



# Intensive English Programs & Community College Conference

*Organized by the MATSOL  
Private Language Schools & Community  
College  
Special Interest Groups*

**EC Boston English Language School**

[www.matsol.org](http://www.matsol.org)

## Welcome to the 4th Annual MATSOL Intensive English Program & Community College Conference!

We would like to thank our conference sponsors:  
**EC Boston** for graciously hosting the conference in their space  
**National Geographic Learning** for providing lunch

We would also like to thank our exhibitors:

**Alphabet Publishing**  
**Cambridge University Press**  
**English Discoveries Online distributed by Techno-ware Inc.**  
**ETS TOEFL**  
**ISX World**  
**Merriam-Webster**  
**Merrimack College**  
**National Geographic Learning**  
**Oxford University Press**

Finally, we would like to thank the MATSOL Board of Directors, staff and members for your support! Without all of your generous contributions, this conference would not be possible.

**We hope you enjoy the conference!**

**MATSOL Private Language Schools Special Interest Group**  
*Joy MacFarland, Josh Stone, Sarah de Pina & Rachel Kadish*

**MATSOL Community College Special Interest Group**  
*Juanita Brunelle, Eileen Feldman, Darlene Furdock, Eileen Kelley,  
Jennifer Nourse, Bruce Riley, Madhu Sharma & Anne Shull*



## Conference Schedule Overview

	516	517	518
9:00—9:50	<b>Mind Your Manners: Idioms and Usage for English Teachers</b> <i>Peter Sokolowski, Merriam-Webster</i>	<b>Teaching Poetry for Pronunciation Development Alongside Language Skills</b> <i>Michael Byrne</i>	<b>Students Come First: Best Practices in Student Services</b> <i>Alan Broomhead &amp; Miyo Le</i>
10:00—10:50	<b>Innovative Prompts for Critical Thinking and Creative Writing</b> <i>Walton Burns, Alphabet Publishing</i>	<b>Don't Stop Being Polite: An ESL Lesson in Political Correctness</b> <i>Noga Laor</i>	<b>Mastering the TOEFL: Listening Section</b> <i>Kevin Thai</i>
11:00—11:50	<b>MATSOL Community College Special Interest Group</b> <i>Juanita Brunelle, Darlene Furdock, Eileen Kelley &amp; Anne Shull</i>	<b>Appreciative Advising with ESL Students</b> <i>Azumi Watanabe &amp; Emily Acqua</i>	<b>Life After High School: Steps to Success</b> <i>Amie Saulnier</i>
	<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>
1:00—1:50	<b>A Revised TOEFL iBT®? What's Up with That?</b> <i>Marian Crandall, ETS TOEFL</i>	<b>How to Use Songs in an Interactive Manner to Increase Fluency</b> <i>Katja Davidoff</i>	<b>The Transition from Teaching ESL to Student Services</b> <i>Stephen McCarthy</i>
2:00—2:50	<b>Classroom with a TED English Learning Experience</b> <i>Dawn Blodgett, National Geographic</i>	<b>Bridging the Cultural Gaps in Class</b> <i>Ece Gurler</i>	<b>Edutainment _ Pop Culture Hook: So TD</b> <i>Kristine Perlmutter &amp; Rebecca Cameron</i>
3:00—3:50	<b>Getting the Most out of Your MATSOL Membership</b> <i>Helen Solorzano &amp; Jason Fei</i>	<b>Trauma-Informed Teaching in Uncertain Times</b> <i>Caroline McKinnon</i>	<b>Country-Specific E-mail Etiquette</b> <i>Miriam Chenaif</i>

