



**Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages in Italy**  
An Affiliate of TESOL International Association  
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Rome, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Dear Colleague,

TESOL Italy's 40<sup>th</sup> National Convention will take place on November 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015 in Rome **at Polo Didattico, Piazza Oderico da Pordenone, 3.**

Hoping that you will consider taking an active part in the event, we are sending you the *Call for Papers* which should be returned to our office by June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015. We trust these notes will help clarify the title and subtitles, suggesting some ideas for your presentation.

Yours faithfully,

Lina Vellucci  
President TESOL Italy

Paola Mirti  
Convention Chair TESOL Italy

# 40... and Moving On...



Looking back to the past is important in order to understand what led us to the present and to reflect on how to shape our future, a future where a world of new ideas has yet to be explored. To live in and contribute to a society, everyone needs not only to understand its historical and cultural heritage but, as part of a global ELT community of learning, we also need to understand the diversity of cultures around the world, a way of 'crossing borders'. This is what enriches us all.

Celebrating TESOL Italy's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary comes with the awareness of what those outstanding and distinguished teachers that started our association instilled in us: a life-long love of learning, as well as the communication of the core values of advancing expertise in English language teaching through professional development, research and advocacy.

The three subtitles focus on and help us to explore some of the issues that exist in our ever-changing world, with its challenges and promises.

How has the methodology of teaching modern languages developed over the past few decades, and what can be learned from recent research? What is the relationship today between identity and language learning and language teaching? What guidance can be given to achieve and improve on progression and continuity in language learning?

Investigation into these themes is of great interest to ELT teachers worldwide and TESOL Italy welcomes your contributions. Join us in our anniversary celebration ... making the most of these 40 years and moving on towards the future.

## **New Identities – New Englishes**

Language is linked with identity. Speaking a second or additional language is not merely a matter of exchanging information but, more importantly, it is about shaping and re-shaping a sense of who you are and how you relate to the social world. English today is more than a lingua franca, it is a language which is putting down roots in many countries and communities all over the world and being adopted and adapted by local speakers for various purposes. In that process New Englishes, together with new literatures and different cultural values, are emerging and developing. Do New Englishes represent a real opportunity for people to make a contribution to the construction of new voices and expansion of identities?

## **Breakthroughs in Professional Development**

Professional Development plays a vital role in ensuring that a school is a vivacious learning community for both teachers and students, a place where people actively work together to respond to their changing context due to a commitment to ongoing development. Learning is a continuous process; more can always be achieved. In what ways does this kind of individual investment translate into changes in classroom practice and how does it make a difference to student learning? How can keeping up-to-date with innovative professional knowledge lead to even better professional practice aimed at improving student learning?

## **Progression and Continuity in ELT**

Assuring progression and continuity has become a crucial issue in language learning/teaching. Progression focuses on how students' learning advances. The structuring of both the content and the sequencing of learning activities is intended to facilitate improvement in learning and gradual gains in knowledge, understanding, skills and

competencies which learners actually acquire. Progression has to be not only planned but also monitored. Much can be prepared in advance, but teaching also has to take into account how students respond to particular learning tasks, so on-going assessment is essential to periodically check on learners' progress.

On the other hand, continuity implies designing courses which also enable students to build upon their previous experience and learning, thereby helping them to acquire a greater depth of knowledge while developing their skills and competencies in a structured way. In practice, how can such smooth, steady, gradual improvement be achieved? Which strategies should be adopted at each stage of the educational system, from primary to graduate school?

## **SUBMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS**

We expect all presentations to be consistent with the title and subtitles of the Convention. In addition, both the abstract and the summary of the proposal submitted should match the actual content of the presentation given in November. We are very selective in choosing the presentations and especially encourage practical workshops and interactive presentations.

You can participate by making either a professional or a commercial presentation. A commercial presentation is designed to promote products or services, such as books, programs, certifications, etc. Professional presentations should not be used for promotional purposes.

