



**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

**We want to hear
what is happening
with you!**

Email:
esol@umbc.edu

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UMBC TESOL

Program Newsletter

FALL NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2014

Visit the RCLC by Will Armstrong, Nichole Cohen, and Vathany Say

The Resource Center for Language and Culture (RCLC) is a language and culture-focused library run by the UMBC Department of Education with the support of the Maryland State Department of Education. For over 20 years, students, faculty, visiting scholars, and business professionals have been utilizing the resources available at the RCLC to learn about language instruction, language learning, and world culture. The RCLC has over 20,000 print and non-print materials available including curriculum guides, linguistics, general education, content-specific lesson guides, cross cultural communication, methods, testing and evaluation, foreign language learning, and more. The RCLC primarily houses books, but there are also DVDs and activity materials to borrow. There is a computer available for research and a table for study/group work. For

graduate students, many of the current course textbooks are available to use in the library, as well as past 794 projects that can be used as examples.

The mission of the RCLC is to provide resources and services to individuals interested in teaching and learning English, other languages, and cross-cultural communication.

The RCLC is located in room 102 of Sherman Hall, West Wing, and is open Mon.– Thurs. from 12– 8 PM. Contact via phone at 410-455-3694 or email rclc@umbc.edu.

Librarians are Vathany Say, Nicole Cohen, and Will Armstrong. Feel free to stop by and check out some of the 70 new titles we've just gotten in.



Fall 2014 Graduates !

The following ESOL/Bilingual students have applied to graduate from their MA program or to complete their certificate program this fall.

Warmest wishes and the best of luck in your future endeavors!

Please keep in touch with us as we greatly enjoying hearing from our graduates!

MA TESOL Graduates:

- Lisa Avolio
- Rosanna Bartoletti
- Terah Buteau
- Wade Chilcoat
- Emily Grey
- Melinda Helene
- Ashley Hughes
- Anna Smoot
- Elizabeth Mattson-Stewart
- Lindsay Waskow

TESOL Certificate Graduates:

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Cristy Baker | Patricia Montley |
| Danielle Callender | Vanessa Nakoski |
| Alexish Cornish | John Preston |
| Sheila Davis | Kathryn Sherwick |
| Sarah Everhart | Jill Smudski |
| Hui Liang | Carly Waple |
| Kristen McManus | Vanessa Zoulis |

Teaching in Indonesia

Lauren Raughbaugh, MA TESOL



Photo: Lauren Raubagh with her students in China

I am currently in Indonesia teaching for the next nine months with the Fulbright English Teaching Assistant (ETA) program. I arrived on the first of September to the big city of Bandung, along with about 35 other recent graduates for two weeks of in-

tensive language training and cultural orientation. We were staying in a five-star hotel, which was great, but also put on hold the experience of truly living in Indonesia. I'm there now, however! I recently arrived at my site in Kendal, a small town in Central Java, and am the only foreigner around with a huge, beautiful house all to myself. It might get lonely, but it is also the truest and most complete form of cultural immersion I can possibly imagine. I am assisting grade ten at an Islamic boarding school (Indonesia is the most populous Muslim country in the world). It's definitely a cultural shock so far, but I am excited to embrace this

experience! This is my third time teaching abroad. The first chance came after my first year of the MA TESOL program at UMBC, when Dr. Nelson arranged for fellow student Marissa Mosk (who is currently working in Tunisia!) and I to travel to Guayaquil, Ecuador for the summer, which was amazing. After graduating with my MA, and during the process of applying for my Fulbright, I traveled to Dongying, China to teach first grade for ten months! I have nothing bad to say about that entire experience, and strongly recommend everyone add China to their list of countries to see. I was back in the States for only two months before leaving for Indonesia, which was a little insane, but I guess I've caught the travel bug!

"We stayed at an ecological dairy farm and the students enjoyed my team-building activities along with taking turns riding the rather large resident pig."