## Conference Schedule Overview

	411	417	418
9:00—9:50	<b>Staying in the Zone: Strategies and Routines for Efficient Lesson Preparation</b> <i>Henry Gerlits</i>	<b>Teaching English in the Modern Market</b> <i>Antonio Iaccarino &amp; Olivia Szabo</i>	<b>Designing Niche Programs: From Pharmacy to Food Management</b> <i>Christopher-Michael Daeley</i>
10:00—10:50	<b>Teaching Pronunciation: Tips, Tricks, and Technology</b> <i>Jenna Collins &amp; Sarah Harkleroad</i>	<b>Developing 21st-Century Soft Skills for Academic Success</b> <i>Eileen Kramer, Amelia Onorato &amp; Tim Doyle</i>	<b>Teaching and Learning as a Volunteer in Cambodia</b> <i>Elaine Brookfield</i>
11:00—11:50	<b>Teaching TOEFL and IELTS Opinion Essays: A Winning Formula</b> <i>Shannon Felt</i>	<b>Paperless Plans</b> <i>Samantha Young</i>	<b>Teaching about the Climate Crisis: A Collaborative Workshop</b> <i>Peter Sakura, Justin Brown &amp; Amy Rinaldo</i>
	<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>
1:00—1:50	<b>Online Language Acquisition: What Works?</b> <i>Sarah Jordan</i>	<b>It's All Geek to Me...</b> <i>Caroline McKinnon</i>	<b>What is PFAC? (Practice, Fun, and American Culture)</b> <i>Stuart Salomon</i>
2:00—2:50	<b>Online Course Development: English for Peacekeepers</b> <i>Carol Pineiro &amp; Mitchell Wolf</i>	<b>TOEFL Test Teaching Tips</b> <i>Emily Morris</i>	<b>Books Like Boston</b> <i>Liz Soteris McNamara</i>
3:00—3:50	<b>How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Teaching Pronunciation</b> <i>Rena Bartlett</i>	<b>A Picture's Worth a Thousand Words: Image-Based AFL Activities</b> <i>Torin Shriver &amp; Nicholas Santavicca</i>	<b>Beyond Fun: Warm-Ups and Icebreakers for the Busy Teacher</b> <i>Noga Laor</i>

**Mind Your Manners: Idioms and Usage for English Teachers**

9:00-9:50 AM, Room 516

Peter Sokolowski, Merriam-Webster

Dictionaries created for non-native speakers are very different from the ones that we grew up with. It's not just about definitions—great care is taken to give accurate and often surprising information about idioms and usage, changing the dictionary from a reference book into a textbook for vocabulary.

*Topic Area(s): Continuing Professional Development, Teaching Grammar, Vocabulary & Lexicon, Materials Creation/Adaptation*

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

**Teaching English in the Modern Market**

9:00-9:50 AM, Room 417

Antonio Iaccarino & Olivia Szabo, Boston University CELOP

Papers are out - concise paragraphs are in. Although very few companies require formal essays, intensive programs and community colleges still teach writing exclusively for literature and research. Learn how to best prepare students for the actual marketplace, not the university system, with a focus on job preparedness.

*Topic Area(s): English for Specific Purposes, Intercultural Communication, Writing/Composition, Vocabulary & Lexicon, Reading & Literacy, Job Preparedness*

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

**Staying in the Zone: Strategies and Routines for Efficient Lesson Preparation**

9:00-9:50 AM, Room 411

Henry Gerlits, Massachusetts International Academy

Do you spend days worrying about that stack of ungraded essays? Can you tell when you're scattered versus when you're "in the zone"? In this interactive workshop, we'll explore strategies and routines to most efficiently use teacher prep time to design effective lessons leading to student success.

*Topic Area(s): Continuing Professional Development, Materials Creation/Adaptation*

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

**Students Come First: Best Practices in Student Services**

9:00-9:50 AM, Room 518

Alan Broomhead & Miyo Le, Showa Boston Institute for Language and Culture

What makes "great customer service" in Student Services? How can we make a difference to our students? In this presentation we take a step back from the day-to-day routine and consider our opportunities to positively influence students through our work in student services.

*Topic Area(s): Student Services*

*Audience: Intensive English Program*

**Designing Niche Programs: From Pharmacy to Food Management**

9:00-9:50 AM, Room 418

Christopher-Michael Daeley, Showa Boston Institute for Language and Culture

Intensive English Programs must navigate numerous factors to balance institutional and student needs, many of which are outside teacher control. Using examples from Showa Boston's Kobe University Pharmacy and Summer Session Programs, this session explores program design considerations that can simultaneously support teacher autonomy, institutional goals, and student learning outcomes.

