

Summer, 2010

# Dialogue

SDCCD  
Continuing  
Education

ESL Newsletter



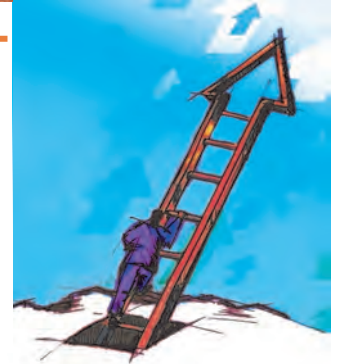
## Jottings—June, 2010 by Gretchen Bitterlin

It is only fitting that the entire theme of this issue of Dialogue be devoted to “ESL Teacher and Staff Appreciation.” We appreciate them first for their outstanding instruction in the classroom, but we often neglect to express our appreciation for the countless activities that our instructors, staff, and volunteers participate in outside of the classroom to improve our program. These activities include curriculum development, committee work, special projects, assessment, tutoring, and professional development. A new category this year is fundraising. We raised over \$2000 for our Bachman/Jennings Emergency Book Fund and implemented a program to provide free books to needy ESL students. Whenever a new program is developed, additional clerical support is required to implement it. We thank Karen King, our administrative technician, for her help in managing this fund. Joining Karen in the ESL Resource Office are the following staff members that handle all the details in running our program: Maude Verdin, Librarian; Chao Xiong, CASAS testing techni-

cian; Betsy Flynn and Javier Vargas, office assistants. Nothing would get done without these wonderful people.

I must also take this opportunity to acknowledge our Assistant Program Chairs and Coordinators - Ann Marie Damrau, Jim Brice, Ingrid Greenberg, Corinne Layton, Steve Gwynne, Barbara Raifsnider, Barbara Pongsrikul, Cindy Wislofsky, Donna Price, and Jan Forstrom. They work way beyond their hours to support their instructors at each campus and keep the program running smoothly.

I would like to take this opportunity to especially thank Ann Marie Damrau. As of September, 2010, she will be stepping down as ESL Assistant Program Chair of West City. Ann Marie has served as an Assistant Program Chair for the past 10 years - serving Mid City, Cesar Chavez, and West City. In every single assignment, she has come up with new and creative ideas for improving our program and devoted countless hours of her time in implementing those changes and innovations. She is a leader who believes in action in getting things done to better



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## Jottings . . .



serve our students and staff. We have all benefitted greatly from her creativity and personal touch. At our recent ESL APC retreat, she spontaneously served up a gourmet breakfast and led us in a team building activity that allowed us to show appreciation for each other. We will truly miss her leadership as an APC but look forward to her sharing with us ideas for integrating cell phone technology in the classroom, the subject of her sabbatical in the spring semester, 2011.

vious coordination and teacher training experience.

As you review the accomplishments of all the instructors, staff, and volunteers in this issue of Dialogue, notice how many names are repeated over and over again. This speaks to their incredible dedication to our program and what makes our program so successful.

Last, but not least, it is the time of year to express appreciation for our ESL Dean, Alma McGee. She has the biggest program in Continuing Education and is phenomenal in her ability to keep all the balls up in the air.



Barbara Pongsrikul, CBET Coordinator, will replace Ann Marie Damrau as the APC of West City Campus. To assist Barbara with CBET, we welcome Laurel Slater to our Resource Office, who will share CBET coordination duties with Barbara Pongsrikul. Laurel is a CBET instructor and has pre-

## Promising Practices Award for Personal Care Assistant/Caregiver Class

Congratulations to Donna Price and Manuel Gallegos, Teachers of our new VESL Personal Care Assistant/Caregiver class. The implementation of the I-BEST model of instruction in this class has earned it a WIA II Promising Practices Award. The award will be presented to Alma McGee, ESL Dean, by a California Department of Education Administrator at the 2010 CASAS Summer Institute California Consortium Meeting on June 18, 2010.





