

For Immediate Release

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TESOL International Association (TESOL) Welcomes Danielle Staudt as Incoming Executive Director

Alexandria, Va. (November 20, 2024) – The TESOL board of directors is delighted to announce Ms. Danielle Staudt, CAE, as the incoming executive director of TESOL International Association beginning 27 January 2025. She was selected following a rigorous search conducted by a special committee of TESOL members and colleagues, led by Sterling Martin Associates (SMA), a national executive search firm. TESOL board members completed the final interviews during their board meeting in October.

Ms. Staudt, CAE, is an accomplished association executive with more than 20 years' experience serving diverse membership communities. She has a successful track record supporting organizations through strong relationships with volunteer leadership, mission-focused teams, and innovative strategies to ensure long-term financial stability.

“There is so much in Danielle’s professional background that bodes well for TESOL International Association,” said Debra Suarez, TESOL president. “Danielle has strong executive experience in member-based academic associations. She brings deep knowledge of member-serving nonprofits, and a proven track record of commitment to diversity, equity, staff leadership, and community building. With her passion to mission, as well as financial acumen and strength in organizational culture, Danielle is poised to take TESOL into exciting, innovative directions as TESOL heads into its 60th year.”

In her current position, Ms. Staudt serves as the executive director for the Population Association of America (PAA) – a scientific society for 3,000 population research scientists all around the world. As PAA’s staff leader, she worked with its volunteer leadership to build new revenue streams champion PAA’s diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts, and overhaul its communications activities.

“I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as TESOL’s executive director. TESOL members’ work is inspirational as it expands far beyond teaching multilingual learners of English. They expand horizons, create connections between cultures, and help their students realize success in every aspect of their lives. I look forward to working with TESOL’s leadership and talented staff to serve the TESOL community.”

Ms. Staudt holds a bachelor’s degree in English from Xavier University (Cincinnati, OH) and a master’s degree in nonprofit and association management from the University of Maryland, Global Campus. She obtained her Certified Association Executive (CAE) designation in 2019.

About TESOL

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.

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