*Topic Area(s): English for Specific Purposes, Materials Creation/Adaptation*

*Audience: Intensive English Program*

**Teaching Poetry for Pronunciation Development Alongside Language Skills**

9:00-9:50 AM, Room 517

Michael Byrne, EC Boston

This session explores teaching poetry, firstly through a prosodic lens to address the well-researched need to contemporize teaching of pronunciation for intelligible speech, and secondly through a literary lens to promote integrated-skill instruction. Walk away with concrete ideas for how to integrate this unique student-centered approach into your existing curriculum.

*Topic Area(s): Speech, Pronunciation & Listening, Reading & Literacy*

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

**10:00-10:50 AM**

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### **Developing 21st-Century Soft Skills for Academic Success**

10:00-10:50 AM, Room 417

Eileen Kramer, Amelia Onorato & Tim Doyle, CELOP, Boston University

While a foundation-year curriculum is heavily focused on cognitive academic language proficiency (CALP), it is essential that students develop soft skills for academic success, including competence in time management, sociocultural awareness, collaboration, and appropriate communication. In this session, the presenters share their resources and strategies for teaching 21st-century soft skills.

*Topic Area(s): English for Specific Purposes, Intercultural Communication*

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

### **Mastering the TOEFL: Listening Section**

10:00-10:50 AM, Room 518

Kevin Thai, Stafford House

I'll show you how to know the questions on the TOEFL Listening passages ahead of time. Using my system of patterns and audio cues I've developed over the last dozen years, you can now teach your students to increase their scores without necessarily increasing their language proficiency.

*Topic Area(s): Test Preparation*

*Audience: Intensive English Program*

### **Teaching Pronunciation: Tips, Tricks, and Technology**

10:00-10:50 AM, Room 411

Jenna Collins, Sarah Harkleroad, Boston Public Library & YMCA International Learning Center

This interactive workshop presents best practices when teaching pronunciation. Attendees will learn about ideas and resources for incorporating pronunciation instruction into lessons. Participants will also try out free and easy-to-use digital tools (i.e. WhatsApp) to prepare learners' speaking and pronunciation in traditional, online, or hybrid university courses.

*Topic Area(s): Speech, Pronunciation & Listening, Materials Creation/Adaptation*

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

**10:00-10:50 AM**

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### **Teaching and learning as a Volunteer in Cambodia**

10:00-10:50 AM, Room 418

Elaine Brookfield, EC ENGLISH

An EC project - sharing our education system with a hunter/gatherer village in Cambodia

*Topic Area(s): Intercultural Communication*

*Audience: Intensive English Program*

### **Don't Stop Being Polite: An ESL Lesson in Political Correctness**

10:00-10:50 AM, Room 517

Noga Laor, Long Island University

Recently arrived immigrants often have difficulty navigating the issue of political correctness in the United States. In this session, the presenter will share a lesson that she has created and used which focuses on communicating without offending others, as well as addressing the notion of free speech versus hate speech.

*Topic Area(s): Intercultural Communication*

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

### **Innovative Prompts for Critical Thinking and Creative Writing**

10:00-10:50 AM, Room 516

Walton Burns, Alphabet Publishing

Engaging reluctant writers is a universal problem. Participants will learn about innovative, creative prompts that get students thinking and writing. Unfinished stories and hypothetical, what-would-you-do, situations generate strong responses from students and help get them thinking, talking, and then writing, sometimes without realizing it. Works for creative and academic writing.

*Topic Area(s): Writing/Composition*

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

**Life After High School: Steps to Success**

11:00-11:50 AM, Room 518

Amie Saulnier, Medford High

This session will focus on an overview of a 3-5 day college and career boot camp designed and facilitated for EL students at the high school level. Participants will be asked to join a dialogue on what information and skills are most important for preparing students for life after high school.

