



Presenters Biographies

Click on Find under Edit in the Tool bar and type in the presenter's name

Jo-Ann Pienaar

Qualified in South Africa as a high school teacher of English, Jo-Ann teaches writing skills to students from Grades 4 to 12 as well as adults. TESL certified and a former home schooler, she is an enthusiastic educator.

Jia (Joan) Li

A recent graduate from OISE/UT, Dr. Jia (Joan) Li's research interests include ESL, English language development and technology, and ESL literacy practice in Chinese immigrant households.

Pratima Singh

Pratima Singh has more than 3 decades of ESL Teaching Experience. She has taught in India, the Middle East and is now teaching in Canada. She has presented several workshops in many cities in Ontario and at TESL Canada. She's the author of 'Pratima's Literacy Wheel'. At present she's a LINC instructor at India Rainbow Community Services and also an ESL Instructor and assessor at the Adult Education Centre.

Tim Westhead

Tim Westhead (Head of English, TDSB, Ret.) was nominated for the Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence and received OPSBA's Award for "outstanding contribution to education throughout Ontario". Contact Tim through his website at www.timwesthead.com.

Jim Barlow

Director of Legacy5 Consultants Incorporated with over thirty-one years teaching experience. Taught in a variety of settings and programmes ranging from teacher training (University of Western Ontario), ABE for college and school boards, adults and high school students in secondary schools to upgrading courses for Chrysler Corporation of Canada employees. Consulting editor for the English and French language versions of the Complete Canadian GED Preparation Books, co-authored the OSSTF book "The Journey-Helping Adults Learn". In addition was a secondary school vice-principal and the adult education administrator for the Waterloo DSB.

John-Paul Hatala

Dr. Hatala is currently an Assistant Professor at Louisiana State University in the School of Human Resource Education and Workforce Development, Baton Rouge and director of a social capital development firm called Flowork International. His academic research focuses on social networking behaviours, social capital, human resource development and career development.

Vesna Nikolic

Vesna Nikolic, currently with the Differin Peel CDSB and Queen's, has taught and supervised ESL/EFL for many years. She holds an M.A. degree from OISE, and has co-authored "Am I Teaching Well?".

Shweta Gupta

Shweta Gupta is an ESL Teacher and Computer Instructor with the Peel DSB. Shweta has a Masters in Education. She has taught ESL to children, teenagers and adults. She has presented at TESL Ontario and TESL PHE. She has authored articles for TESLletter.

Anita Gupta

Anita Gupta is a LINC/ESL Instructor at India Rainbow and Peel DSB. Anita holds a Masters in the Arts and Bachelors in Education. She has taught ESL to children, teenagers and adults. She has presented at TESL Ontario and TESL PHE. She has authored articles for TESLetter.

Tania Pattison

Tania Pattison teaches EAP at Trent University.

Patrice Palmer

Patrice Palmer has been teaching ESL for 13 years in Canada and Hong Kong. Currently Patrice is an Instructor in a TESL Diploma Program.

Adeesha Hack

Adeesha Hack is a professor in George Brown's English Language Training Program. She has a Master of Arts in Political Science.

Hamid Yazdi

Hamid Yazdi is a professor in Humber College's English for Academic Purposes Program. He has a Master of Arts in English and a Master's Degree in Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations.

Pauleen Payne

Pauleen Payne has 22 years of teaching experience including 7 years in the Ontario Public School System, and fifteen years as a home schooling parent and group leader. I will graduate in Spring with a TESL Ontario and TESL Canada certificate from Conestoga College.

Jolanta Kania

Jolanta Kania has been involved in ESL and IL for over 18 years. She received the Director of Education Commendation in recognition of her valuable contributions to the programs.

Mike Tiittanen

Mike Tiittanen is the author of Brain Waves, an ESL classroom activity book (Oxford University Press, 1997). He's been teaching ESL since 1992. He's also currently studying for a PhD in Applied Linguistics.

James Corcoran

James is an ESL/EFL teacher and full-time doctoral student in the Second Language Education department at The Ontario Institute for Studies in Education-UT.

Johanne Myles

Johanne Myles has been an ESL teacher and teacher-educator for over 25 years. She is now coordinating an EAP program at St. Lawrence College in Kingston.

Pamela Gifford

Pamela Gifford is an Academic Coordinator in Brock University's ESL Services. Her specialty is Reading. She has 20 years experience teaching at the university level.

Sylvia Leifso

Sylvia Leifso has 21 years teaching experience in ESL/LINC and 12 years of CLB assessment. She has TESL and CLBA certification. She is coauthor of the Dufferin-Peel Benchmark Assessment Package and Classroom Practise Tasks 1-4 and 5 & 6.

Miri Yochanna

Miri Yochanna has an MA in TESOL. She has been an EFL teacher for 20 years and a teacher trainer for 12. She's written 4 EFL course books and edited many others.

Daragh Hayes

Daragh Hayes has taught in Canada, Japan and Australia. He holds a Masters in TESOL from Columbia University and a Bachelor of Education from OISE.

Brett Reynolds

Brett Reynolds, M.Ed., taught in Japan from 1992 to 2003. He now teaches EAP, thinks about vocabulary and grammar, and writes the "English, Jack" blog.

Fran Marshall

Fran Marshall is an experienced teacher, workshop presenter, speaker, and author of ESL texts and CD. She is a frequent presenter at TESL conferences, affiliates, training program and private centres.

James Papple

James Papple is the Speaking Coordinator in Brock University's ESL Services. He has singularly and collaboratively pursued the uses of technology in ESL education.

Julia Williams

Julia Williams is the Assistant Director at the English Language Institute at Renison College, University of Waterloo. She has 16 years experience teaching ESL and is the author of Learning English for Academic Purposes (Longman, 2005).