Please read the 'Steps in Submitting a Presentation Proposal' carefully and then clearly fill in all the items on the attached *Call for Papers* form. We also invite you to share this information with your colleagues, so feel free to photocopy this letter and the attached *Call for Papers* form and display them at your school, in your office or staff room.

On behalf of TESOL Italy, we thank you for your interest and look forward to meeting you at our 40th National Convention.

# TESOL Italy's 40th National Convention

## 40... and Moving On...

November 13-14 2015  
Rome

### New Identities - New Englishes Breakthroughs in Professional Development Progression and Continuity in ELT

#### STEPS IN SUBMITTING A PRESENTATION PROPOSAL

Please return the *Call for Papers* (CfPs) form to TESOL Italy no later than **June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015**. You may submit it using one of the following methods: e-mail (tesolitaly@gmail.com), fax (+39) 06.4674.2478 or regular mail (Via Boncompagni 2, 00187 Rome).

In preparing your proposal, please bear the following in mind:

1. **Adapt** your presentation either to the convention theme or one of the subthemes.
2. **Submit** just one proposal.
3. **Print** clearly.
4. **Provide** all the requested information. Incomplete proposals will not be accepted.
5. **Respect** word/character limits for title, biodata, abstract and summary especially for online proposal submissions.

#### PLEASE NOTE

1. TESOL Italy is unable to reimburse speakers for expenses. All presenters are kindly requested to pre-register for the Convention and cover required fees (membership and participation fees), thereby establishing membership in TESOL Italy.
2. All rooms will be equipped with PC and Video Beam. Preparing back-up materials is recommended.
3. The time allocated for each presentation is 45 minutes.
4. Types of presentations:
  - Workshop:** speaker introduces a topic with a mini-lecture, and guides active participation of the audience;
  - Talk:** speaker describes and discusses theoretical/practical issues related to the themes of the Convention;
  - Demonstration:** speaker shows how certain materials, techniques, etc. can work in a classroom;
  - Panel:** three or more speakers present their ideas on a topic followed by a Q&A session with the audience;
  - Poster Session:** speaker stands by the poster with pictures, charts and/or realia, and shares ideas with attendees;
  - Commercial Presentation:** speaker promotes materials published and advertised at the Book Exhibition.
5. **Professional/ Biographical background:** please avoid references to personal websites, lists of course-books or other personal commercial activities as they will be removed in the editing phase.

Please note that TESOL Italy will not accept proposals which do not conform to the guidelines above.

# TESOL Italy's 40th National Convention

## 40... and Moving On...

### Call for Papers

<b>Name/s of Speaker/s</b>	
Last .....	First .....
Last .....	First .....

**Speaker/s Address** .....

City ..... Postal Code ..... Country .....

Tel. .... Fax ..... E-mail .....

Name and address of Institution or Company.....

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Email address of Institution or Company.....

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**Professional/Biographical information** (50 words maximum):

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NB. Biographical information in the program will be no longer than 50 words for one presentation. The brief paragraph should describe who you are professionally and it should entice the audience to attend your presentation. It may include reference to publications, but it should not include lists of publications nor advertise sponsors. Program editors will adapt the biodata when necessary.

<b>Title of presentation</b> (9 words maximum)
.....

**Type of presentation:** (tick one) Workshop  Demonstration  Panel  Talk   
Poster Session  Cultural Event  Other  .....

**NB:** Practical workshops and interactive sessions are in great demand. All presentations will be allotted 45 minutes.

**Commercial presentation** Yes  No  If yes, what will be promoted? .....

**Theme:**(tick one) 1) New Identities – New Englishes  2) Breakthroughs in Professional Development  3) Progression and Continuity in ELT

**Area covered:** (underline just ONE) Approaches/Methodology/Techniques; Assessment and Testing; Classroom Practice; CLIL; ESP; Curriculum Development; Integrated Skills; Intercultural Communication; Language and Language Issues; Learners' Needs; Literature/Translation; Multiculturalism; Primary Education; Secondary Education;