Topic Area(s): English for Specific Purposes, Intercultural Communication

*Audience: Community College*

**Appreciative Advising with ESL Students**

11:00-11:50 AM, Room 517

Azumi Watanabe & Emily Acqua, ONCAMPUS Boston

Appreciative Advising is an intentional and collaborative approach that utilizes positive, open-ended questions to identify potential and opportunities, rather than focusing on problems and challenges. In this session, we will explore the six phases of Appreciative Advising and discuss how to apply this method to interactions with ESL students.

Topic Area(s): Student Services

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

**Teaching TOEFL and IELTS Opinion Essays: A Winning Formula**

11:00-11:50 AM, Room 411

Shannon Felt, TEFL Horizons

In this session, we'll examine a fool-proof formula for Task 2 on TOEFL or IELTS. Learn how to help your students brainstorm ideas to beat the time crunch, structure essays that maximize cohesion, write dynamite introductions and conclusions, and troubleshoot exam day panic.

Topic Area(s): Writing/Composition, Test Preparation

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

**Paperless Plans**

11:00-11:50 AM, Room 417

Samantha Young, Kaplan International Languages

Hate losing little strips of paper? Unreliable photocopier? Forgetful students who misplace handouts? Eliminate paper and these problems! Paperless Plans will take some common classroom activities and demonstrate them without photocopies using simple high-tech and no-tech substitutions. Expand your teaching options by choosing to reduce your reliance on paper!

Topic Area(s): Materials Creation/Adaptation

*Audience: Intensive English Program*

**Teaching about the Climate Crisis: A Collaborative Workshop**

11:00-11:50 AM, Room 418

Peter Sakura, Justin Brown & Amy Rinaldo, Brookline Public Schools & Brandeis University

The session covers an update on the climate crisis and classroom-tested materials for studying problems and solutions. Handouts will be provided. Session attendees are invited to bring their own materials to share in group discussions. Opportunities to engage with the larger TESOL community on environmental education will be presented.

Topic Area(s): English for Specific Purposes, Intercultural Communication, Vocabulary & Lexicon, Materials Creation/Adaptation

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

**MATSOL Community College Special Interest Group**

11:00-11:50 AM, Room 516

Juanita Brunelle, Darlene Furdock, Eileen Kelley & Anne Shull, MATSOL Community College SIG

In this session, members of the MATSOL Community College Special Interest Group will facilitate a discussion of topics relevant to Massachusetts community college ESL programs. Topics include: ESL services and resources at our colleges; changes to curriculum, levels, or awarding of credit; advocating for ESL students and faculty; and the future of community college ESL in Massachusetts. We invite high school, private language school, and higher education faculty and staff to share issues and concerns with us.

Topic Area(s): Continuing Professional Development

*Audience: Community College*

**Online Language Acquisition: What Works?**

1:00-1:50 PM, Room 411

Sarah Jordan, Greenfield Commonwealth Virtual School

This is a roundtable discussion about digital language learning. Guiding questions will concern:

- Facilitating online language learning (including setting individual goals and benchmarks, and platforms for instruction)
- Providing student choice and multiple entry points
- Facilitating and monitoring conversations
- Current research trends
- Assessments

*Topic Area(s): Video & Digital Media, Materials Creation/Adaptation*

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

**A Revised TOEFL iBT®? What's Up with That?**

1:00-1:50 PM, Room 516

Marian Crandall, ETS TOEFL

A shorter TOEFL iBT test and a new TOEFL iBT score report were launched in August 2019. We will discuss these changes, the research done to support them, the impact on test preparation for your students, and the resources that TOEFL provides to support academic English instruction at your institution.

*Topic Area(s): Test Preparation*

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

**It's all Geek to Me...**

1:00-1:50 PM, Room 417

Caroline McKinnon, Rennert International

In this session you will look at ways to incorporate music, comics, and videos into your classroom, allowing students to explore language from authentic materials.

*Topic Area(s): Material Creation/Adaptation*

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

**What is PFAC? (Practice, Fun and American Culture)**

1:00-1:50 PM, Room 418

Stuart Salomon, Jakarta International School HOD, AP English Language Reader, International Baccalaureate, SIT, (Retired)

Attending teachers will receive a 30-day unit plan that contains daily oral presentations, a weekly poem for memorization, dictations based on American culture (small c)--such as folklore, newspaper features, and daily American life. There is no political agenda, but plenty of individually focused speaking and listening activities. Every class is planned; all materials are provided, and evaluation guidance is offered. The goal is engagement with the English language.