Marlene Pionteck

Marlene Pionteck is an ESL professional with over 20 years of experience. She has managed ESL programs, trained volunteer tutors and delivered many workshops across Canada. She is the author of such book as: The ESL Tutor Toolbox and Let The Games Begin!

Mardi Michels

Mardi Michels taught EFL 5 years in Paris, notably at the British Council. She also taught in Australia, Hong Kong and England and currently teaches Core French using AIM. She presents ESL and FSL workshops across Canada, the US and Europe.

Linda Steinman

Linda Steinman teaches Applied Linguistics and ESL at York University. She draws on sociocultural theory and narrative in her work.

Penny Kinnear

Penny Kinnear teaches in the Professional Writing program at UT Mississauga. She draws on sociocultural theory and narrative in her work.

Catherine McNeely

Collectively, the JVS Toronto presenters have over 50 years of experience teaching, assessment and curriculum development in English as a Second Language programs at community colleges, school boards and community serving agencies.

Karen Lynn

Collectively, the JVS Toronto presenters have over 50 years of experience teaching, assessment and curriculum development in English as a Second Language programs at community colleges, school boards and community serving agencies.

Monica Mott

Collectively, the JVS Toronto presenters have over 50 years of experience teaching, assessment and curriculum development in English as a Second Language programs at community colleges, school boards and community serving agencies.

Margie Rutledge

Collectively, the JVS Toronto presenters have over 50 years of experience teaching, assessment and curriculum development in English as a Second Language programs at community colleges, school boards and community serving agencies.

Kevin Kamal

Kevin Kamal is the Client Services Manager at World Education Services (WES). He manages WES client relations and marketing initiatives, and liaises with the end-users and intermediaries including secondary schools, colleges, universities, regulatory bodies, government agencies and agencies serving immigrants.

Juliana Tzvetkova

For 27 years, Juliana has taught EFL/ESL in Europe, Africa, North America and Asia. She presently teaches at HCT, United Arab Emirates, the Middle East.

John Sivell

John Sivell has been working with partially or entirely online courses for the past five years.

Chirawibha (Daeng) Sivell

Chirawibha and John Sivell have a combined total of 36 years' ESL experience in Canada, mainly at the Adult ESL level. They have written several books of ESL materials together or separately.

Elham Tavallaei

Elham Tavallaei is an EAP professor at Centennial College. With a background in translation and linguistics, she has a passion for languages and cultures.

Christopher Sloan

Christopher Sloan is a former ESL teacher and language assessor, having taught in a variety of ESL/LINC schools, community colleges and non-profit agencies. He has worked as a Settlement Officer with Citizenship and Immigration Canada since 2007. He is responsible for administering programs for every conceivable acronym under the sun.

Lucia Engkent

Biography not provided.

Andrew Nicholson

Andrew Nicholson has been a very successful NIE Coordinator at The Hamilton Spectator, Vancouver Sun/Province, National Post and now at the Toronto Sun in Toronto. He was also the three term Chairman of the Canadian Newspaper in Education Association and a highly respected presenter at numerous Faculties of Education throughout Canada and the United States.

Carolyn Samuel

Carolyn Samuel is a Lecturer at McGill University. She teaches EAP and pronunciation/communication in the Faculty of Arts and oral skills methodology in the Faculty of Education.

Doug Ronson

Doug Ronson is with Educational Testing Service Canada, which provides the TOEIC test in Canada.

Lori Delong

Lori Delong, Maria Vargas and Andris Smits are with the adult learning centre of the Dufferin-Peel District School Board.

Maria Vargas

Lori Delong, Maria Vargas and Andris Smits are with the adult learning centre of the Dufferin-Peel District School Board.

Andris Smits

Lori Delong, Maria Vargas and Andris Smits are with the adult learning centre of the Dufferin-Peel District School Board.

Maggie Heeney

Maggie Heeney teaches EAP at Conestoga College. She has an M.A. in Applied Linguistics, York University, and is a Ph.D. candidate in OISE's Second Language Education program. Her area of research is collaborative learning in reading and writing.

Anne Cairns

Anne Cairns has taught ESL and EFL in Toronto, Vancouver, New Zealand and Japan. She rides a bike.

Radmilla Rakas

Radmilla Rakas is a LINC Literacy Instructor at SAFSS. Her experience has bridged LINC, ESL and EFL from kindergarten to seniors. She makes chocolate.

Kelly Fitzgerald

Kelly Fitzgerald has taught at George Brown and Seneca Colleges, the Centre for Victims of Torture, the Francophone Centre, a women's centre in India, and is currently at the Toronto District School Board. She has a B.Ed. in TESL from Brock University.

Judy Thompson

Judy Thompson, B.A. English, TESL certification, Teacher, Author and Speaker who studied French and German, worked and lived in South Korea, with astonishing revelations about English.

Shahrina Md Nordin

Shahrina Md Nordin (PhD) is a lecturer at Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS, Perak, Malaysia. She did her PhD in Education. She can be reached at shahrina_mnordin@petronas.com.my.

Amy Sendrea

Amy Sendrea (B.A., TESL Diploma, M.A. Applied Linguistics) has been teaching Adult ESL since 2002. She is presently teaching at Sheridan College. Her research interests lie in language variation, second language pedagogy and second language learning.

Beverley Payne

Beverley Payne is the Workplace ESL Lead Instructor for the Thames Valley District School Board's Adult ESL Program.

Andrea Pitts

Andrea Pitts is Hamilton Literacy Council's Program Manager and trainer, on Dofasco's workplace literacy team, teaches online for OntarioLearn, and manages her consulting firm, Clearworks Communications.