## Teacher Acknowledgements

We acknowledge the following instructors for their contributions to our program in a variety of areas this past year:

**ASB/ Student government** - Carolisa Morgan ( Centre City), Rheba Smith (West City).

**Field testing of new CASAS tests** - Donna Rosen, Leah Haerber

**San Diego Regional CATESOL Conference presenters** - Donna Price, Gretchen Bitterlin, Ingrid Greenberg, Jim Brice, Cindy Wislofsky, Stephanie Thomas, Kathren Bouldin, Steve Gwynne

**CATESOL State Conference Presenters:** Donna Price, Gretchen Bitterlin, Ingrid Greenberg, Ann Marie Damrau, Jan Forstrom

**Presenters at the CATESOL Conference Feedback Session:** Donna Price, Gretchen Bitterlin, Ingrid Greenberg, Ann Marie Damrau, Jan Forstrom, Cindi Hartman, Andrea Sperling, David Holden, Chris Stone, Marla Goldfine

**Contributors to public folders-**  
Stephanie Thomas

**Contributors to the Dialogue newsletter** -  
Lynn Francis , Edith Krieger, Steve Gwynne, Mimi Pollack, Sandie Linn.

**ESL Lab Networking Committee** - Chair: Jim Brice  
Cindy Wislofsky, Donna Price, Gretchen Bitterlin, Corinne Layton, Steve Gwynne, Beth Bogage, Wes Popham, Liz Flynn, Richard Weinroth, David Hamrah, and Xanh Lam.

**ESL Learner Persistence Committee** - Chair: Corinne Layton  
Cindy Wislofsky, Barbara Pongsrikul, Connie Falconer, Elissa Claar, Gretchen Bitterlin, Jim Brice, Sharon Javdan, Sheri Bartlett, Starlene Dahl

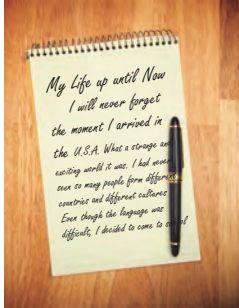
**ESL Textbook Committee** - Chairs: Barbara Raifsnider and Ann McCrory  
Barbara Pongsrikul; Cindi Hartman; Corinne Layton; Gretchen Bitterlin; Jan Forstrom; Jane Halsema; Jim Brice; Magdalena Krupa-Kwiatkowski; Nancy Johansen; Susan Morgan; Victoria Regier; Xanh Lam, Richard Weinroth

**Teachers who assisted students write essays for scholarships** -  
Sandie Linn, Louise Winheld, Marcy Bergqvist, Barbara Raifsnider, Donna Price, Remy Lopez, Ann Gianola, Stephanie Thomas,



## Teacher Acknowledgments Continued

Iryna Scharer- Filatova, Kathren Bouldin, Beth Bogage, Steve Gwynne, Rheba Smith, Magdalena Krupa-Kwiatkowski, Toni Fernandez, Carol Goldstein, Ann McCrory.



### Four of Beth Bogage's students won scholarships.

Guillermo Recillas (2 awards)

-Norma Ledesma Memorial Scholarship

-ECC Raymond Farmer Award

Angie Chavez -Maxine Williams AFT Scholarship

Eliuth Perez -Maxine Williams AFT Scholarship

Cindy Mora -Maxine Williams AFT Scholarship

### The following students in Donna Price's class received scholarships:

Tomoko Kurihara (ASB)

Beatriz Gonzalez (ASB)

Maria T. Pacheco (Classified Senate)

Yazmin Roman (Autumn Keltner Memorial)

**Technology mentors** - Cindy Wislofsky, Donna Price, Steve Gwynne, Ann Marie Damrau

**ESL Technology Plan Committee** - Barbara Raifsnider, Barbara Pongsrikul, Karen King, Donna Price, Ann Marie Damrau, Cindy Wislofsky, Corinne Layton, Zad Pishyar, Tim Saylor, Veronika Norris, Jim Brice

**Technology workshop presenters** - Sandie Linn ( E-rollbook) Steve Gwynne & Cindy Wislofsky (Google Docs)

**The following instructors piloted a new ESL course: ESL Level 6 - Transition to College:** - Marcy Bergqvist, Susan Morgan

**The following instructors participated in the implementation of the US-CIS Golden Door Grant with the International Rescue Committee:** Rosa Elena Pilco, Mechelle Perrott, Colleen Fitzmaurice

### Volunteers in ESL classes:

Christine Gommel, Lonnie Brunini, Marcelo Pilco, Cong Ngo, Veronica Susan Romero Sullivan, Erica Gosling, Mario Eyzaguirres, Lynn Graves

**Curriculum Deveopment for New Personal Caregiver class** - Donna Price  
**Advertising in El Latino newspaper** - Thomas Williams

### Other accomplishments:

Jessica Chambers got her Master's Degree in Applied Linguistics.

Ingrid Greenberg piloted Blackboard online for ESL levels 6-7 in the Spring semester, 2010.