*Topic Area(s): Intercultural Communication, Speech, Pronunciation & Listening, Vocabulary & Lexicon, Reading & Literacy, Materials Creation/Adaptation, Test Preparation*

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

**The Transition from Teaching ESL to Student Services**

1:00-1:50 PM, Room 518

Stephen McCarthy, EC Boston

Have you ever wondered what do Student Services do in your school? Have you thought about what it would be like to work as one after teaching? Join us as Stephen McCarthy gives his experience transitioning from teaching to being a Student Services Coordinator.

*Topic Area(s): Intercultural Communication, Student Services*

*Audience: Intensive English Program*

**How to Use Songs in an Interactive Manner to Increase Fluency**

1:00-1:50 PM, Room 517

Katja Davidoff, CELOP/Boston University

Songs are a great way to engage students, increase their comfort level with speaking and improve their oral and aural skills. This session will show some ways songs can be used to help students improve their speaking, listening, and pronunciation skills. Hands-on activities will be demonstrated during the session.

*Topic Area(s): English for Specific Purposes, Speech, Pronunciation & Listening, Materials Creation/Adaptation*

*Audience: Intensive English Program*

**Bridging the Cultural Gaps in Class**

2:00-2:50 PM, Room 517

Ece Gurler, Stafford House International

Some of the main challenges in the international education are misconceptions, stereotypes, and misunderstandings resulting from cultural differences in classrooms. Learning about cultural dimensions and how they affect the way we think is necessary for everyone who works in intensive English programs.

*Topic Area(s): Intercultural Communication*

*Audience: Intensive English Program*

**Edutainment \_ Pop Culture Hook: So TD**

2:00-2:50 PM, Room 518

Kristine Perlmutter & Rebecca Cameron, INTO Suffolk University & Dean College

Our presentation demonstrates the benefits of having a consistent pop cultural hook in the form of a projected music video at the beginning of each class. The presenters will share their qualitative data and their best practices on promoting student engagement through incorporating “the song of the day.”

*Topic Area(s): Video & Digital Media, English for Specific Purposes, Intercultural Communication, Speech, Pronunciation & Listening, Vocabulary & Lexicon*

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

**Online Course Development: English for Peacekeepers**

2:00-2:50 PM, Room 411

Carol Pineiro & Mitchell Wolf, Boston University/CELOP

Participants will view sequences of a recently-developed online course in Canvas for UN peacekeepers that includes photos and animation. They will also receive advice and caveats for designing online courses so that they have a realistic view of the complexity of course development.

*Topic Area(s): Video & Digital Media, Intercultural Communication, Speech, Pronunciation & Listening, Materials Creation/Adaptation*

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

**TOEFL Test Teaching Tips**

2:00-2:50 PM, Room 417

Emily Morris, FLS Boston

Taking the TOEFL is what many ESL students consider to be the apex of their English language learning experience. Achieving a particular TOEFL score is often crucial for a student's academic or professional success. Are you fully equipped to be a pivotal part of the TOEFL preparation process?

*Topic Area(s): Test Preparation*

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

**Books Like Boston**

2:00-2:50 PM, Room 418

Liz Soteros McNamara, FLS Boston

This session provides participants an action plan to implement culturally heterogeneous and inclusive literary choices for students to reflect the broad spectrum of identities of the people of Boston and Massachusetts. Participants will leave the presentation with a plan in place to add diverse perspectives that empower student engagement with global perspectives.

*Topic Area(s): Intercultural Communication, Reading & Literacy, Materials Creation/Adaptation*

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

**Classroom with a TED English Learning Experience**

2:00-2:50 PM, Room 516

Dawn Blodgett, National Geographic Learning

Today, learning English is now considered an essential part of a 21st-century education. In this session, we will explore how powerful ideas from globally-acclaimed TED Talks can be used to support any curriculum and prepare learners with the communication and 21st-century skills they need to be successful global citizens and future leaders of the planet.