Dr. Supalak Nakhornsri

Supalak Nakhornsri has a Master's Degree in TEFL and a Ph.D. in English as an International Language from Chulalongkorn University, Thailand. From 1998 to 2003, she was a lecturer in English at King Mongkut's University of Technology North Bangkok and since then has been a member of the Testing and Translation Center Project there. Her main interest is in assessment and evaluation.

Amelia Kreitzer Hope

Amelia Kreitzer Hope works at the Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute at the University of Ottawa. She is the Head of Language Testing Services.

Carla Hall

Carla Hall works at the Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute at the University of Ottawa. She is a Language Teacher and Test Development Coordinator.

Man Chu Lau

Man Chu Lau is a doctoral candidate at OISE/UT, working there as a Teacher Education Program Assistant, and a TESL instructor at YCDSB.

Mei Lan Ma

Mei Lan Ma is an ESL teacher with the Toronto District School Board. She is also completing her Masters degree at OISE/University of Toronto.

Hosnie Abu-Abed

Hosnie Abu-Abed is currently a LINC teacher at Palestine House. She taught EFL for many years before becoming an ESL teacher, and she has experience in all LINC levels.

Muhammad Hanif

Muhammad Hanif has over 10 years of extensive experience in Adult Education, and his credentials include: Master in Education, TESL Certification, and COTE from Cambridge University, UK.

Maria Glass

Maria Glass has been involved in the ESL/EFL field for more than 20 years. She has a Ph.D. in Linguistics (Pragmatics), a Master's in Applied Linguistics, and currently works as a language consultant.

Andrea Strachan

Andrea Strachan is an ESL professional with 18 years of experience in a range of areas including teaching, curriculum development, language testing, immigrant settlement, language training policy, and bridging initiatives for internationally trained professionals. She developed the Career Bridge Screening tool.

Veronica Vulić

Veronica Vulić is a LINC Assessor for Community Development Council Durham. During her 15 years as an instructor, she taught in a variety of community-based and college ESL/LINC/EAP and Citizenship programs, given computer training, and tutored students of all ages.

Maureen Stewart

Maureen Stewart has taught ESL in Canada and abroad for 20 years. She is currently employed by the Toronto Catholic District School Board.

Khaled Islaih

Khaled Islaih serves as LINC program manager at Muslim Community Services; he worked in many other professional fields including economic research with United Nations and information technology with Google.

Gay Hamilton

Gay Hamilton is the Executive Director of the Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks/Centre des niveaux de compétence linguistique Canadiens (CCLB/CNCLC). She studied Business Management at Ahuntsic College in Montreal and Economics at McGill University. Gay brings over thirteen years of experience in association management to the CCLB and she has been involved in such diverse causes as literacy, economic development and food banks.

Paula Calderon

Paula Calderon is Career Edge Organization's Account Manager/ESL Screener and an advertising professional and certified ESL instructor with over 10 years of experience in teaching, creating and managing ESL programs. Paul is the person in charge of managing the Ontario Public Service account at Career Edge Organization and is also one of the screeners for the Internationally Qualified Professionals that apply to the Career Bridge Program.

Ollie Zaydik

Ollie Zaydik is a Screener for the Career Bridge Program, with over 8 years experience in the field of adult ESL in teaching, counseling, program development and management.

Margaret Banaszkiwicz

Margaret Banaszkiwicz (M.A., CTESL) is a private consultant experienced in second language training, curriculum design, delivery program management and performance evaluation. Her other interests are diversity and immigrant integration related issues.

Maureen O'Reilly

Maureen O'Reilly, BA Linguistics, TESL Certificate, an ESL consultant in publishing for 7 years with 10 years of teaching experience in college, adult ESL and LINC.

Melissa Pedersen

Melissa Pedersen has been dedicated to English language instruction for more than 20 years. She has been a LINC/ESL Instructor as well as a Corporate Trainer and Workplace ESL Instructor. She is currently the coordinator of both the Enhanced Language Training (ELT) and Job Search Workshop (JSW) programs at The Centre for Skills Development & Training.

Sharon Hall

Sharon Hall has more than 20 years experience in English as a Second Language Instruction. She has taught LINC/ESL and is currently a curriculum designer and Instructor for the Enhanced Language Training (ELT) program at The Centre for Skills Development & Training

Carrie Purcell

Carrie Purcell, combined honours degree, English & Comparative Literature, has experience as an ESL Instructor, an ESL Consultant in Publishing, and in second language acquisition.

Emese Bukor

Emese Bukor has extensive teaching experience as an EAP Instructor at Carleton University. Currently, she pursues doctoral studies in the area of teacher development at OISE/UT.

Dr. Pisamai Supatranont

Dr. Pisamai Supatranont is Assistant Dean at RMUTL Tak, Thailand. Her presented research is funded by Australian Endeavor Program, under supervision of Associate Professor David Hall, Macquarie University.

Cindy Gunn

Cindy Gunn is an Associate Professor in the Department of English/MATESOL program at the American University of Sharjah, UAE.

Angela Meyer Sterzik

Angela Meyer Sterzik teaches EAP at Conestoga College and has completed her MA at York University.

Dr. Carol Fraser

Dr. Carol Fraser is Director of ESL at Glendon College and is interested in the development of advanced reading and writing skills in the academic context.

Rebecca Ranjan

Rebecca Ranjan currently teaching Business English at Algonquin College, has 20 years of experience in teaching communication skills and conducting corporate training and has designed courses for specific programs and organizations.

Bruce Russell

Bruce Russell is an ESL professional with experience in a range of areas including teaching, curriculum development, language testing, immigrant settlement, language training policy, and bridging initiatives for internationally trained professionals.