**Peer Coaching Participants:** Lyn Francis, Liz Flynn.

**Campus Wide Celebration at West City:** Ann McCrory and Rheba Smith



*Cindy Keltner presents the first Annual Autumn Keltner Scholarships to Yazmin Roman and Woinshet Worku.*



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## ESL Program Makes Progress with SLOs

By Gretchen Bitterlin

A year ago, our ESL SLO committee developed student learning outcomes in writing and wrote scoring rubrics to assess the outcomes. This past year instructors volunteered to field test the rubrics in their classrooms. After testing, the following 33 instructors attended training sessions for scoring the writing assessments holistically, using the rubrics. They are to be commended for taking this extra time to administer the writing assessments in their classes:

Amy Watt, Ann McCrory, Barbara Pongsrikul, Barbara Raifsnider, Carol Goldstein, Christine Stone, Cindi Hartman, Cindy Keltner, Cindy Wislofsky, Diane Desroches, Ingrid Greenberg, Jan Forstrom, Jean Washington, Jim Brice, Laurel Slater, Louise Winheld, Magdalena Krupa-Kwiatowski, Nancy Johansen, Patty Griffiths, Rheba Smith, Rose Babayan, Stacia Castaneda, Valerie Long, Victoria Regier, Jessica Maguire, Kenna Veatch, Kristen Young, Lynn Francis, Marina Vera, Marla Goldfine, Mozhdeh Fadavizad, Catalina Vela, and Paula Oswald.

The scoring sessions were extremely valuable as they provided opportunities for instructors to evaluate the rubrics and make recommendations for changes. They also had a chance to

network with each other across levels to discuss the writing expectations at each level. The overall conclusion reached was how important it is to practice writing several times before doing the actual SLO assessments. We were amazed to see the tremendous writing improvement in the less literate level 2 writing assessments from Stacia Castaneda's class. Susan Morgan, our Transitional ESL Course instructor, also has reported great writing gains among her students. One student, in particular, could be a role model for all students. He began studying ESL in level 2 at the Miramar campus and worked his way up to level 6. Having had only 6 years of previous education in his native country, Guatemala, writing was always a challenge for him, but he persevered. Susan just reported that he wrote a model essay in her class and made an outstanding oral presentation.

We look forward to continuing the specially funded workshops for scoring writing assessments in the coming year. We would also like to thank Corinne Layton for revising the writing assessment guides per level.



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## Instructors Push EL Civics to New Heights

By Jan Forstrom

Thanks to the professionalism and dedication of ESL instructors across our program, the EL Civics program soared to new levels of class participation, curriculum development and one-to-one performance assessments this year. This has been a record-making year, and we owe all the success to the dedicated many that made it all happen.

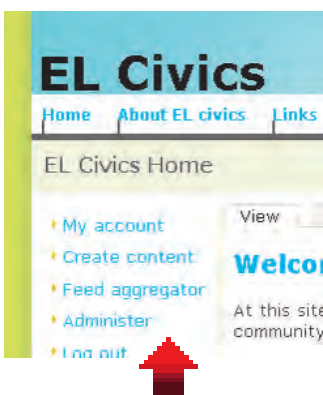
*"We owe all the success to the dedicated many who made it happen."*

While it is now required for every class that conducts CASAS testing to implement at least one EL Civics objective per year, the following 55 teachers went above and beyond and implemented additional objectives in their classes: Miguel Blancas, Jessica Chambers, Elissa Claar, Jackie Clifford, Cathy Coxey, Jane Cranston, Robin Davee, Diane DesRoches, Mozdeh Fadavizad, Connie Falconer, Rolly Fanton, Liz Flynn, Karen Fonseca, Lynn Francis, Elaine Fuller-Zachey, Erica Fulton, Maria Gomez, Francisco Guevara, Steve Gwynne, Leah Haerber, Jane Halsema, Rubina Husain, Sally Jacobson, Nancy Johansen, Robert Johnston, Cindy Keltner, Magdalena Kwiatowski, Xanh Lam, Corrine Layton, Gloria Liberberg, Valerie Long, Jessica Maguire, Ondine Massot, Ann McCrory, Carolyn McGavock, Patricia Miyamoto, Thelma Moore, Carolissa Morgan, Veronika Norris, Jeanna Osborn, Paula Oswald, Lizette Quimby, Barbara Raifsnider, David Santana, Eileen Schmitz, Elizann Senior, Elvira Sirkia, Rheba Smith, Ola Steenhagen, Chris Stone, Guillermo Valdivia, Kenna Veatch, Marina Vera, Amy Watt, Cindy Wislofsky.

