

# SETESOL Regional Council Meeting

## New Orleans, Louisiana

Friday, October 23, 2015 (12:00-1:30)  
(draft 3/22/16)

### Attendance

**AMTESOL** (Alabama/Mississippi) Susan Spezzini [spezzini@uab.edu](mailto:spezzini@uab.edu)  
Josie Prado [jprado@uab.edu](mailto:jprado@uab.edu)  
Amy Taylor [amy.p.taylor@ua.edu](mailto:amy.p.taylor@ua.edu)

**ARKTESOL** (Arkansas) Judy Hobson [jahobson96@gmail.com](mailto:jahobson96@gmail.com)  
Julia Correia [juliaalinecorreia@gmail.com](mailto:juliaalinecorreia@gmail.com)

**Carolina TESOL** (North & South) Brad Teague [brad.teague@duke.edu](mailto:brad.teague@duke.edu)

**GATESOL** (Georgia) Cherrilyn Woods Washington [clwoods720@hotmail.com](mailto:clwoods720@hotmail.com)  
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**KYTESOL** (Kentucky) Saihua Xia [sxia@murraystate.edu](mailto:sxia@murraystate.edu)

**LATESOL** (Louisiana) Mark Honegger [honegger@louisiana.edu](mailto:honegger@louisiana.edu)  
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**SSTESOL** (Sunshine: Florida) Esther deJong [edejong@coe.ufl.edu](mailto:edejong@coe.ufl.edu)

**TNTESOL** (Tennessee) Kristen Tennyson [2vicepresident@tentesol.org](mailto:2vicepresident@tentesol.org)

**VATESOL** (Virginia) (absent) Pamela Smith [smart1@vt.edu](mailto:smart1@vt.edu)

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### *Operational Guidelines:*

- a) The SETESOL Regional Council meetings take place twice a year – in Spring at the international TESOL Convention and in Fall at the Regional SETESOL Conference. At the TESOL convention, this council meeting usually takes place on Fridays at lunch. At the SETESOL conference, this meeting is also usually on Friday but the exact time varies depending on the conference schedule.*
- b) The official representative from the affiliate which will be hosting the upcoming SETESOL conference is the person who chairs both of the semi-annual meetings during the academic year immediately preceding that conference. Since Louisiana TESOL will be hosting the SETESOL Conference in October 2015, the Louisiana representative (Mark Honegger) chaired the SETESOL Regional Council meeting at the Fall 2014 SETESOL Conference in Arkansas and at the Spring 2015 TESOL Convention in Toronto.*

**Chairperson:** Saihua Xia (KYTESOL) chaired the meeting.

Saihua asked Susan Spezzini (AMTESOL) to serve as the recording secretary.

### **1. Call to Order, Introductions, and Approval of Minutes**

Saihua called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon on Friday, October 23, 2015 with representatives from 8 of the 9 SETESOL affiliates present. The Virginia TESOL affiliate was the only one not represented.

After calling the meeting to order, Saihua distributed a written agenda for the Fall 2015 SETESOL Regional Council's meeting. Saihua welcomed everyone and asked for each person to introduce himself/herself.

The minutes from the March 2015 SETESOL Regional Council were distributed. No corrections were made. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the minutes.

## 2. Information from Affiliates about SETESOL conferences

### A) LATESOL about the 2015 SETESOL (New Orleans)

As the LATESOL representative and the SETESOL Conference coordinator, Mark and Robert provided an update on the 2015 SETESOL Regional conference currently underway. Approximately 400 to 500 are in attendance.

For the first time, SETESOL has hosted a K-12 Dream Day. It took place on Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> on the campus of the University of New Orleans. Heather (LATESOL) worked together with Diane Carter (Indiana) to organize and implement this inaugural regional K-12 Dream Day. We were very fortunate to have Diane's help since she had coordinated the first few K-12 Dream Days at the TESOL Convention. Even though SETESOL's K-12 Dream Day was organized in just 6 months, over 90 attendees participated! By planning a year in advance and establishing a pre-registration date, we should be able to attract greater turnout.

### B. KYTESOL about the 2016 SETESOL Conference (Louisville)

As the KYTESOL representative, Saihua informed the Regional Council about the 2016 SETESOL conference which will be taking place in Louisville. Promotional materials were distributed.