Hang Nhan

Hang Nhan is a retired engineer. She is a high school math and adult ESL/Literacy teacher for ALCDSB in Kingston. She recently returned to Canada's terra firma after a 2-year teaching experience and culture immersion in China.

Kristy White

Kristy White is the Post Secondary Licensing Specialist and has been with Access Copyright for over a year. She previously worked for Pearson Education Canada.

Kelly Wharton

Kelly Wharton teaches English full-time with Fanshawe and has used these activities in combined LINC 2-5 classes.

Jo-elle Rinker

Jo-elle Rinker is the LINC coordinator for the YMCA and has used these activities in combined LINC 2-5 classes.

Joan Dundas

Joan Dundas is the Listening Coordinator for Brock University's IELP Program. She has singularly and collaboratively pursued the uses of technology in ESL education.

Stefan Rehm

Stefan Rehm teaches academic speaking and writing to graduate ESL students in the credit branch of the English Language Institute at Renison College (University of Waterloo).

Anthony Mollica

Anthony Mollica is Professor Emeritus, Faculty of Education, Brock University, where he taught second language methodology for twenty years. He is the founder/editor of "Mosaic. The Journal for Language Teachers".

Robert Courchène

Robert Courchène's teaching and research interests include testing, multiculturalism and classroom research.

Theresa Hyland

Theresa Hyland has an EdD in Second Language Acquisition and is Director of Writing and Cross-cultural Services at Huron University College. She teaches critical reading and writing and is currently conducting research on computer-based writing assessment.

Nataliya Borkovska

Nataliya Borkovska has worked as an EFL Instructor at Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology (State University) in Moscow, Russia over the past nine years. She is currently doing her doctoral research in Applied Linguistics at Russian State University for the Humanities.

Pascale Vigani

Pascale Vigani has years of hands-on experience teaching literacy. He is a teacher at the Conestoga Linc programmes in Waterloo and Cambridge.

Barb Andrews

Barb Andrews has years of hands-on experience teaching literacy. She is a teacher at the Conestoga Linc programmes in Waterloo and Cambridge.

Natasha Magon

Natasha Magon is an Instructor in the English Language Studies Program at Conestoga College. She has been an active IELTS examiner for 3 years.

Laura Stoutenburg

Laura Stoutenburg is Chair, Conestoga Language Institute.

Sabrina Caravaggio

Sabrina Caravaggio is a faculty member in the English Language Studies Department at Conestoga College.

Serena Reis

Serena Reis presently works for Conestoga College in both LINC and English Language Studies. As a Resource Specialist, she helps teachers with using CALL in the classroom.

Raveet Jacobs

Raveet Jacobs is currently an instructor at Conestoga College and has taught beginner to advanced ESL students. Her main focus is pronunciation.

Alice Johnston-Newman

Alice Johnston-Newman is an ESL Teacher at La Cité collégiale in Ottawa and co-author of "Famous Canadian Authors: Developing English Skills" (Longman 2008).

Mohammad Hashemi

Mohammad Hashemi is an ESL Teacher at La Cité collégiale in Ottawa and co-author of "Famous Canadian Authors: Developing English Skills" (Longman 2008).

Lilia Savova

Lilia Savova is professor of English at Indiana University of Pennsylvania where she teaches in the MA in TESOL and PHD in Composition & TESOL Program.

Biljana Vasilevska

Biljana Vasilevska has taught ESL in Canada and abroad, including LINC to adult survivors of trauma. She currently works as an educational and social researcher.

Hedy M. McGarrell

Hedy M. McGarrell teaches courses in Applied Linguistics at Brock University. She has taught ESL and principles of language learning and teaching all over the world.

Brian Sellstedt

Brian Sellstedt represents DynEd International in Canada. He has been promoting educational technology since 1990, working with organizations in Canada, the US and the UK.

Dara Douma

Dara Douma is an experienced LINC instructor and resource developer who has presented at numerous TESL Ontario and affiliate conferences, PD days and TESL workshops. She enjoys creating her own exercises for use in the computer lab and classroom, and looks forward to sharing them with you.

Celina Costa

Celina Costa has taught ESL to adults for over 12 years. She holds a B.A., B.Ed, and M.Ed from OISE/UT.

Dorothy van Grootheest

Dorothy van Grootheest has been teaching ESL to adults for over 12 years. She holds a B.A., B.Ed, and is completing her M.Ed at OISE/UT.

Ken Lackman

Ken Lackman taught in Prague from 1996-2002 before spending five years as Director of Studies at EF Toronto. He is currently working as a coursebook writer and freelance teacher trainer.

Collette Pépin

A Project Officer at the CCLB, Collette Pépin has worked on projects in both English and French involving benchmarking, language portfolio development and Essential Skills.

Rob Edelmann

Rob Edelmann has been active in the ESL community for over 20 years. His dynamic presentations have introduced new materials to thousands of ESL teachers.

Ellen Zlotnick

Ellen Zlotnick has worked for Cambridge University Press since 1994. Prior to working in Publishing she taught ESL/EFL in Chicago and Madrid, Spain.

Azelin Mohamed Noor

Azelin Mohamed Noor is a lecturer at the Department of Management & Humanities, Universiti Teknologi Petronas, Malaysia. She is inclined to the study on adult learners.

Dr. Faizah Abdul Majid

Dr. Faizah Abdul Majid is a lecturer and a coordinator of postgraduate studies in the education facility, Universiti Teknologi Mara, Malaysia.

Hairuzila Idrus

Hairuzila Idrus is a senior lecturer at Management & Humanities Department, Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS, Malaysia. She holds a BA in Linguistics and M.Sc in TESOL.