The EL Civics Website has been moved to the district Website increasing visibility and accessibility, and a number of new links and activities have been added. Thanks to Steve Gwynne, EL Civics Webmaster, and also to Liz Flynn and Beth Boggage for contributing activities they created for their respective classes.

New curriculum has been added to better meet the needs and interests of advanced level students. Carolyn McGavock, Chris Stone, and Marla Goldfine created curriculum for #14 (educational goals) and #32 (careers and career requirements) to offer lessons and assessments correlated to advanced level SLO writing assessments.

The following instructors participated in special Flex training and/or Independent Flex Projects to hone their skills in implementing EL Civics and/or revise/create student activities for EL Civics: Henry Ajceo, Jackie Clifford, Jane Cranston, Uta Cole, Carol Goldstein, Patty Griffiths, Cindy Keltner, Edith Krieger, Xanh Lam, Sandie Linn, Valerie Long, Wes Popham, Madonna Ostrye, Misha Sumner, Marina Vera, Matt Zobin,



We're on the Web.  
Just click!



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## Good News for CBET



We have good news. The Community-Based English Tutoring Program (CBET) will be funded for fall 2010 to spring 2011. We would like to thank the following instructors who helped with CBET advocacy efforts.

### CBET Advocacy:

#### Teachers who spoke at board meetings:

- [Maja Czapla](#)
- [Laurel Slater](#)
- [Iryna Scharer-Filatova](#)

#### Teachers who spoke at community meetings:

- Stephanie Thomas

#### Teachers Attending Board Meetings:

Maja Czapla, Laurel Slater, Iryna Scharer-Filatova, Carolisa Morgan, Erica Fulton

#### Teachers that had students write letters to San Diego Unified Board Members:

[Mozhdeh Fadavizad](#)  
[Ann Gianola](#)  
[Carolisa Morgan](#)  
[Laurel Slater](#)  
[Ana Traganza](#)

[Erica Fulton](#)  
[Sharon Javdan](#)  
[Iryna Scharer-Filatova](#)  
[Stephanie Thomas](#)  
[Dolores Vasquez](#)

#### CBET workshop presenters:

[Stephanie Thomas](#)  
[Ann Gianola](#)

#### Contributors to Public Folders:

[Stephanie Thomas](#)

#### Teachers who assisted students in writing essays:

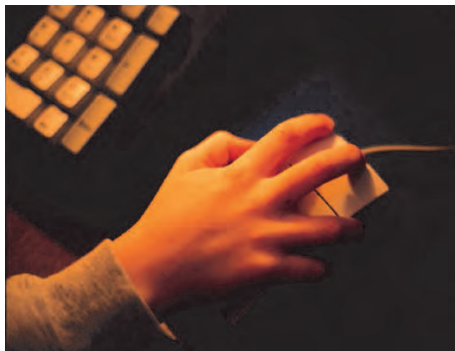
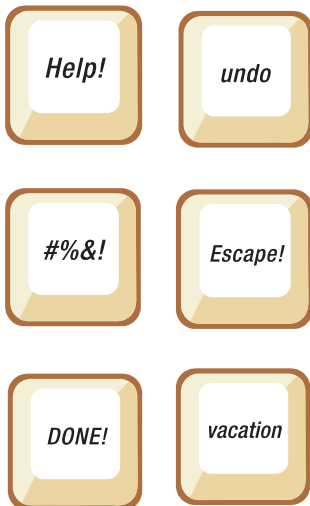
[Ann Gianola](#), [Stephanie Thomas](#) and [Iryna Scharer-Filatova](#) helped students.



## ESL Teachers/Staff Who Received Technology Assistance 2009-2010

By Cindy Wislofsky

The following teachers improved their technology skills by participating in one-to-one technology training, technology workshop training, or observed a technology demo lesson in their classroom.



Amy Watt	Kristin Young
Ana Olivensky	Lesley Robin
Angie Moeen	Lien Kheo
Ann Marie Damrau	Marina Platunova
Barbara Pongsrikul	Mimi Pollack
Bob Johnston	Mindy Tenen
Carolisa Morgan	Nancy Johansen
Cathy Coxey	Neil Dewse
Celia Lujan	Patricia Miyamoto
Cindy Terry	Patty Griffiths
Colleen Fitzmaurice	Paula Oswald
Corinne Layton	Rheba Smith
David Santana	Richard Weinroth
Donna Price	Robin Davee
Elaine Barrett	Rolly Fanton
Elizabeth Osborn	Rosa-Elena Pilco
Elvira Sirkia	Rose Babayan
Gladys Gonzalez	Sally Jacobson
Gretchen Bitterlin	Sean Caruana
Jackie Clifford	Starlene Dahl
Jan Forstrom	Stephanie Thomas
Jane Cranston	Susan Morgan
Jane Halsema	Thelma Moore
Jean All	Toan Humphrey
Jean Washington	Uta Cole
Jeannie Ross	Valerie Long
Jim Brice	Vikki Regier
Kenna Veatch	Martha Ponce

