Greetings,

The year 2015 is a double anniversary year for BYUH and Laie. BYUH is celebrating our 60th anniversary (founded in 1955). Don’t miss the article about it in the BYU-Hawaii Magazine (http://newsroom.byuh.edu/sites/newsroom.byuh.edu/files/spring2015.pdf).

In addition, President Brigham Young authorized the purchase of the land of Laie 150 years ago. We pause to honor the wisdom and insight of prophets of God who saw what would be built here in Laie: First a gathering place for the Saints, then a temple, a school that became Brigham Young University--Hawaii, and the Polynesian Cultural Center. Our hearty, but humble gratitude to all the builders from the past who created what we enjoy today.

Thank you to all that have kept in touch through our Facebook TESOL Alumni page or through email, campus visits, and phone calls. We are proud of all of you who have graduated in the past and welcome the newly graduated into the ranks. You join some of the greatest people on the earth!

Just to show what I mean, the first few days of June, 2015 found me in Fukuoka, Japan for a JALT-CALL conference. Maureen Andrade, now at Utah Valley University, and I presented on “Developing Learner Autonomy in Online English Language Courses.” However, the best part of the trip was meeting Nana Tanaka (’14) and her new husband Tsubasa Miura at Church at the Fukuoka Ward on Sunday. Along with Isaya Watanabe (’12), who is also teaching in Fukuoka (but belongs to another ward), we went out for sushi on Monday (thankfully they both didn’t have to work that day). We talked for several hours. Really! How great it was to see them, see how well they are doing with their employment and service in their families and church. We congratulate Nana and Tsubasa on their recent marriage.

It would be our wish to see all of you in the wide variety of places where you live when we have the opportunity to travel, so keep in touch.

Aloha,

Ellen Bunker
Missionary Service

The Department of English and Teaching and Learning and the English as an International Language Program have benefitted from the service of three missionaries during the past several months. Elder Robert Russell is a retired professor of Japanese from the BYU campus in Utah. Since his arrival on campus in August 2014, he has taught EIL classes and is currently part of the English Connection on-line curriculum project. Elder Michael Roberts arrived in March 2015 and has focused primarily on the English Connection on-line curriculum. Elder Roberts is from New Zealand and is Sister Rebecca Wolfersberger’s father. Sister Christine Millard is serving as the English Connection project manager. Sister Millard retired from Weber State University of Ogden, Utah.

The Department faculty and missionaries are combining our professional skills to develop an on-line curriculum to serve low-proficient learners of English. The target audience for the curriculum is returned missionaries who want to continue developing their language skills after engaging in Companionship Language Study. When completed, the courses will allow English language learners to choose from two English paths: vocational English and academic English. We will be able to share more in future newsletters.

In Memoriam: Mona Sherwood

Mona Sherwood recently passed away at the age of 81 in Perry, Utah. Most of you will have never heard the name, but Mona was a pioneer ELI/EIL teacher here at CCH/BYUH. Like many EIL teachers during the 60's and 70's she was "part-time" but worked 8-10 hours a day. She coordinated for many years the EIL Reading courses and oversaw the purchase and use of many of the materials that were the foundation of the Reading/Writing Center.

Her husband, Jerry, was head of BYUH Security for some years. Mark James personally remembers her as a warm, hard-working and totally dedicated teacher and a mentor.

A link to her obituary: http://www.myers-mortuary.com/obituary/Mona-Jean-Park-Sherwood/Perry-UT/1513478

OPI Training June 2015

The ELT Department recently invited Dr. Troy Cox, of BYU-Provo, to come to campus to train faculty in giving the Oral Proficiency Interviews (OPI) from the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). The training is intense (28 hours in session during the week), where faculty learned criteria for assessing language proficiency levels ranging from Novice to Superior. As part of the campus training, each person had to conduct a sample interview while being observed by Brother Cox and the other faculty. That is intimidating for the faculty, but even more so for students that were being interviewed. We appreciate the brave students and faculty that let us interview them! Once the four days of training were concluded, the faculty still have to complete additional online training and conduct a set of sample interviews. We wish them well and look forward to having certified OPI faculty in our Department.
We were pleased to have Prof. Graham Crookes, Chair of the Department of Second Language Studies at UH-Manoa as this year’s lecturer. Professor Crookes has done much work in the area of professional development and professional support. One of his enduring areas of interest has been the role of teaching philosophies in the development of ESL practitioners. In essence, teachers (of all kinds) should never enter the classroom without having a clear idea of what principles, values, and beliefs motivate them in their work and in their relationship with their learners.