Razol Mahari Mohd Ali

Razol Mahari Mohd Ali is a lecturer at Management & Humanities Department, Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS, Malaysia. He holds a M.Ed in Foreign Language Education.

Omid Mazandarani

Biography not provided.

Roslyn Maian

Roslyn Maian has a background in both TESL and law. She has taught EAP and LINC, and has presented her views on communication at various conferences.

Irene McKay

Irene McKay is a professor in the Language Studies Department at George Brown College where she coordinates and teaches in the TESL program.

Tina Intini

Tina Intini is a professor in the Language Studies Department at George Brown College. She teaches ESL and TESL courses.

Tania Iveson

Tania Iveson started teaching EFL/ESL in 1990 and has taught in Taiwan, Spain, England, Brazil and Canada. She has been a CELTA teacher trainer since 1998 and is currently working at The English Centre in a ESL community development capacity.

Samuel Sheinberg

Samuel Sheinberg has been actively involved in the language software market for the past 14 years. He has participated in numerous projects focused on developing programs and online courses in English, French and other language.

Akua Joseph

Akua Joseph has 7 years of ESL/EFL teaching and administrative experience and has a Master's degree in English Language Training through the University of Reading. She is currently an Assistant Manager at The English Centre, an ESL resource centre.

Julie Reid

Julie Reid has worked with people who are deaf-blind for almost 25 years. She started the Deaf-Blind Literacy Program and authored the Deaf-Blind Literacy Curriculum. Julie is currently completing TESL Certification at University of Toronto.

Aga Palalas

Aga Palalas is a curriculum specialist at George Brown College. She has a comprehensive background in curriculum development, language benchmarking and teaching ESL.

Valerie Scovill

Valerie Scovill is a curriculum specialist at George Brown College. She has a comprehensive background in curriculum development, language benchmarking and teaching ESL.

Michelle Wardman

Michelle Wardman has taught EFL in Japan and Korea and now teaches ESL in Ottawa. She is currently finishing her MA in Applied Language Studies at Carleton University.

Saskia Stille

Saskia Stille is a PdD candidate at OISE/UT with a background in K-12 and adult education and NGO work. She shares an interest in global issues and global citizenship education initiatives.

Karen Pashby

Karen Pashby is a PdD candidate at OISE/UT with a background in K-12 and adult education and NGO work. She shares an interest in global issues and global citizenship education initiatives.

Angela MacDonald

Angela MacDonald is a PdD candidate at OISE/UT with a background in K-12 and adult education and NGO work. She shares an interest in global issues and global citizenship education initiatives.

Leigh Anne Ingram

Leigh Anne Ingram is a PdD candidate at OISE/UT with a background in K-12 and adult education and NGO work. She shares an interest in global issues and global citizenship education initiatives.

Catherine Beckingham

Catherine Beckingham holds a M.Ed. and has taught in ESL/INC with the TCDSB for 17 years. She co-authored the LINC Curriculum 5-7 Guidelines in the Classroom (CIC funded, 2008).

Edna Agustin

Edna Agustin has a Master of Education from the University of the Philippines. She has been a LINC/ESL Instructor since 1996. She is currently a LINC Instructor at the Centre for Information and Community Services.

Laurie Gluck

No biography provided.

Igor Rosic

Igor Rosic is the Coordinator of the LINC Home Study program. He is employed by the Centre for Education and Training, located in Mississauga.

Kathryn Brillinger

Kathryn Brillinger teaches courses in TESL, ESL, and Communications at Conestoga College. She has presented workshops on ESL teaching strategies in a number of countries.

Dr. Yuri Kagolovsky

Dr. Yuri Kagolovsky is a medical doctor from Ukraine and Professor of Health Informatics at Conestoga College. He has immigrated twice and is very interested in issues related to internationally trained professionals.

Nancy Callan

Nancy Callan, author of 8 jigsaw books, has been teaching ESL to adolescents and adults for the past 15 years. She teaches at Vancouver Formosa Academy.

Lynne Alexandrova

Lynne Alexandrova, M.A. is a doctoral student and interdisciplinarity researcher, University of Toronto, supply ESL teacher, 10+ years of TESL.

Ghada Mohammed

Ghada Mohammed is a LINC teacher, Canadian and international TESL.

Lina Kravchenko

Lina Kravchenko, M.A. is a LINC teacher, Canadian and international TESL, author of ESL textbooks

Randy Wesselson

Randy Wesselson is a teacher at LINC and elsewhere.

Irene Kinapen

Irene Kinapen, M.A. is a LINC teacher with long-term TESL experience.

Maria Lawless

Maria Lawless, M.A. is an academic English teacher, University of Toronto with varied professional qualifications and 10+ years of TESL.

Kamonnat Tamrackitkun

Kamonnat Tamrackitkun is a full-time PhD Thai student in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) at School of Languages, University of Salford, Manchester, United Kingdom.

Merebeth**Switzer**

Merebeth Switzer, an environmental educator for 30+ years, has always worked to reach across cultures, including this project to provide urban students outdoor learning experiences.

Jinjiang Du

Jinjiang Du is Site Manager of the Bickford Centre, Toronto District School Board Continuing Adult ESL.

Wen-Hsien Hsu

Wen-Hsien Hsu is an assistant professor at National Taiwan University. Her research interests include TESOL methods, classroom discourse analysis and bilingual education.

Jacqueline Jeffers

Jacqueline Jeffers received her Masters in Applied University at York University. She is currently Program Assistant in the LINC/ESL Department, Durham District School Board.

Cheryl Richman

Cheryl Richman has taught ESL/LINC at most CLB levels in a variety of settings. She has frequently presented at TESL Ontario and its affiliates. Also, as Program Officer for the TDSB, she regularly provides PD for instructors.