### Technology Training Workshops presented:

1. Outlook E-mail Basics - Sept. 09 (Donna Price + Cindy Wislofsky)
2. Quia + Spelling City Vocabulary - Nov. 09 (Donna Price + Cindy Wislofsky)
3. Paperless Activities - Nov. 09 (Gretchen Bitterlin + Ann Marie Damrau)
4. Quia Website Creation - March '10 (Donna Price + Cindy Wislofsky)
5. Creating Web pages with Wordpress - April '10 ( OTAN)
6. Google Docs - May '10 (Steve Gwynne + Cindy Wislofsky)



## Edith Krieger Retires

After 30 years teaching ESL in our program, primarily at the Mid City Campus, Edith Krieger is retiring and moving to Israel to be with her grandchildren. Before coming to teach for us in 1980, Edith was a contributing author for the English Alpha textbook series in the Bay Area and had experience teaching ESL in Israel. Her first assignment was at Midway Adult (currently West City) teaching with Caroline Hamlin. Edith taught a level 1 literacy class primarily for the Lao Hmong refugees at that time. After that she taught at Harbor View (now Chavez) and later she taught off campus with Francisco Guevara and Natalie Ramuno. For the past 7-8 years she has taught at the main Mid City campus teaching mostly levels 2 and 3.

Edith will always be known for her skills in developing classroom community through conversation, dialogue, and role play. According to Edith, “if there is community and comradery among students, they will look forward to coming to school to see their classmates,» so this is a huge factor in maintaining learner persistence. Obviously she has been very successful because she was one of only 17 teachers last year to have more than 90% paired CASAS scores in her classroom. Because of her conviction that class community is so important, she is a huge fan of managed enrollment; in fact, she was one of the first teachers to pilot managed enrollment at Mid City and swears by it as strategy to enhance learning. In reflecting on

her ESL teaching career, Edith said that in addition to building community, “teacher creativity is an essential tool in fostering student learning.” She believes that we must keep students engaged by doing a variety of learning activities in each class session - pronunciation, listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Humor is a big help as well.

When I asked Edith if she had any particular memories to share, she said there were so many she couldn’t pick one, but one event that occurred will always stay with her - an event that actually happened after her class one day. In her class one semester were two nuns from Mexico, and an Ethiopian monk. The nuns had told their catholic priest that their teacher spoke Hebrew, so one day the Catholic priest came by after class and told her he knew a well known Hebrew prayer, so he proceeded to sing the prayer to her, the two nuns from Mexico, and the Ethiopian monk all gathered outside her classroom. It was one of those pristine moments when total harmony and peace prevailed.

From observing Edith many times, I would say that she had many of those moments because of the wonderful dynamics and community in her classroom. One of her Vietnamese students told her, “ You teach with your heart.” Yes, Edith, you will be truly missed by both your students and colleagues.



***“You teach  
from your  
heart.”***



## Pen Pal Project

by Mimi Pollack

I am a level 6 teacher and sometimes getting my students to write is like pulling teeth, so I came up with the pen pal project this semester. My students have been emailing American pen pals. For the most part, this has been a successful project.

I started by posting on Facebook to see if any of my friends were interested in partaking in this project. I got four bites. Then, I sent an email out to select people on my list, and I got three bites. Finally, I sent out a blanket email to most of the people on my list, and was surprised by the people who agreed to volunteer. Lesson one: never make assumptions about people. I ended up with 22 pen pals, including fellow ESL teachers, my sister, friends of my sister, personal friends, Sara Ferguson's parents, and even an ESL teacher in France. They were from different areas. About 48 students participated.

Next, I set up email accounts for my students. I used hotmail, yahoo, and gmail because using just one overloaded it. Next I assigned partners and emails. I tried to match people up according to likes, etc. The first time I wrote a short introduction on the board and suggested questions to get the ball rolling. Our ESL computer lab is next door, so that also helped. I had the higher level and more computer proficient students help me with the lower level ones. We did this once a week. By the second and third week, the students were very excited to read their pen pals' answers.

Later, I started giving the students writing assignments. They had to not only answer their pen pals, they also had to write them their assignments, and then copy and paste just the assignments to Word and print them for me, so I could correct them.

