

## For Immediate Release

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Photos Available

### **TESOL International Association Installs 2025-2026 Board Members**

Alexandria, Va. (April 11, 2025) – TESOL International Association (TESOL) recently installed Justin Shewell as its 2025-2026 president at the association’s annual business meeting during the TESOL 2025 International Convention & Expo in Long Beach, California, USA. In addition to Shewell, President-Elect Okon Effiong and board members Drew Fagan, James Papple, and Jorge Torres Almazán were also installed on the TESOL board of directors. With Shewell’s installation, Debra Suarez became the association’s past president.

Shewell serves as assistant teaching professor, information technology, The Polytechnic School at Arizona State University. He comes to the TESOL presidency with decades of experience in English language and educational technology roles. He has also worked internationally with the U.S. Department of State as an English language specialist in Vietnam, Brazil, Morocco, and Saudi Arabia to train teachers on the use of technology in the classroom. Shewell is the codesigner for [Teach English Now!](#), one of the largest online TESOL certificate programs.

Before becoming TESOL president, Shewell dedicated his time and service to numerous leadership positions within the association. Not surprisingly, his love of technology led him to engage with the Computer-Assisted Language Learning Interest Section (CALL-IS) and their Electronic Village event. He served as CALL-IS chair-elect, chair, and past chair from 2011-2014. Other leadership positions included being a member of the TESOL Nominating Committee (2016) and Awards Committee (2013-2016) and later being elected as a TESOL board member (2019-2022).

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Shewell said, “I am honored and humbled to be able to serve and represent a community that has given so much to me professionally and personally and contributed to the success of learners around the world. I look forward to supporting our members during the upcoming year.”

Effiong, an English lecturer at Qatar University, Doha, Qatar, will serve as president-elect from March 2025-March 2026. Fagan, clinical professor, applied linguistics and language education, the University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland, USA; Papple, associate dean of English and communications, Centennial College, Ontario, Canada; and Torres Almazán, head of SALC (Self-Access Learning Center), The American School of Tampico, Tampico, Mexico, will serve on the TESOL board of directors from March 2025-March 2028.

TESOL also recognized the dedication and service of its departing board members Elisabeth Chan, Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale, Virginia, USA; Raichle Farrelly, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, USA; and Kate Mastruserio Reynolds, Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington, USA.

TESOL’s board of directors is the association’s elected governing body helping to formulate the association’s strategic direction and set policy for the association.

### **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 8,000 English language professionals representing more than 100 countries. For more information, please visit [www.tesol.org](http://www.tesol.org).

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