Karen Evans

Karen Evans has taught ESL/LINC at most CLB levels in a variety of settings. She has frequently presented at TESL Ontario and its affiliates. Also, as Program Officer for the TDSB, she regularly provides PD for instructors.

Subhadra Ramachandran

Subhadra Ramachandran is Manager of Distance Education at the Centre for Education and Training. She holds a joint position as Academic Coordinator of York University's English Language Test. She received her Ph.D. (Linguistics & Language Acquisition) from the University of Ottawa.

Reza Mazloom-Farzaghy

Reza Mazloom-Farzaghy holds an MA in TEFL and has taught EFL/ESL for 20 years. He joined TESL Ontario as the Certification Coordinator in April 2008.

Paula Clark

Paula Clark, EAL Assessment Specialist with the PEI Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, has taught for 16 years in Canada, France and Vietnam.

Janet Perry-Payne

Janet Perry-Payne, EAL Program Coordinator with the PEI Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, has taught for 22 years, with a career focusing on diverse learners.

Vicki Whitlock

Vicki Whitlock, EAL Curriculum Specialist with the PEI Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, has taught for 14 years in PEI and the UAE.

Dawn Steiner

Dawn Steiner has 30 years experience as a language teacher. She is a full-time professor at Algonquin College and is currently teaching ESL to international students. She is also a poet.

Marlene Toews Janzen

Marlene Toews Janzen teaches ESL and Second Language Teaching at the Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute (OLBI), University of Ottawa where she is also the undergraduate studies coordinator. She has extensive teaching experience in both French and ESL, as well as in ESL/EFL teacher education, both in Canada and in Egypt (most recently in the spring of 2007 and 2008). She has taught a variety of courses, including second language teaching courses and numerous writing classes. She also has experience in writing test development and in rater training.

Karen Thomson

Karen Thomson is an Instructor with University of Toronto's English Language Program and is pursuing her Masters of Teaching at OISE. During her 15 years as an ESL teacher, she has taught in a variety of university and community-based ESL programs.

Gloria McPherson-Ramirez

As a co-ordinator and instructor of English language programs at Seneca college in Toronto, Gloria McPherson-Ramirez has extensive experience in teaching, administration, and curriculum design. She co-wrote the 1st edition of "Breakthroughs".

Marina Engelking

As a co-ordinator and instructor of English language programs at Seneca college in Toronto, Marina Engelking has extensive experience in teaching, administration, and curriculum design. She co-wrote the 1st edition of "Breakthroughs".

Lisette Santos-DeSousa

No biography provided.

Hanna Cabaj

Hanna Cabaj is the coordinator of the TCDSB Adult Education Program that includes ESL, LINC, LBS, ELT, SLT and ISAP. Her experience spans classroom instruction, staff support and supervision, curriculum development coordination and program administration.

Joanne Hincks

Joanne Hincks is a program consultant with the Toronto Catholic District School Board's Adult Education Program and is Project Manager for this ELT pilot project. She has presented workshops at TESL Ontario and its affiliates, CESBA and for instructors within the TDCSB.

Xuemei Li

Xuemei Li (PhD) has many years of cross-cultural TESL/ESL/EFL teaching and research experiences.

Johanne Miles

Johanne Miles (PhD) is the coordinator of the ESL program in St. Lawrence College.

Pamela Robinson

Pamela Robinson (Bed, Med) works for the LINK program in Kingston.

Susana Gómez Martínez

Susana Gómez Martínez is a member of the Board of TESOL-Spain, Assistant Director of Publications and PhD professor of English L2 at the University of Valladolid (Spain).

Neil Walker

Neil Walker is a teacher and teacher trainer. He has run CELTA courses in many countries. He currently teaches at EF Toronto.

Joan Bartel

Joan Bartel, M.A., has consulted and taught in several ELT programs. Her background: many years of ESL teaching, including courses for internationally trained professionals, and administration.

Amira Masud

Amira Masud has been managing the ELT Program since its inception in Ontario in 2005. She is currently the ELT Program Manager at Sheridan College. She holds a Master's degree in English and a leadership certificate from Schulich School of Business at YorkU.

Patricia Boland

Patricia Boland is a Communications Specialist at Gandy Associates where she helps corporate clients realize their potential as communicators. She also teaches ESL at Algonquin College.

Marjatta Holt

Marjatta Holt has been an ESL teacher for over 20 years. She is currently teaching a Pedagogical Grammar at Woodsworth College as well coordinating ESL courses at the School of Continuing Studies, both at the University of Toronto.

Colin Gomez

Colin Gomez has been teaching LINC for 10 years in Toronto and Guelph. Computers in the CALL classroom are essential to LINC at Naylor-McLeod in Guelph, where he has been teaching for the last 5 years. At NMGL, he is currently the LINC Coordinator and CALL Instructor.

Marijke Wertheim

Marijke Wertheim teaches Methodology of TESOL in the TESOL Certificate Program at Woodsworth College, University of Toronto, and a variety of courses at the School of Continuing Studies, UT.

Marta Lee

Marta Lee is the LINC Curriculum Facilitator for the Halton and Peel Regions in Southern Ontario.

Dale Northcote

Dale Northcote has been teaching and producing learning materials and curricula for health professionals for 9 years for various GTA institutions. She currently teaches Communication for Nurses at Mohawk College and ESL for Hospital Volunteers at the TCDSB.

Kevin O'Brien

Kevin O'Brien is the webmaster for TESL Ontario and he has over thirty years teaching experience. This includes teaching all levels of LINC including literacy as well as Adult ESL. Kevin has also taught elementary and secondary both special education students and students at risk.