In his lecture, he provided an overview of teaching philosophies and the kinds of elements that may be found in one’s philosophy. He concluded with insights about how having a philosophy might help individuals find rationale, direction and perspective as they charted their professional course. If you are interested, Dr. Crookes has published an interesting book on the subject: *Values, Philosophies and Beliefs in TESOL: Making a Statement* (Cambridge).

We were privileged to have Professor Rebecca Oxford on our campus for a few days prior to the Hawaii TESOL Conference. Prof. Oxford has been a leading scholar in the realm of second language acquisition for many years, particularly in the area of language learning strategies. She is currently interested in the role of motivation and has several recent publications on the topic of the Language of Peace. We learned much about motivation, “flow” and Rebecca took us through the PERMA framework, which comprises Positive emotions, Engagement, Relationships, Meaning, and Accomplishment.

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Neil Anderson enjoyed the opportunity to visit Egypt and India this Spring offering leadership training on behalf of TESOL. He also gave workshops with Norm Evans (former ELT faculty member, and now at BYU) in Laos and Mongolia in association with Deseret Charities International, and by assignment from the Asia Area Presidency.
The annual TESOL International Convention was held in Toronto, Canada in March of this year, and BYUH was again well represented. In fact, although I can’t confirm it with actual statistics, I believe there is no other school or organization anywhere that has more participants at the convention than BYUH. This year we had seventeen students and seven faculty members in attendance.

Equally impressive is the fact that almost all TESOL programs are for graduate level students and we are one of the few truly TESOL undergraduate programs anywhere. Even graduate students attend in small numbers because of the cost involved and the distance to the convention. Public school and community college representatives are also low in number because funding is not available to pay for the expenses. BYUH is not only unique because of its many-decades-old undergraduate program, but also because of the Alice Pack and Yamagata funds that enable our students to attend. Allison and Gene Yamagata are alumni of BYUH and make significant financial contributions to the University that enable our students to participate in conferences like TESOL and to do internships all over the world. I wonder if they know how much they are appreciated for what they make possible?

The expenses for the convention include airfare, ground transportation, TESOL International membership, convention registration fees, and hotel accommodations. The students are required to pay $400 of those expenses and the remainder is covered by Yamagata funding. No other school has such a benefactor and no other school has so many participants in the annual convention. We are blessed.

I have often commented on the evolution that takes place with our students who go to TESOL. The first day they are rather overwhelmed with the size of the convention, the number of events, and the academic status of all other participants. The second day, it is common to hear our students make mention of how they were understanding what presenters were saying, and colleagues from other universities comment to me about the appropriate and insightful questions and comments made by our students in sessions they attended. The third day…they are ready to give a presentation themselves! It is a beautiful thing to see and it happens every year.

I have been accompanying some of our BA TESOL students to this annual convention for about fifteen years, and I never come home to Laie without feeling privileged and delighted to have traveled with such impressive young adults. I think President McKay must look down on our campus…with a contented smile.

With a handful of faculty and 17 students we tied the department record for attendance at a TESOL conference! The Alice Pack travel Fund and money from Career Placement made this feat possible. The temperature was cold (below zero!) but good food and warm drinks at Tim Horton’s helped everyone survive!

At the convention, the topics were hot, hot, hot! Everyone came away with good ideas and greater confidence, especially our students.
When the EIL faculty reviewed the EIL program outcomes last year, they felt it was important to add a new outcome “language learning autonomy” to the current list. Although this new outcome was always an implied goal, it had never been explicitly stated. Our hope is that our learners will not only improve their English proficiency, but that they will also gain strategies and awareness to continuing improving their English skills and be independent lifelong learners of English.

Several initiatives are helping to support this outcome, such as the Evening English Exchange, tutoring programs, expanded speaking and listening fluency materials at the Language and Speech Center, as well as additional extensive reading materials in the Reading-Writing Center.

Left: English Exchange Evening (EEE) students have fun practicing English by following recipes. Banana Cream Pies for everyone!

The BYU—Hawaii TESOL Society continues to provide growth and professional development to our members. The society is now an academic club within the College of Human Development. During the past year the society has held activities that have allowed members to share the value of a TESOL degree.

Three highlights from the past year were (1) Stand-Up Paddle Boarding in Haleiwa in December 2014, (2) the Hawaii TESOL conference held on campus in February 2015 and (3) a Getting to Know Your Professors night in March 2015. SUP Boarding was a fun activity that provided a way to relax at the end of fall semester. Students relaxed on the boards, enjoyed seeing several turtles on the banks of the river, and of course, enjoyed shave ice afterwards.

