Convention.

Margarita Muñiz, presently a bilingual consulting teacher for the Boston Public Schools Bilingual Department, worked as an elementary bilingual teacher for five years in Boston. She has a BA from Boston University and is currently enrolled in a Master's degree program in bilingual education at Boston State College. She has been a MATSOL member since 1973 and is also a member of ACTFL and TESOL. She was a presenter at the MATSOL Spring Conference in 1974.

Alice M. Thayer is an assistant professor of ESL at St. Michael's College in Winooski, VT. From 1969-1973, she was also the director of the Japanese Summer Study Program there. She has an MAT in ESL from St. Michael's College. Her professional affiliations include NAFSA, TESOL, AECT, and SIETAR. She was a presenter at the 1974 MATSOL Conference and the 1976 College Roundtable.

Bambi Zimmerman is currently working at the middle school and secondary school levels in ESL at the Multi-Community Language Center in Framingham as well as teaching ESL at Lesley College. Bambi has a BA from Jackson College and an M.Ed. from Boston University. She has also done work at the International Teacher Training Institute in London, Boston State College, and Wheelock College. She is a member of TESOL and has served on the MATSOL nominating committee.

Additional nominees may be submitted by
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petition signed by any ten MATSOL members in good standing. Mail petitions by February 25 to:

Edward Korza, Secretary-Treasurer
41 Longmeadow Drive
Amherst, MA 01002.

TESOL '78

The TESOL '78 program will feature a variety of presentations, including plenary sessions or panels on bilingual education, innovative methodologies, the functional/notional syllabus, and the past, present and future of TESOL. Throughout the five days of the convention, there will be papers, demonstrations, workshops, colloquia, panels and round-table discussions on a variety of ESL/EFL topics including: adult education, applied linguistics, bilingualism, contrastive studies, culture, curriculum, grammar, the learning laboratory, literature, materials, methods, phonology, psycholinguistics, reading, research, second dialect, sociolinguistics, teacher training, testing, vocabulary/usage, and writing.

There will be special meetings for administrators, for teachers of all levels, for researchers, for members of TESOL's Special Interest Groups, for graduate students to talk informally at breakfast seminars with leaders in the field. In addition, there will be organized job interviews; opportunities to meet authors; and time to see publishers' displays of their latest publications and teaching materials. You will be able to experience language learning by one of several different methods. There will be sessions on successful classroom techniques, and on the latest research in language testing, language acquisition and classroom-centered studies. The National Association of Learning Laboratory Directors (NALLD) will be holding joint meetings with us.

The Convention is also your chance to participate in the governance of the TESOL organization through business sessions of the Affiliate Forum, the Advisory Council, the Legislative Assembly, the nine TESOL Special Interest Groups, and the various standing committees. And through the Organizational Get-Together, you can find out about allied local, national and international organizations.

Important local highlights will include a convention-wide get-acquainted Margarita Reception on the first night, hosted by MEXTESOL and the Instituto Mexicano Norteamericano de Relaciones Culturales; a special performance for TESOL of the world-renowned Ballet Folklorico at the Palacio de Bellas Artes; and the TESOL presidential banquet followed by an all-convention dance/fiesta. Educational visits to local schools will be available.

More detailed preliminary program information and workshop reservation forms will be distributed to TESOL members later this month. Remember—the deadline for reduced pre-registration fees is February 24.

A List of Periodicals in ESL

1. *English Language Teaching Journal*
Subscription Department
Oxford University Press
Press Road
Neasden, London NW 10
2. *College Composition and Communication*
National Council of Teachers of English
1111 Kenyon Road
Urbana, IL 61801
3. *TESOL Quarterly*
James E. Alatis
School of Language and Linguistics
Georgetown University
Washington, D.C. 20057
4. *Research in the Teaching of English*
National Council of Teachers of English
1111 Kenyon Road
Urbana, IL 61801
5. *TESL—Reporter*
Director
Culture Learning Institute
East-West Center
Honolulu, HI 96822
6. *The Bridge—A Journal of Cross-Cultural Affairs*
Center for Research and Education
2010 E. 17th Avenue
Denver, CO 80206
7. *International Journal of Intercultural Relations*
Transaction Periodicals Consortiums
Rutgers the State University
New Brunswick, NJ 08903
8. *System—A Journal for Educational Technology and Language Learning Systems*
Department of Language and Literature
University of Linköping
Sweden
9. *Exchange—A Publication of the U.S. Advisory Commission on International Education and Cultural Affairs*
Superintendent of Documents
U.S. Government Printing Office
Washington, D.C.
10. *English for Science and Technology—A Newsletter*
EST Clearinghouse
Eli Ad S A 100
Oregon State University
Corvallis, OR 97330
11. *Communique—Newsletter of Intercultural Education, Training and Research*
Sietar
Georgetown University
Washington, D.C. 20057
12. *ESL—Video Newsletter*
World English Center
University of San Francisco
San Francisco, CA 94117
13. *Global Development Studies Memo*
Global Development Studies Institute
P.O. Box 522
14 Main Street
Madison, NJ 07940
14. *International Bulletin of the International Education Project*
American Council on Education
One Dupont Circle
Washington, D.C. 20036
15. *NAFSO Newsletter*
National Association for Foreign Student Affairs
1860 19th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009

Job Bank

Dear MATSOL Member:

Just a quick note from the Job Bank. After going through my files and contacting all those listed, I find myself without many people to fill jobs that come in to the Job Bank.

If there is any MATSOL member who is looking for a job or has a position to fill, PLEASE contact me in writing.

Alice Fastov
MATSOL Job Bank
515 V.F.W. Parkway
Chestnut Hill, MA 02167
617-327-3231

Conferences and Meetings

February 22-26. Society for Intercultural, Education, Training and Research (SIETAR), Phoenix, AZ. For further information, write to Dr. William G. Davey, Dept. of Communication and Theatre, Arizona State Univ., Tempe, AZ 85281. Tel. 602-965-5598.

February 23-25. Second International Conference on Frontiers in Language Proficiency and Dominance Testing, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL. For further information, contact Professor James E. Redden, Dept. of Linguistics, Southern Illinois Univ., Carbondale, IL 62901.

March 16-18. Convention of the Conference on English Education, Minneapolis, MN. For further information, write CEE Convention, NCTE, 1111 Kenyon Road, Urbana, IL 61801.

Massachusetts Association for Teachers of Speakers of Other Languages

Box 291, B.U. Station
Boston, Mass. 02215

Officers 1977-78

Rafael DeGruttola, President
Boston Public Schools

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Mass. College of Pharmacy

Ed Korza, Secretary/Treasurer
Cambridge Public Schools

Francine Stieglitz, Editor: Newsletter
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Paris, France

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Caroline Banks George Draper
Glynda Bell Marcia Fleites
George de George Edgar Sather

MATSOL NEWSLETTER costs are included in the annual membership dues.
