

From the Editor-in-Chief

Celebrating 50 Years of NYS TESOL!

It is with great joy that we welcome this special issue devoted to the celebration of 50 years of NYS TESOL's existence and its contributions to the state of New York community of educators and students! The 50th conference featured some of the most influential scholars and practitioners in the field of TESOL and related disciplines, as well as some of our wonderful teaching practitioners. The celebration highlighted our successes, but also pointed out how much more work there is to do!

This special conference proceedings publication presents just a sampling of so many strong talks, workshops, and keynotes that we had the opportunity to attend and hear last November! We'd like our readers to know that the official call for the submissions was held and that the pieces included here went through our regular processes. Thus, the titles of talks and the content may have been slightly enhanced or updated.

When looking back at 50 years of activism and educational efforts to uplift our multilingual learners—our ELLS—one can see that so much has been accomplished. What a journey it has been for our organization and for everyone who has participated, volunteered, and contributed so selflessly. We are now richer for many things, among them our very own academic journal that is nearing its own tenth anniversary!

With this, I wish to thank all of our contributors for their collaboration and patience during this process so that we could bring their ideas and research to so many more readers across the state and the country, and to those who could not attend the conference.

It is my ultimate pleasure to express thanks, on behalf of the entire team, to the authors and to the NYS TESOL Conference team and its leaders for this amazing event! All this is even more special given how hard the past year has been due to the world pandemic.

Special gratitude goes to the entire Editorial Team: You are the best!

Lubie G. Alariste, May 2021

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