

NEWS**For Immediate Release**

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John Segota
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bpilson@tesol.org**TESOL Announces 2017 James E. Alatis Award for Service to TESOL**

Alexandria, VA (10 November 2016) – [TESOL International Association](#) announced today that Mark Algren is the 2017 recipient of the [James E. Alatis Award for Service to TESOL](#). The award honors outstanding and extended service by TESOL members at international, regional, and local levels. TESOL President Dudley Reynolds will present the award to Algren at the James E. Alatis Plenary during the [2017 TESOL International Convention & English Language Expo](#) in Seattle, Washington, USA.

Mark Algren, former president of TESOL International Association (2009–2010), has been an ESL/EFL instructor and program administrator since 1979. In addition to more than 20 years of university work in the United States, including 21 years at the [University of Kansas Applied English Center](#), he spent 14 years teaching and directing intensive English programs in Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. Currently, Algren serves as the executive director of the [Center for English Language Learning at the University of Missouri in Columbia](#).

Beyond his service as TESOL president, Algren has maintained his strong dedication to TESOL. “As a committed member of TESOL International Association for many years, Mark has had a lasting and positive impact on many aspects of the association’s work: our annual convention, affiliate relations, member engagement, and leadership development,” commented TESOL President Dudley Reynolds. His service to the association as an active presenter and author is complemented by his involvement as a member of the TESOL Board of Directors, as well as his participation on the TESOL Professional Development Committee. “He truly personifies the legacy of selfless volunteer service given to our association by the award’s namesake, James E. Alatis,” said Reynolds.

The [James E. Alatis Award for Service to TESOL](#) originated in 1987 to honor James E. Alatis for his 21 years of devoted service as TESOL's first executive director. Alatis was a charter member of TESOL International Association and dean emeritus of the [School of Languages and Linguistics at Georgetown University](#).

About TESOL International Association

Founded in 1966, TESOL International Association is a professional community of educators, researchers, administrators, and students committed to advancing excellence in English language teaching for speakers of other languages worldwide. With more than 12,500 members representing more than 150 countries, TESOL fosters the exchange of ideas, research, and peer-to-peer knowledge, and provides expertise, resources, and a powerful voice on issues affecting the profession. Through professional development programs, its international conference, special interest groups, and publications, TESOL engages tens of thousands of professionals to

collaborate globally and create a world of opportunity for millions of people of all ages who want to learn English. For more information, please visit www.tesol.org.

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