



# TESOL ARABIA

## ABU DHABI CHAPTER E-NEWS

APRIL 2008

Hi all,

My name is Ahmed Saadawi and it is my pleasure to serve the members of TESOL Arabia as your Abu Dhabi chapter representative.

On behalf of the chapter team and members, I would like to thank Jo Kennedy who served us so well for two years. During her tenure, Jo did a great job promoting professional development and helping us stay abreast of contemporary issues in such fields as ESP, Instructional Technology and Learner Independence. She also helped to establish linkages and partnerships with a number of hosting organizations including ADMC, Institute of Applied Technology, Al-Hosn University and the Family Development Foundation.

Given that the Abu Dhabi Education Council (ADEC) is implementing such sweeping changes in education throughout the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, I believe it is important to continue and extend the work that Jo initiated during her term in office. Now more than ever, the responsibility for implementing such changes rests with the teachers 'on the ground', and it is our membership's duty to provide our colleagues with all the necessary professional support we can. With so many developments in such fields as task based learning, corpus linguistics, cognitive learning strategies and CALL, to name but a few, the Abu Dhabi chapter of TESOL Arabia is well poised to assist in the sharing and dissemination of new ideas, methods and trends. With this in mind, the AD chapter will continue to offer a wide variety of workshops, presentations and open forum throughout the coming year that will support and serve our professional development needs.

The success of our endeavors this year, however, depends on you. As an experienced and knowledgeable teacher you have a lot to contribute, so please consider taking the initiative and stepping up to "the podium" as a workshop presenter or facilitator. Your suggestions and contributions are also most welcome. In less than three weeks, for example, I have received a good number of generous offers and inspiring suggestions concerning PD topics, workshop venues and even a proposal to host next year's TESOL Arabia Conference here in Abu Dhabi. .

Please feel free to contact me anytime with your ideas, suggestions, questions, queries, and even complaints. As your rep this year, I look forward to serving you to the best of my ability.

Regards,  
Ahmed

**Mark your Calendar!**  
**Upcoming Abu Dhabi Chapter Event**

**May 17 – ESP Focus, co-hosted with ESP SIG**  
**Al-Hosn University, Abu Dhabi**