Iryna Lenchuk

Iryna Lenchuk has been working as an ESL and TESL Instructor in Canada for more than 6 years. She is also a graduate student working on her M.A. thesis towards her M.A. degree in second language education, OISE, UT.

Richard Baltus

Richard Baltus is a graduate from York University's MATAL Program. He has presented seminars both in Canada and overseas. He has taught in Japan, Vancouver, and Toronto.

Jane Bradley

Jane Bradley (B. A Psychology, Certified Compassion Fatigue Specialist) has spent over 30 years working in the field of trauma and crisis. She has worked with high risk youth, abused women and their children, newcomers to Canada, people living with HIV/AIDS, developmentally disabled adults, and the homeless.

In 1989, Jane Bradley opened her private practice offering client centered counseling to adults and children in the Niagara region. As a result of her extensive experience as a professional Caregiver, Jane Bradley has developed a unique and resilient approach to Compassion Fatigue. For more information, please go to www.keystocompassionfatigue.com

Jim Cummins

Jim Cummins is a Canada Research Chair in the Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto. His research focuses on literacy development in multilingual school contexts as well as on the potential roles of technology in promoting language and literacy development. In recent years, he has been working actively with teachers to identify ways of increasing the literacy engagement of learners in multilingual school contexts.

His publications include *Language, Power, and Pedagogy: Bilingual Children in the Crossfire* (Multilingual Matters, 2000); *Negotiating identities: Education for Empowerment in a Diverse Society*. (California Association for Bilingual Education, 2001); *The International Handbook of*

English Language Teaching (Springer, 2007) (co-edited with Chris Davison); and *Literacy, Technology, and Diversity: Teaching for Success in Changing Times* (Boston: Allyn & Bacon, 2007) (with Kristin Brown and Dennis Sayers). A full list of his publications can be found at: <http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/MLC/cumminspub.htm>

Peter de Jager

Peter de Jager is a keynote speaker/writer/consultant on the issues relating to the issue of managing change of all shapes and sizes in all types of organizations. He has published hundreds of articles on topics ranging from Problem Solving, Creativity and Change to the impact of technology on areas such as privacy, security and business. His articles have appeared in The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal, The Futurist and Scientific American.

He is best known to IT audiences for his efforts to create responsible awareness of the Y2K issue - For which he received several awards from IT associations and Govt. Agencies.

In addition to presentations and seminars on the topics above, he's written several regular columns. These included; Association Trends, CIPS across Canada, Enterprise, Globe & Mail online and Municipal World.

He's spoken in 37 (and counting) countries and is recognized worldwide as an exciting, humorous, provocative and engaging speaker. His audiences have included the World Economic Forum, The World Bank and The Bank for International Settlements.

His presentations and workshops are highly interactive, fun, irreverent to mistaken ideas and most distinctively - provocative. He forces the audience, by demonstrating conflicts between their stated beliefs and behaviours, to think differently about what they thought they knew. You can read much of his work in the publications section of www.technobility.com <<http://www.technobility.com/>> or contact him at pdejager@technobility.com.

Nick Noorani

Naeem 'Nick' Noorani is living the dream, literally. Dubbed a social entrepreneur and an immigrant advocate, Nick Noorani, author of *Arrival Survival Canada* and founder/publisher of the Canadian Immigrant magazine, takes his work to a higher level through extensive community involvement.

A sought-after speaker and member of the Dominion Institute's speakers' bureau, his frank and humorous presentations bring in stories from his own immigrant journey as he discusses the importance of diversity in business and the successful integration of immigrants in Canada. Nick enjoys touring the country delivering his '*Seven Success Secrets for Canadian immigrants*' talk and is a radio host with Radio Canada International (RCI) for the popular show for immigrants called The Link where he answers questions from potential and existing immigrants.

He is also an active community volunteer and leader. He is President of the Vancouver Multicultural Society, Board member of the Vancouver YMCA, Vancouver 2010 Olympics Advisory Committee on Sustainability Performance, RCMP - Commissioner's Advisory Committee on Visible Minorities and is a member of the Ethno Business Council, the Greater Vancouver Citizenship Council and committee member for the Institute for Canadian Citizenship.

Nick received the Inspiration Entrepreneur of the Year award in 2005 and was a finalist for the 2005 Spirit of Vancouver Award (Media), the Ethics in Action award in 2006 and the Burnaby Board of Trade award for Entrepreneurship among others. In 2007 he was honoured by the North American Association of Asian Professionals (NAAAP) as Vancouver's leading business professional.

PANEL

Naomi Alboim, Queen's University.

Naomi is currently a Fellow, Adjunct Professor, and Vice-Chair of the Policy Forum at the School of Policy Studies at Queen's University. She is also an active public policy consultant, advising governments and NGO's across Canada and abroad. Naomi is an Associate of the Maytree Foundation, working on a variety of immigration issues and directing its Public Policy Training Institute. She is on the Board of the Toronto Region Immigrant Employment Council and is the Chair of its Intergovernmental Relations Committee. Prior to this, Naomi worked at senior levels in the federal and Ontario provincial governments for twenty-five years, including eight years as Deputy Minister in three different portfolios.

Wilma Jenkins, Citizenship and Immigration Canada.

Wilma's current position is Regional Director, Settlement and Intergovernmental Affairs, Ontario Region and she has held this position for the last 3 years. In this role Wilma has line responsibility for Toronto and York Settlement Operations and has functional responsibility for the Settlement Program in Ontario. Wilma has spent most of her career with CIC and has 25 years experience in managing immigration programs. She was Director of Immigration at Pearson Airport and has extensive experience in managing complex and high profile files.

Wilma graduated from Laurentian University where she majored in French with minors in Economics and Political Science. She is familiar with the immigrant experience having moved here from Scotland as a child.

Pauline McNaughton, Ministry of Education.