After doing this for one semester, I can honestly say that it was mostly a positive experience. Most of the pen pals really got into it, as did their partners, and emailed faithfully. Some of them corrected the students' mistakes. Others sent pictures which delighted the students and they shared them with the class. Sara's father invited his pen pal, Rafael, to come and visit him in Colorado! It was also a bonding experience for the students.

However, there were some students who refused to participate and I didn't push them. They wrote their assignments by hand in the classroom. Not all of the pen pals fully participated. Finally, because of the nature of our open entry/open exit program, some pen pals had several different partners, so there wasn't always consistency. Nevertheless, when it worked, it worked well, and I am glad I did it. If you have any questions, please contact me at [mpollack@sdccd.edu](mailto:mpollack@sdccd.edu)





## ESL Lab Networking Committee

Being the chair of the ESL Lab Networking Committee is like getting to manage a Major League Baseball All Star team (The Geek Squad? The Musketeers? The Clickers?). Some members of the team are **Cindy Wislofsky, Donna Price, Gretchen Bitterlin, Corinne Layton, Steve Gwynne, Beth Bogage, Wes Popham, Liz Flynn, Richard Weinroth, David Hamrah, and Xanh Lam**. See what I mean? So, I just cheer from the dugout and flash cryptic coded signs and enjoy the game.

Here are the highlights and play by play from the 2009-2010 season (Most of the links and activities are on Public Folders as well): At our first meeting, Cindy demonstrated how to set up classroom activities using the Jeopardy PowerPoint template and gave committee members CD's of it for their sites. Beth shared some of her experiences from the state CATESOL, highlighting two sites in particular for high intermediate and advanced classes:

[www.englishmeeting.com](http://www.englishmeeting.com) , where Beth suggested that teachers and students can find videos and listening material to match topics, grammar and pronunciation points etc., and [www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4516989](http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4516989) , which is a list of podcasts with story scripts, which teachers can use to develop lessons based on interesting

themes. Richard noted that the Voice of America has a similar site which he uses for level 4 readers [www.voanews.com/specialenglish/](http://www.voanews.com/specialenglish/) .David Hamrah mentioned how he uses Google Docs in collaborative activities between teachers and students. Cindy and Steve later did a whole workshop on Google Docs. Liz talked about making sound files with Aspect vs. traditional Quia sound files. Teachers shared how they are posting syllabi and course work on their class web sites. (See examples on the side bar.)

At our next meeting/game, Donna reported on the computer needs from her VESL class and stressed that students need to feel confident using email, which is essential now for applying for jobs online. Donna also recommended that student job seekers check out [www.indeed.com](http://www.indeed.com) . We also made some handouts showing students how to use online job applications from company web sites (from The 99 Cent Store to Walmart, they all have them now) and reviewed sites as a committee.

## Teachers' Class

### Websites:



### Donna Price's:

[www.quia.com/pages/donna/page6](http://www.quia.com/pages/donna/page6)

### Beth's:

<http://ecc6.blogspot.com/>

### Wes's:

<http://wes-esl.yolasite.com/>

### Sandie's:

[www.sandielinn.wordpress.com](http://www.sandielinn.wordpress.com)

### Jim's:

[www.eslwithjim.edublogs.org](http://www.eslwithjim.edublogs.org)

### Steve's:

<http://veslclass.com>



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## Special Book Project in Sandie Linn's Class



*“The photo with the student wearing the Continuing Education shirt, Hamilton, gives an added touch of CE connection.”*



*“The photo with Daniel and Olivia and others includes the CCTV for Katy, who is visually impaired.”*



*“In the photo with the interpreter, David Janisch, you can see how his signing makes a visual picture of the words.”*

Students in Sandie Linn's ESL/ABE class read the book, *Child of the Jungle* by Sabine Kuegler during Spring Semester 2010. The book takes place in West Papua, Indonesia and the author tells the story of how she spent her childhood growing up caught between two cultures and two worlds. Her parents are missionaries from Germany who were stationed in West Papua during their children's formative years.

The students enjoyed a vicarious adventure by reading one chapter each night and answering key questions during a book discussion session each day. In addition to that, students wrote a weekly essay on a topic brought out in the book. Their final assignments for this book project were a Power Point presentation and a book review.

To provide a class set of the novel for the students, Sandie communicated with the author and was able to get the set of books at almost no cost. On the day I observed Sandie's class, they were reviewing a chapter that had the theme of infidelity in it. The different perspectives on this topic from the variety of cultures present in Sandie's class were fascinating to listen to. Sandie is to be commended for facilitating this interesting project and also going green by teaching her class without any hard copy handouts this year. With the benefit of computers in her class, the students did all their work online.



