

ESL Advisory Council: 2012 Agenda

Master's for Teaching ESL to Adult Language Learners

UAB School of Education (SOE), Dept. of Curriculum & Instruction (C&I)

Thursday, January 19, 2012 (9:00-10:30) in EB 226

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Today's Objectives (Underlying purpose: Meet requirements of SOE's accreditation agency)

- 1) Provide update on progress undertaken since last year's meeting
- 2) Brainstorm ideas to promote International Track and recruit MAEd/ESL students
- 3) Identify needs and goals for the coming year

3. Summary of the last ESL Advisory Council meeting (2/15/11)

We described the proposal that had been submitted for a separate master's degree with 3 tracks.

We discussed the need to find additional adult teaching placements for the MAEd/ESL students—

Pre-practicum experiences: observing, tutoring, assisting, and/or teaching (100 hours); and

Practicum: teaching a semester-long course and doing targeted observations (200 hours).

We revisited the needs of ESL service providers: staffing, ongoing professional development, and

The Literacy Council's annual conference (October) for ESOL instructors.

4. What progress has been made since the last ESL Advisory Council meeting?

Creation of Advisory Council webpage on our newly transitioned ESL website www.uab.edu/esl

(Ask everyone to sign releases for photos that will be taken during today's meeting.)

Approval by the Alabama Commission on Higher Education (3/11/11) & UA System Trustees (4/8/11):

- Separate ESL master's degree (MAEd/ESL) with 3 tracks (traditional, alternative, international)
- Renovated curriculum for the International Track

EESL 610 *Second language acquisition*: Fall & Spring (Monday evening)

EESL 615 *Grammar for ESL Teachers*: Fall (Wednesday evening) & Summer (1-week in June)

EESL 617 *Teaching English in a Global Context*: Fall (online)

EESL 625 *Phonology for ESL Teachers*: Fall (Tuesday evening) & Spring (5 Saturdays)

EESL 627 *Teaching adult language learners*: May (Tuesday/Thursday evening & Saturday)

EESL 637 *Methods for Teaching English as an International Language*: Spring (Tuesday evening)

EESL 647 *Instruction and Assessment: Reading and Writing*: Fall (Thursday evening)

EESL 657 *Instruction and Assessment: Listening and Speaking*: Spring (Thursday evening)

EESL 687 *Practicum Seminar*: Seminars for 2 weeks in June (Tu/Th/Sat); other activities in Fall

EESL 697 *ESL Practicum: Adult ELLs*: Fall/Spring/Summer (TBA)

GRD 704 *Specialized Instruction* (shadowing): Fall/Spring/Summer (TBA)

Enrollment of graduate students from several diverse venues:

English teachers from abroad (Oscar), students in exchange programs (Giuliana), graduates of UAB's international studies major (Jason), volunteers in faith-based programs (David), and former missionaries (Lorie).

Alumni = 26 (18 from former non-certification option, 2005-11; and 8 International Track, 2011-12):

Teaching Fellowships: U.S. Dept. of State's English Language Fellows (Cary went to Indonesia);

Employment: 6 UAB, 2 UA, 1 Samford (+4 other), 1 BSC, 1 Mercer Univ, 1 FLP (+2), 1 TLC,

3 community colleges (+2), 1 private schools (Chinese), and 3 overseas (Ch, Jap, Thai).

Responses to needs—Established and/or implemented the following:

Lab School at SOE: English Conversation Classes (formerly at Smolian International House).

Research Studies: (1) Interviews with 6 alumni from our former non-certification option, and

(2) Questionnaire and interviews with parents in Shelby's Family Literacy Program.

Partnerships (posted on C&I website): The Literacy Council (annual ESOL Conference, Prince of

Peace, & state correctional facilities); Greater B'ham Returned Peace Corps Volunteers.

Former Projects (examples): Smolian International House (curriculum & in-take assessment),

Briarwood (curriculum), and St. Francis Xavier (design & implementation).

5. What are current needs/challenges/goals regarding ESL instruction for adult language learners?

UAB Semester placements for pre-practicum/practicum students & 1-day visits by EESL 610 students;

Promotion of International Track and recruitment of MAEd/ESL students:

1-page flyer (new), 5-page advising packet, and ESL website www.uab.edu/esl ; and

Graduate assistantships at UAB's ELI (which includes an out-of-state tuition waiver) =>

Proposal for partnership with the Peace Corps for its Master's International Program.

HB 56 Symposium organized by BACHE, Th/Fri February 9-10 at UAB and Samford.

Colleges, Schools, and Community Programs: *Please share*

6. How can UAB's MAE/ESL program continue to help ESL service providers? *Let's brainstorm!*