

## For Immediate Release

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### **TESOL International Association Installs 2024-2025 Board Members**

Alexandria, Va. (April 18, 2024) – TESOL International Association (TESOL) recently installed Debra Suarez as its 2024-2025 president at the association’s Annual Business Meeting during the TESOL 2024 International Convention & Expo in Tampa, Florida, USA. In addition to Suarez, President-Elect Justin Shewell and board of director members Misty Adoniou, Larisa Olesova, and Araceli Salas were also installed on the TESOL board of directors.

Suarez serves as executive director of Uplifting Teachers, a social entrepreneurship dedicated to global educational impact, and engages in research, book publications, and international speaking. She comes to the TESOL presidency after a professional lifetime in key English language teaching leadership roles, including positions with the U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Department of State, and the White House. Suarez will serve as the association’s president from March 2024-March 2025. With Suarez’s installation, Shelley K. Taylor became the association’s past president.

“I am looking forward to dedicating myself to serving the TESOL membership over the next year,” said Suarez. “One of my guiding principles while working with the TESOL board and TESOL leaders will be to observe who’s not in the room and why, and work with others to find a way to invite them in and make sure they feel a sense of belonging.”

Shewell, an educational technologist at Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona, USA, will serve as president-elect from March 2024-March 2025. Adoniou, from the University of Canberra, Canberra, Australia; Olesova, from the University of Florida Gainesville, Florida, USA; and Salas, from Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla, Puebla, Mexico, will serve on the TESOL board of directors from March 2024-March 2027.

TESOL also recognized the dedication and service of its departing board members Joyce Kling, Lund University, Lund, Sweden; Tamara Jones, Howard Community College, Columbia, Maryland, USA; Mawa Samb, Ministère Education Bureau D’Anglais, Dakar, Senegal; and Graciela Martin, Instituto Cultural Argentino Norteamericano, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

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 10,000 English language professionals representing more than 150 countries. For more information, please visit [www.tesol.org](http://www.tesol.org).

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