*“In the photo with Gretchen, not only is each student from a different country, but two are Deaf and the others are hearing.” Sandie*



## Summary of ESL Accomplishments 2009–2010

### I. CASAS Testing/ Assessment/ Orientation

Improved data collection  
Implemented FLEX activity to  
support evaluation of CASAS data in order to select next tests  
Hired team to do May make-up testing

### II. Student Learning Outcomes

Continued SLO committee through ancillary funding  
Wrote writing SLO rubrics for all levels  
Wrote writing packets to train teachers on using SLOs  
Implemented writing assessments in selected classes  
Applied for ancillary funding to support two workshops for holistic  
scoring of writing assessments  
Referred 6 ESL students for SLO poster project

### III. Staff Development

Presented new SCANS workshop  
Presented new workshop on Paperless Activities in the ESL classroom  
Presented Fall technology workshop  
Presented two workshops on creating web pages - Quia and  
Wordpress  
Presented new workshop on multi-level instruction  
Facilitated core textbook networking meetings - Ventures and  
Excellent English  
Presented Cooperative learning workshop  
Presented workshop on using Google Docs  
Technology mentoring by Cindy  
Presented workshops to train teachers on holistic scoring of SLO  
assessments

### IV. Instruction/ Curriculum

Implemented new Transitional ESL Course  
Secured BSI funding to support materials for Transitional ESL Course  
Implemented new Personal Care Assistant/Caregiver Class  
Greater implementation of core texts  
Began revision of Pronunciation course outline and development of  
new beginning course outline in Pronunciation  
Began new course outline for the Computer Lab  
Developed curriculum for Senior Citizenship Class  
Participated in CB21 alignment process - non-credit/credit ESL  
courses  
Developed lessons on H1N1 flu  
Developed lessons on the census



**V. EL Civics**

Added new objective - #12  
Refined other objectives  
Increased participation in EL Civics  
Expanded one-to-one training sessions  
Arranged for guest speakers in the classroom from the San Diego Police Dept.

**VI. Citizenship**

Partnered with IRC in the Golden Door Grant  
Wrote curriculum for new Senior Citizenship class  
Provided materials for home tutor training  
Provided two workshops for Citizenship teachers, including USCIS representatives

**VII. Interaction with Community Agencies**

Worked with IRC to provide presentations to faculty and students on immigration issues  
Worked with UCSD to facilitate nutrition presentations  
Attended USCIS community meetings  
Field tested new tests for CASAS

**VIII. Other**

Implemented Bachman Jennings Emergency ESL Book Fund  
Improved ESL website  
Produced Dialogue newsletter using google docs and Publisher (Steve Gwynne)  
Had first ESL/ABE/GED transition meeting  
Had ESL non-credit/ESOL credit networking meeting  
Made progress in "going green" through sending all flyers and communications through e-mail and publishing the ESL Dialogue newsletter online.

**IX. CBET**

Facilitated advocacy for the program via student and faculty letters  
Preserved funding for the CBET program through advocacy  
Facilitated faculty workshops for CBET  
Improved ACS  
Improved tutoring  
Encouraged student applications for scholarships  
Coordinator and faculty presentations at SD Unified Board Meetings  
Acquired funding for readers and supplies  
Acquired ancillary funding for writing scoring workshop for CBET writing samples  
Acquired funding for CBET teachers to attend multi-level workshop  
Wrote new curriculum for report cards  
Designed district wide CBET flyer to advertise classes at main campuses  
Developed CBET website with Quia and CBET website for San Diego Unified



## Citizenship by Mechelle Perrott



We have some outstanding citizenship teachers in our district, and this article is a patriotic salute to each one of you!

What better way to do so than to share words of appreciation from our students. Here is an excerpt of a letter Lesley Robin received after an applicant passed the naturalization interview:

*I want to give thanks to you for all your time and effort that you spend with us...I am very grateful to join your U.S. history class. I do learn a lot with you...Since I come to this class, I decide to enroll in other classes to improve my English and skills...*

Lesley Robin teaches evenings at Mid-City. She brings guest speakers to the class and involves students in teamwork projects. She is well organized and willing to share great lessons with other teachers. Great work, Lesley!