Society members served as the state TESOL affiliate by assisting with registration, serving as session facilitators, and assisting with lunch. This service allowed students to interact with the attendees at the conference and to attend sessions to learn how other teachers address certain issues in the classroom. Professor Rebecca Oxford was the Keynote speaker and focused on how TESOLers can be peace educators.
The activity night that focused on getting to know the professors allowed students to learn about **TWO** professional and **ONE** personal interest of seven of the faculty. See if you can match the faculty to their interests. (Answers can be found on page 14 of this newsletter.)

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<tr>
<th>A. Neil Anderson</th>
<th>B. Ellen Bunker</th>
<th>C. Perry Christensen</th>
<th>D. Mark James</th>
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<td>E. Robb McCollum</td>
<td>F. Nancy Tarawhiti</td>
<td>G. Mark Wolfersberger</td>
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1. the intersection of distance education and language learning  
2. playing super hero games with his sons  
3. teacher development  
4. teaching L2 reading  
5. identifying writing difficulties  
6. issues surrounding plagiarism  
7. riding my motorcycle in the mountains  
8. teaching writing strategies  
9. integrating motivation into language teaching  
10. playing the drums  
11. curriculum development  
12. teaching & learning vocabulary  
13. farming  
14. the complexities of academic writing  
15. teaching in an environmentally friendly way  
16. photography  
17. language testing  
18. danced in the PCC night show  
19. L2 vocabulary  
20. teaching with technology  
21. learning about people of any time or place who came to earth with a "mission"—and who do it
Congratulations Graduates

- Tupou Taufui
- Wai Lin (Jamie) Chu
- Aoi Hara
- Beatriz Gonzalez
- Janice Lam
- Shinhyang Kang (Cert.)
- Juan Talavera
- Sayaka Wada
- Praew (Belle) Rongthong
- Sera Kim
Leka Anitema (’11) teaches at Maui High School and just became the youngest teacher to ever complete the Hawaii Department of Education’s Teacher Leadership Program. Way to go, Leka!

Amy Dilg (‘14) emailed us recently saying she was asked to develop AND teach a number of Adult Basic Ed. courses for Spanish-speaking adults in American Falls, Idaho (Outreach Dept. for Idaho State University). So much responsibility so soon! We wish you luck, Amy!

William Eggington (’75) is off to England to see the Queen (and teach History of the English Language for a special BYU-Provo Summer program). Lucky guy!


Jeff Goebel (’99) emailed us to say that his school district near Las Vegas has a shortage of 2000 teachers for the upcoming year in all subject areas. He says living near Vegas is great and the church’s presence is strong. See the BYU- Hawaii TESOL Facebook page for more details!

Wallace Lam (’92) was so happy to see his daughter, Janice Lam (’15) graduate in TESOL this year. Old English Proverb: “Like father, like . . . daughter?

Armi Cabanting Lawrence (’99) on being selected “OC 16 Outstanding Educator” by her principal (Moanalua High School) in March. Did any of you see her on TV? She will soon take her expertise to Henderson, Nevada. Let your light shine!

Olya LeBaron (’11) has loved her teaching job at the Intensive English Language Center at California State University, Bakersfield. She and her husband are moving soon to Sacramento, California.

Kim Mason (’04) visited Hawaii in March and spent some time talking to our seniors about life in the real world. Thanks, Kim!
Alexis Young (’07) will marry her favorite friend Quinn in the Gilbert, Arizona Temple August 1, 2015. Congratulations to the both of them.

Kelly Merrill (’07) has become a well-known Mormon internet guru! Kelly is now writing for mormonbasics.com (his own website) and ldsblogs.com. He also wrote RS/Priesthood lesson articles for mormonmommyblogs.com in 2014, and is doing the same for ldsliving.com for 2015. See more at: http://mormonbasics.com

Jin Joo Park (’12) enjoyed her vacation here in Hawaii and stopped by to say hello to everyone. Enjoy the moment!

Jim Pollard (’96) stopped by the office to say aloha. He and his wife, Cora (’94), were celebrating their wedding anniversary. Jim continues to find fulfillment in teaching primary school (grades 1-3) in Hong Kong.

Yong Boo Son (’07) strolled around campus with his children the other day, looking at all the new buildings and stopped by to say “Aloha!” He decided that he had spent enough years teaching for the DLI in Monterrey, CA and is now working for our nation’s security here in Hawaii! Welcome back, Boo!

Answer Key