*Topic Area(s): Intercultural Communication*

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

**Country Specific E-mail Etiquette**

3:00-3:50 PM, Room 518

Miriam Chenaif, Navitas LLC

Communication is key and misunderstandings through intercultural communication can easily occur. This program will focus on improving inter-cultural communication competency, specifically through the medium of e-mail. We will go over country-specific e-mail etiquette and have exercises and case studies.

*Topic Area(s): Continuing Professional Development, English for Specific Purposes, Intercultural Communication*

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

**How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Teaching Pronunciation**

3:00-3:50 PM, Room 411

Rena Bartlett, EF International Language School - Boston

Calling all Drill Sergeants and Pronunciation Dodgers! We will whisper, shout, move, and be silent, participating in classroom activities you can use to develop student awareness and improve communication. If you are a novice teacher or a veteran who avoids teaching pronunciation or relies on drills, this is for you.

*Topic Area(s): Speech, Pronunciation & Listening*

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

**A Picture's Worth a Thousand Words: Image-Based AFL Activities**

3:00-3:50 PM, Room 417

Torin Shriver, Nicholas Santavicca, UMass Dartmouth & UMass Dartmouth

Assessment for Learning (AFL) is a collaborative method wherein learners and instructors each evaluate a learner's current skillset to identify knowledge gains and gaps for future learning. This workshop will demonstrate how to utilize images related to American pop culture, literature, and media for successful AFL activities.

*Topic Area(s): Speech, Pronunciation & Listening, Writing/Composition, Teaching Grammar, Vocabulary & Lexicon, Reading & Literacy, Materials Creation/Adaptation, Test Preparation*

*Audience: Intensive English Program*

**Beyond Fun: Warm-Ups and Icebreakers for the Busy Teacher**

3:00-3:50 PM, Room 418

Noga Laor, Long Island University

Effective warm-ups and icebreakers help create an environment with less-inhibited students who are ready to meaningfully practice and internalize English. Participants experience and discuss how to adapt ten activities, and leave this workshop with fresh ideas that help the busy teacher motivate students and get them ready to learn!

*Topic Area(s): Speech, Pronunciation & Listening*

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

**Trauma-Informed Teaching in Uncertain Times**

3:00-3:50 PM, Room 517

Caroline McKinnon, Rennert International

Trauma-informed teaching is about teaching a whole person, taking into account past trauma and the resulting coping mechanisms while attempting to understand behaviors and work with the student.

You might have a student struggling with their identity, or one who is suffering from culture shock. What about politics in the classroom, or religion? If your student has physical scars — Do you ask? What if you cannot see them?

In this session we will explore ways to make your classroom trauma-informed, looking at practical techniques to make your classroom a safe space.

*Topic Area(s): Intercultural Communication*

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*

**Getting the Most out of Your MATSOL Membership**

3:00-3:50 PM, Room 516

For new and continuing members, of MATSOL are invited to learn more about MATSOL and your MATSOL benefits. Find out about our current initiatives, how to get involved, where to find resources and information on the MATSOL website.

Helen Solorzano & Jason Fei, MATSOL

*Topic Area(s): Continuing Professional Development*

*Audience: Intensive English Program, Community College*



## 2020 MATSOL Conference

May 26-29, 2020 | Framingham MA

Call for Proposals: Due December 2, 2019

Registration opens January 15, 2020

Visit [www.matsol.org/2020-conference](http://www.matsol.org/2020-conference)



### MATSOL Special Interest Groups and E-Lists!

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Join a SIG at [www.matsol.org/member-groups](http://www.matsol.org/member-groups)



is a nonprofit professional association of educators of English learners in Massachusetts. Our members include educators in PK-12 schools, adult basic education, workplace programs, private language schools, and institutions of higher learning, as well as pre-service and in-service teacher educators. MATSOL is the state affiliate of TESOL International Association.

**MATSOL's mission** is to promote equity and excellence in the education of English Learners.



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