Here is another excerpt from a student letter. This one from a North City student who gave a detailed description of his naturalization interview to share with his classmates. He closed with an eloquent thank you:

*It is my sacred duty to express my deep sense of gratitude to our Highly Respected Lecturer, Ms. Kheo.*

Lien Kheo, Patricia Miyamoto, and Donna Huchel have all worked with dedication to help our North City students gain citizenship. Unfortunately, low numbers closed our Wed/Th evening citizenship class in Linda Vista for the summer. Thank you to Lien and Donna for keeping the class going this spring. Lien and Patricia have both worked to keep students in the Saturday morning Mira Mesa Library citizenship class engaged and focused. This is not so easy considering the class currently shares space with the library's Book Sale Room, open for business during class time. Customers wander in and out while the class is in session. Sometimes customers pause while browsing to listen in on the class. Teachers and students have grown accustomed to this. Students attend each week and have bonded with each other, for example, they stay in touch through email. They share news with classmates and their teachers throughout the week, and sometimes cc me in the exchange. Challenging location yet the teachers have created a learning environment. Way to go Lien and Patricia!

Elvia Kerlick's class meets every Friday evening at ECC. How do you like to spend Friday evenings? Relax? Unwind? Well, Elvia and her thirty plus students are all energetic and enthused about studying U.S. history and government. How are you at singing the national anthem? Permit Elvia to lead the group. She



## Citizenship

sings like an angel. At break time, they share coffee and donuts. The community spirit is alive and well in Elvia's class on Friday evenings. Good job, Elvia.

Francisco Guevara teaches citizenship each Saturday morning at Chavez, and he never complains about too many students. His attendance average is one of the largest in the district ESL program, with a May average of over 46 students. We appreciate your efforts, Francisco.

Colleen Fitzmaurice is a student advocate, especially for those lower level ESL students struggling to meet the requirements for naturalization. Colleen communicates regularly with the staff of International Rescue Committee (IRC) to help students get needed legal assistance. Even though Colleen's Mid-City afternoon multi-level class is a challenge, she is a model teacher of a well-run citizenship class. Thank you for your hard work and dedication, Colleen.


Our newest class is the IRC Golden Door Grant citizenship class for seniors 65 and older which is a morning class at Mid-City. We found a great teacher for this group, Rosa Elena Pilco. The students are eager to attend her class. She is knowledgeable of

the needs of each student. She has youthful energy. She is open to innovation and opportunities. When I suggest something to Rosa Elena, I usually get a big smile with an enthusiastic, "Yes!" It's great having you on board, Rosa Elena!

I also want to thank the ESL teachers who have donated resource materials or have found useful Internet sites for citizenship : Dottie Jenison, Cindy Keltner, Elvira Sirkia, Jane Cranston, Donna Price, and Cindy Wislofsky.

Gretchen Bitterlin recently commented that our citizenship program is highly regarded in the community and beyond. USCIS locally and nationally has acknowledged our superb ESL and citizenship programs. Our students appreciate the working relationship we have with USCIS and the community agencies. I am proud to be among the teachers that make this a great citizenship program.





The staff closest to our students are our contract and hourly instructional assistants who interview and place all new students in our program and work one to one with students in the classrooms. They are the front line, welcoming students to our program and making them feel comfortable; thus, they deserve special recognition:

**Mid City:** Liliana Barragan-Gonzalez, Karla Gutierrez, Zakia Nassrat, Albina Velazco, Hector Salazar, Ngoc Bui, Sonia Tighe, Bianca Belmonte.

**Centre City:** Ana Cody, Esther Im, Concepcion Lopez, Overath Bassa

**Cesar Chavez:** Yolanda Araos, Adriana Murillo, Betsy Flinn, Briana Mino

**West City:** Jennifer Bennett, Hector Salazar, Chuong Nguyen

**North City:** Rosa Lopez, Van Pham, Celia Lujan, Gladys Gonzalez, Thuy Nguyen, Zohreh Roshanzaer, Montaser Barbakh, Faraz Masoumabadi

**ECC:** Eva Duenas, Liz Hernandez, Janisse Marron-Hernandez, Blanca Corona

Thanks to all of them for staying with us and continuing to serve our students so well.

## CE ESL on the Web

## Dialogue on the Web

**ESL Resource Office  
Mid City Campus  
3792 Fairmount Ave.  
619-388-4512**

Gretchen Bitterlin	ESL Program Chair	388-4514
Karen King	Administrative Technician	388-4541
Maude Verdin	Librarian	388-4510
Chao Xiong	CASAS Testing	388-4544
Jan Forstrom	EL Civics Coordinator	388-4522
Barbara Pongsrikul	CBET Coordinator	388-4542

*Continuing Education*



*Produced by Steve Gwynne  
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