Pura Vida Volunteer

Shannon McClung, MA TESOL

My summer kicked off to an amazing start with ten fun-filled weeks in Flamingo, Guanacaste, Costa Rica. This was my third and longest trip to Costa Rica with the main focus of volunteering with English language learners at a local school while taking Spanish classes. My days were filled with four hours of my own

Spanish lessons in the mornings at CPI Spanish Immersion School and then four hours of volunteering with the fantastic 6th-10th graders at La Paz Community School (an IB, Bilingual K-12

school). I was invited on the 6th grade field trip to the cloud forests of Monte Verde where the Quakers built a yummy cheese factory. We stayed at an ecological dairy farm and the students enjoyed my team-building activities along with taking turns riding the rather large resident pig. For the majority of my trip, I stayed local, walked all over the surrounding area and

even bought a used bike to shorten my commute between CPI and La Paz. I watched numerous breathtaking sunsets with my new friends at a variety of gorgeous beaches and thoroughly enjoyed my acceptance into the local Tico community during the World Cup events. These days I have taken to wearing a small seashell around my neck and am counting down the days until my return next summer. Please let me know if you'd like to join me!



Photo: Shannon McClung with La Paz Community Students in Costa Rica



Thoughts from a New Student

Kristine Alvarez Flynn, MA TESOL

Hi, I'm Kristine M. Alvarez Flynn, Kris for short. I am from Baltimore, Maryland and have never lived anywhere else, although I have visited many other places including Colombia, South America. I started college thirteen years after I graduated from Sparrows Point High School. I transferred to UMBC from CCBC in fall 2011 with an Associate of Arts in Teaching Spanish. I researched and contacted several colleges before choosing UMBC. I originally chose a major in English Literature with Teacher Certification; however, I dropped the certification and added a Psychology minor knowing I planned to enter the MA TESOL program with Teacher Certification later. In the TESOL program, I hope to work with

peers and staff who will teach me more about how to be an effective, efficient, and exciting teacher. When I finish the program, I hope to continue my learning experience as a teacher of K-12 and adult learners. I am also a mother and wife. I have three children (ages 3, 11, and 16). For the past three years, I have owned and operated a licensed in-home child care in Baltimore County. I am the handyman, contractor, and domestic engineer of the household. My husband works full-time plus. I am attempting to balance school work with my family and 'me time.' I think the ESOL Club events are an excellent way to accomplish that balance.



Top Photo: Kristine Alvarez Flynn, new MA TESOL student

Bottom Photo: Diane Dunlap giving a presentation at CCSA.



Alumni Updates

Sharon Lee 2014 MA TESOL:

I am currently teaching speaking and listening, reading, writing, vocabulary, and grammar for the Intensive English Program at the English Language Institute at UMBC. In addition, I teach an advanced Pre-GED course at Baltimore City Community College. The class is full of diversity in culture, and intercultural communicative interaction with students from Africa, South America, Central America, Asia, and/or the Middle East. The class conditions are greatly open for me to apply all of the methodologies I learned from the TESOL M.A. Program.

Diane Dunlap 2013 MA TESOL:

I gave a presentation on using Facebook in the classroom at the 13th National Conference for English Teachers at Centro Cul-

tural Salvadoreno Americano (CCSA) in El Salvador. I am giving a workshop on the same theme at Montgomery College in Germantown on Nov. 13 as part of the E-Learning, Innovation, and Teaching Excellence (ELITE) professional development program. My presentation will include previous research using Facebook with the Voice of America and will add lessons learned from using Facebook in the two classes I am teaching this fall at Montgomery College: American English Language Reading and Speaking.

Jeremy Slagoski, 2002 MA TESOL:

I have completed my dissertation and will earn my PhD from the University of Iowa in Teaching & Learning (Foreign Language & ESL Education). My dissertation was about the adjustment process/cultural learning of sojourning English language teachers in Japan and South

Korea.

I am currently employed at Kirkwood Community College as an instructional designer, but I am now looking for a position that will put my research skills & teaching interests to use. I'd like you to know that my education at UMBC was paramount to my success as a PhD student and instructional designer.

Congratulations!

We would like to congratulate Thawng Suan Piang on his wedding. Piang is a current MA TESOL student and Fulbright Scholar. He married Cing Sian Hau on May 23, 2014. We wish you both happiness and a wonderful life together!



Spring 2015 UMBC-Maryland TESOL Graduate Student Conference

SATURDAY MARCH 7, 2015

Calls for proposals will be announced in January

KUDOS!

KUDOS to our scholarship recipients

Lisa Avolio—Delta Kappa Gamma Scholarship

Diane Green—Education Scholarship

Anna Smoot—Gudelsky Scholarship

**Rachelle Woods— Gudelsky Scholarship and
Delta Kappa Gamma Scholarship**



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We're on Facebook! Search: UMBC ESOL Program

Visit the RCLC website!

www.umbc.edu/rclc