

NEWS

For Immediate Release

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TESOL Announces 2015 Convention Keynotes

Alexandria, VA (September 2014) — TESOL International Association, the leading professional association for English language teaching worldwide, announces keynote speakers for the 2015 International Convention & English Language Expo, to be held 25–28 March 2015 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Among the speakers for the 2015 TESOL International Convention are acclaimed innovators and scholars in the field of English Language education.

The opening keynote will feature Sonia Nieto from the [University of Massachusetts, Amherst](#). Nieto’s research focuses on the ways that teachers implement multicultural practices, and her presentation will reflect the 2014 convention theme, which is “Crossing Borders, Building Bridges.” Appropriately titled “Teachers’ Roles in Crossing Borders and Building Bridges,” Nieto will focus on how teachers work to create connections with students and communities from diverse backgrounds.

Other noted presentations will focus on new and relevant instructional frameworks, language and literacy engagement, and cross-cultural teaching and research.

Jun Liu ([Georgia State University](#)), Lourdes Ortega ([Georgetown University](#)), and Michael Byram ([Durham University](#)) will deliver the keynote presentation, “Redefining Communicative Competence and Redesigning ELT in the 21st Century.” The panel aims to challenge early models of communicative competence and create contemporary English language teaching (ELT) frameworks.

In her keynote speech “Building Bridges: Journey to a Better Future of TESOL,” TESOL President Yilin Sun ([South Seattle College](#)) will shed light on her cross-cultural teaching, learning, and research experience in China, Canada, and the United States. Sun will share her journey as an instructor and address major trends in English language teaching. She will also discuss the roles and responsibilities of TESOL professionals in our changing global society.

The last keynote speaker is Jim Cummins ([University of Toronto](#)). With his presentation “Evidence-Based TESOL: Teaching Through a Multilingual Lens,” Cummins will synthesize the instructional implications of research for K–12 and adult students with respect to the centrality

of language and literacy engagement, the relevance of identity investment, and the role of the first language in learning English for communicative and academic purposes.

The TESOL Annual Convention & English Language Expo attracts more than 6,500 attendees from across the globe. For more information on the [featured speakers](#), presentations, and event registration, please visit the [2015 TESOL Convention website](#).

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 13,000 members representing over 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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