Pauline McNaughton has worked in the field of adult education for over 25 years, most of it involved with adult ESL/FSL. Currently she is Manager of the Adult Education Policy Unit, Student Success/Learning to 18 Strategic Policy Branch. The Adult Education Policy Unit reports to both the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, and works closely with the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration. Prior to this Pauline was the Executive Director at the Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks for 6 years.

Patti Redmond, Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities.

Currently Patti holds the position of Director of the Programs Branch with the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities. Programs Branch brings combined employment and training and postsecondary expertise to the practical work of program design, program development, program standards, and program evaluation. It will help link policy directions with operations and service delivery.

Previously she was the Director of the Skills Investment Branch at MTCU where she had responsibility for adult literacy programs and employment programs for youth and adults including the internationally trained. Prior to this, Patti worked for several years at the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing in the area of social housing development and administration.

Riet Verheggen, Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration.

Since September 2004 Riet has held the position of Director, Immigration Branch within the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration. Her responsibilities include negotiation and implementing the Canada/Ontario Immigration Agreement, the Provincial Nominee Program, the

Fair Access to Regulated Professions Act, Global Experience Ontario, Adult non-Credit English and French as a Second Language, settlement and bridge to work programs.

Riet started her career in forestry in 1982 after graduation from Lakehead University with a degree in Forestry. Since 1993, she has worked in various senior management positions within the Ontario government in the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration. Riet served as President of the Ontario Professional Foresters Association for two consecutive terms, and also served on the Advisory Board to the Faculty of Forestry at Lakehead University.

RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

Dr. Debra Stein, Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture/Mount Sinai Hospital

Debra Stein is a consultant psychiatrist to the Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture. She is also a staff psychiatrist with the Perinatal Mental Health Program at Mount Sinai Hospital. Her main areas of interest are psychological trauma, attachment and culture, and how these issues inform the care of new immigrants and refugees.

Dr. Laura Simich, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Toronto/University of Toronto

Dr. Simich's research focuses on sociocultural determinants of mental health among immigrants, particularly social support during refugee resettlement. She has expertise in community-based qualitative research methods and knowledge transfer. She is currently exploring the concept of resiliency among forced migrants from Sri Lanka and Sudan.

Elizabeth Gatbonton, Concordia University

Elizabeth Gatbonton is Associate Professor of Applied Linguistics at Concordia University, Montreal. She has conducted research and published articles on novice and experienced teachers' pedagogical knowledge, the social aspects of second language fluency development, and methodological issues in the promotion of automaticity in a second language.

Penny Kinnear, University of Toronto

Dr. Penny Kinnear teaches in the Professional Writing and Communication program at the University of Toronto Mississauga. Her twenty-eight years in Japan contributed to her research interest in bilingual development and bilingual pedagogy. She is currently co-authoring an introductory textbook on sociocultural theory and second language teaching and learning.

Shawn Loewen, Michigan State University

Shawn Loewen is an assistant professor in the Second Language Studies program at Michigan State University. He specializes in second language acquisition and L2 classroom interaction. His recent research has investigated the occurrence and effectiveness of incidental focus on form in meaning-focused L2 classrooms.

Dr. Keith Folse, University of Central Florida

Keith Folse is associate professor of TESOL at the University of Central Florida. His main research interests are vocabulary and best teaching practices. He has written over fifty language books, most recently *Keys to Teaching Grammar to ELLs* (University of Michigan Press).

Antonella Valeo, OISE/University of Toronto

Antonella Valeo is completing a Ph.D. in Second Language Education at OISE/University of Toronto. She is also a Program Consultant with the Adult Education Program of the Toronto

Catholic District School Board and has experience with content-based and employment language programs as an instructor, teacher trainer, curriculum developer and researcher.

Dr. Shelley K. Taylor, The University of Western Ontario

Shelley Taylor is an Associate Professor at the University of Western Ontario. She teaches graduate courses in minority language issues, bi-/multilingualism, 1st and 2nd language acquisition, 2nd language teaching and learning, and research methods. Her research focuses on child trilingualism arising from (unexpected) minority populations enrolling in bilingual education programs.

Khaled Barkaoui, Faculty of Education, York University

Khaled Barkaoui is Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Education, York University, where he teaches courses in assessment and literacy. His research focuses on second-language writing, assessment, program evaluation, and research methodology. His research has appeared in *Assessing Writing*, *Canadian Modern Language Review*, *TESL Canada*, and *American Journal of Evaluation*.

Michel D. Laurier, University of Montreal

For the last 6 years, Michel Laurier has been Dean of the Faculty of Education at the University of Montreal. He wrote several papers and a book on learning assessment. He has been involved in many project in language testing and assessment. He is currently in charge of a project with the Quebec Ministry of Immigration to update a proficiency scale and works on an adaptive test for second languages in Quebec at the college level.

Philip Nagy, University of Ottawa

Philip Nagy is Professor Emeritus in Measurement and Evaluation, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto.

Larry Vandergrift, Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute-University of Ottawa

Larry Vandergrift is a Professor at the Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute (OLBI) at the University of Ottawa and director of CCERBAL, its research centre. His research in second language listening has been published widely. His proposal for a common framework of reference for languages for Canada is based on work as Scholar in Residence with the Official Languages and Support Program Branch of the Department of Canadian Heritage in 2005-06.

Lucia Engkent

Lucia Engkent currently teaches English at Seneca College and Renison College at the University of Waterloo. Her publications include *Take Part: Speaking Canadian English*.

Laurie Gluck

Laurie Gluck teaches ESL at LaGuardia Community College, NYC and studies Linguistics at the CUNY Graduate Center. She explores effective feedback and improving skills through listening.