



TexTESOL III Mini-Letter

Texas Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages

August 2006

www.textesol.org/region3

Plan Your October!

Dear TexTESOLers,

Public schools have just started and I envy those of you meeting your new classes for the first time. I'm also sure all of you teaching at colleges and universities are rushing to finish your pre-first-day preparations, while for those of us in adult education; it's a time to regroup and plan new strategies. So, with the enthusiasm of beginnings, this may not be the time to mention October burn-out. But let's face it - it's coming!

When I was young and living in the Middle East, school always began the first week of October. It didn't seem long before it was Christmas break (yes, that's what we called it back then!). Now, with schools starting as early as mid-August it's a very long way- paved with endless essay corrections- till winter break!

I'm suggesting a little respite without shirking any of your responsibilities. You have the perfect excuse to take a couple of days and come to Austin at the end of October. What better reason than professional development opportunities would give you the chance to do something different and the clear conscience to enjoy it!

TexTESOL's State Conference entitled "**Focusing on the Ability to Learn**" is scheduled for Thursday Oct. 26th through Saturday, Oct.28th at the Omni Southpark and Marriott South in Austin. Check the website at <http://www.textesol.org/region3>.

For information about the venues, visit Omni Southpark www.omnihotels.com/FindAHotel/

AustinSouthpark.aspx or Marriott South www.marriott.com/ausap.

Among the invited speakers at the conference are:

- Dr. Michele J. Sabino, Executive Director: Communications and Marketing, at the University of Houston and TESOL President, 2004-2005.
- Dr. Linda McNeil: Co-Director of the Center for Education at Rice University and a member of the Rice Education faculty.
- Dr. Jun Liu: Associate Professor in the English Language/Linguistics at the University of Arizona, faculty member of the Second Language Acquisition and Teaching, and current president of TESOL.
- Jayme Adelson-Goldstein: ESL teacher-trainer, consultant, and author who works with adult ESL, ESP, and VESL students.

Check TexTESOL III website (www.textesol.org/region3) for information on the Pre-Conference Workshops and the conference program and register for the conference today. Come meet other professionals, learn new techniques, eat well, enjoy the Austin night life, then go back to your school/college/ learning center secure in the knowledge that you have honed your professional skills. Nobody said learning can't be fun!

Hope to see you here in October!

Sincerely,

Lu Zeidan

Newsletter Co-Editor

TexTESOL III

Pre-Conference Workshops

If you are able to join us early at the 2006 TexTESOL State Conference, plan to attend the Pre-Conference Workshops on Thursday, October 26, at the Omni Hotel Southpark. Keep in mind that registration for these is separate from the regular conference registration and you can choose to register for the morning, the afternoon, or both sessions (\$40 for one workshop, \$70 for all day). Please visit TextESOLIII website for the Pre-Conference Workshop Registration Form (www.textesol.org/region3).

The morning workshops are between 9am and noon and attendees have the choice between:

- A. *Mastering the Magic and Madness of the Multilevel Classroom*, with Jayme Adelson-Goldstein (Oxford University Press)
- B. *Health Literacy...It's good for YOU and good for the COMMUNITY!* with Robert Pinhero (Education and Training Consultant)

The afternoon sessions are between 1:30 to 4:30 pm and you have a choice between the following workshops:

- C. *Buying Tuition, Buying Time: Higher Education Access for Undocumented Immigrant Students*, with Evangelina M. Orozco (Austin Independent School District)
- D. *Focusing on the Ability To Teach: Who Needs Content Standards?* with Federico Salas-Isnardi (Texas LEARNS)

A brown bag lunch is planned between the morning and afternoon sessions with a special speaker, Dr. Agelina Bezrukova, Chair of EFL at the Katanov State University of Khakasia, Russia.

While in Austin

In our attempt to keep you posted on what is happening in Austin at the time of your visit at the end of October, we will continue to describe local special events. But don't forget that you can count on Austin's nightlife every night!

The following is a listing of local live music venues. Check their individual websites for details:

- **Antone's** (<http://www.txmusicgroup.com/>)
- **Austin Music Hall** (<http://www.austinmusichall.com/>)
- **The Backyard** (<http://www.thebackyard.net/>)
- **Broken Spoke** (<http://www.brokenspokeaustintx.com/>)
- **Cactus Cafe & Bar**
(<http://www.utexas.edu/student/txunion/ae/cactus/>)
- **Cafe Mundi** (<http://www.cafemundi.com/>)
- **Cedar Street Courtyard**
(<http://cedarstreetaustin.com/>)
- **The Continental Club**
(<http://www.continentalclub.com/Austin.html>)
- **Element** (<http://www.elementaustin.com/>)
- **Elephant Room**
(<http://www.natespace.com/elephant/>)
- **Elysium** (<http://www.elysiumonline.net/>)
- **Emo's** (<http://www.emosaustin.com/>)
- **Hole in the Wall**
(<http://www.holeinthewallaustin.com/>)
- **Iron Cactus** (<http://www.ironcactus.com/>)
- **Jazz** (<http://www.jazzkitchen.com/austin/index.html>)
- **Joe's Generic Bar**
(<http://www.joebates.com/joes.htm>)
- **La Zona Rosa** (<http://www.lazonarosa.com/>)
- **Saxon Pub** (<http://www.thesaxonpub.com/>)
- **Stubb's** (<http://www.stubbsaustin.com/music.php>)
- **The Parish**
(<http://www.jazzkitchen.com/austin/parishroom.html>)