

## For Immediate Release

TESOL Contact: Gwynn Mason  
+1 703-518-25217  
[gmason@tesol.org](mailto:gmason@tesol.org)

### **TESOL Creates New Justice and Equity Professional Council**

Alexandria, Va. (July 29, 2024) – TESOL has created a professional council that will advance the association’s commitment to social justice and diversity, equity, inclusion, and access (DEIA) and to help ensure member needs are being met. Based upon the recommendations of TESOL’s Diversity Task Force and DEIA working group, the board approved the creation of the Justice and Equity Professional Council (JEPC) at their board meeting in March 2024 and adopted the council’s charter in June.

Elisabeth Chan, TESOL board member and chair of the DEIA working group, said, “I’m glad to see TESOL make a systemic commitment to DEIA in the form of a professional council. It builds on the amazing work of our volunteer members who have dedicated their expertise and provided guidance on how the association may make strides in enhancing equity and inclusion. This step is about taking a real look at all TESOL does and making changes that will benefit everyone and support the association into the future.”

Visit the [TESOL Committees and Councils page](#) for more information about the purpose, terms of service, membership criteria, and responsibilities and duties of the new professional council.

The JEPC will be led by TESOL members, one liaison from the board of directors, and a staff partner. It joins a list of TESOL professional councils that includes Affiliate Network, Awards, Conferences, Membership, Professional Development, Research, and Standards.

### **About TESOL International Association**

TESOL International Association is the trusted global community for knowledge and expertise in English language teaching. TESOL advances the professional expertise in English language teaching to speakers of other languages in multilingual contexts worldwide through professional learning, research, standards, and advocacy. In principle and in practice, TESOL values professionalism, respect, integrity, and lifelong learning and seeks diverse and inclusive participation within the field of English language teaching. TESOL promotes equitable representation, engagement, and broad access to professional opportunities for all and works to eliminate any

kind of discrimination. TESOL is a professional community of more than 10,000 English language professionals representing more than 150 countries. For more information, please visit [www.tesol.org](http://www.tesol.org).

**# # #**