**Dates:** October 26-29, 2016

**Site:** Galthouse Hotel and Suites, Louisville

**Tentative Theme:** "Racing Towards a Brighter Future"

**Website:** <http://www.kytesol.org/>

### C. AMTESOL about the 2017 SETESOL Conference (Birmingham)

As the AMTESOL representative, Susan provided the following information:

**Date:** October 3-7, 2017 (formerly September 19-23, which was changed to avoid a conflict)

**Site:** Wynfrey Hotel, Hyatt Regency in Birmingham (next to the Galleria Mall in Hoover)

## 3. Highlights/feedback about state TESOL conferences from other affiliates to exchange.

-Ester de Jong reported that Sunshine TESOL is in agreement with hosting the SETESOL Conference in Fall 2019 which is 6 months following the 2019 TESOL convention in Atlanta.

-Affiliates organizing future SETESOL conferences must bring a commitment letter signed by their board to the SETESOL Regional Council meetings about 2 years in advance of their conference and then to distribute this commitment letter via email to the regional council members. This commitment letter should indicate dates, venue, and commitment. This is a way to ensure that an affiliate will be hosting a conference, and also that there is no other member affiliate planning to host a conference during the same year (as had happened about ten years ago). Submitting a commitment letter at least two years in advance of the regional conference is a policy that was established at the SETESOL regional council's fall 2007 board meeting.

### **Suggestions:**

-Perhaps hosting the K-12 Dream Day at the same site as the conference. This wasn't possible for the SETESOL conference because of not having sufficient lead time.

-Posting the conference on Linguist List. For example, ESL educators from other countries might like to attend given the fact that the regional conference is less expensive than "big" TESOL.

-Very few attendees in New Orleans used the discount codes.

-Affiliates should be prepared to perhaps take a loss when hosting a regional SETESOL conference. Since October is peak season in New Orleans for conferences, the timing was not optimal for LATESOL.

-LATESOL used Event-Brite for the first time, which is an online registration system. TNTESOL uses Wild Apricot and so does GATESOL. Some conference registration systems do not facilitate the printing or exporting of email addresses.

- Affiliates who are hosting future conferences should go around the exhibit hall at the preceding conference and invite exhibitors to their future conference. Many districts are using online books and therefore no longer buy as many books as before. Consequently, not as many exhibitors are supporting our state and regional conferences. For example, only 10 exhibitors came to our 2015 SETESOL conference. And, the number of exhibitors at GATESOL dropped from 20 to 12.
- There was a suggestion for making money by selling conference T-shirts. A shirt that might cost \$3 or \$4 can be sold for \$10.

**4. Consideration of revisions to our Regional SETESOL Accord drafted at the Spring 2015 meeting**

Copies of the revised accord were distributed. Historical background regarding the Accord was provided. A discussion ensued regarding the adjustments that had been proposed at the Spring 2015 regional council meeting. Affiliate representatives will share the updated Accord with their respective affiliate boards and will share feedback with other SETESOL regional council members via email and/or bring feedback to the next regional council meeting (April 2016 in Baltimore). It is hoped that this updated Accord can be fully approved in Spring 2016 at SETESOL’s regional council meeting.

**5. New Business: Upcoming SETESOL Regional Council Meetings**

Representatives from Kentucky TESOL will be chairing the Spring 2016 SETESOL regional council meeting in Baltimore at the International TESOL Convention. Representatives from AMTESOL will chair the Fall 2016 SETESOL Regional Council meeting in Louisville, and the Spring 2017 SETESOL Regional Council meeting at the International TESOL convention.

**6. Adjournment**

Saihua adjourned the meeting at 1:00. NOTE: A suggestion was made for future council meetings to be scheduled for 90 minutes.

**ADDENDUM:**

Year	Rotation of SETESOL Conferences
Fall 2015	LATESOL
Fall 2016	KYTESOL
Fall 2017	AMTESOL
Fall 2018	The SETESOL Conference was canceled for Fall 2018 because GATESOL is hosting the TESOL Convention in Spring 2019.
Fall 2019	Sunshine TESOL
Fall 2020	VATESOL
Fall 2021	GATESOL
Fall 2022	TNATESOL
Fall 2023	Carolina TESOL
Fall 2024	ARKTESOL