

Regional Southeast TESOL Accord: 2016

Drafted on March 27, 2015 at the TESOL Convention in Toronto

Considered for revisions on October 23, 2015 at the SETESOL Conference in New Orleans

Considered for additional revisions on April 6, 2016 at the TESOL Convention in Baltimore

Approved by affiliate representatives at the SETESOL Conference in Louisville, October 28, 2016

Article 1: Name and Purpose

The name of this council shall be Southeast Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (SETESOL), which is a group of affiliates associated with the TESOL International Association.

SETESOL is a group of TESOL affiliates with the following shared purposes:

- A. To collect and disseminate information about developments in the teaching of English to speakers of other languages among the member affiliates;
- B. To stimulate professional development among English Language teaching professionals throughout the region by having an annual conference; and
- C. To pursue other ways for professional development and collaboration such as webinars and online resources as well as other means of outreach.

Article 2: Regional Council

The SETESOL Regional Council shall include one voting representative from each member affiliate. Each representative will serve for a period as determined by that representative's affiliate, preferably with a focus for ensuring continuity in decisions being made at the SETESOL Regional Council meetings. The physical presence of affiliate representatives is strongly encouraged at SETESOL Regional Council meetings.

Each member affiliate will decide on the method for selecting its representative to the SETESOL Regional Council. It will be at the discretion of each affiliate whether its SETESOL representative sits on that affiliate's Executive Board. The name and contact information for an affiliate's representative to the SETESOL Regional Council should be posted on that affiliate's website.

The SETESOL Regional Council will hold two meetings a year. The Fall meeting will be at the annual SETESOL conference. The Spring meeting will be at the annual TESOL convention. Both of the SETESOL Regional Council meetings in a given academic year (Fall and Spring) will be chaired by the representative from the affiliate that will be hosting the next regional conference on the schedule.

The Chair will designate someone to take notes. Shortly after the Regional Council meeting, the minutes will be distributed electronically to the representatives from all member affiliates of the SETESOL Regional Council. These representatives will be asked to provide possible corrections electronically. The corrected minutes will be distributed at the next Regional Council Meeting

where they will be considered for approval. The approved minutes should be posted by all member affiliates on their respective websites in a section designation for SETESOL.

Article 3: Membership

A TESOL affiliate will be considered a member of SETESOL and therefore entitled to send a representative to SETESOL Regional Council meetings if it

- (a) is in the Southeastern United States, and
- (b) approves the SETESOL Accord.

Each member affiliate of SETESOL has the obligation to have a representative at every Regional Council meeting. If an affiliate's president and/or official SETESOL representative cannot attend a Regional Council meeting, the affiliate's Board should designate another member to officially represent that affiliate at the SETESOL Regional Council meeting. If an affiliate fails to have a representative at four consecutive Council meetings, it shall be considered out-of-standing as an affiliate member of SETESOL. The affiliate's good standing as a member of SETESOL will be regained upon sending a representative to the next Regional Council meeting with the authority to vote on decisions and also, if needed, to commit the affiliate to hosting a SETESOL conference in a specified future year.

In addition to the official representative, each member affiliate may also send one or two other affiliate members to attend the SETESOL Regional Council meeting in an effort to ensure greater understanding of SETESOL issues and to build continuity. However, regardless of the number of members from a given affiliate in attendance at a Regional Council meeting, each affiliate will have only one vote.

Article 4: Responsibilities

The SETESOL Regional Council is responsible for supporting its member affiliates in hosting and promoting the annual regional SETESOL conferences. A major purpose of the Regional Council is to maintain a full rotation of the member affiliates designated as hosting the annual SETESOL conferences and to ensure that host affiliates have been confirmed at least three years in advance.

Two years before hosting a SETESOL conference, the affiliate must provide a commitment letter to the SETESOL Regional Council. This letter is to be signed by that affiliate's executive board members and should include the dates and venue for the regional conference. The hosting affiliate should scan this letter and send it electronically to all representatives on the SETESOL Regional Council.

If an affiliate is selected by the TESOL International Association for hosting an international convention and if this international convention creates a conflict with that affiliate's designated time for hosting a regional SETESOL conference, then the Regional Council will arrange an adjustment in the rotation of affiliates hosting the regional conferences.

Article 5: Amendments

Amendments to this Accord may be proposed either by member affiliates of SETESOL or by representatives at the SETESOL Regional Council meetings. Proposed amendments will then be submitted to individual affiliates for discussion and approval. Based on decisions at these physical meetings, SETESOL representatives will report back to their affiliate boards. Within 60 days of the last physical meeting, SETESOL representatives will vote electronically. A majority vote by all SETESOL affiliates is needed in order to ratify an amendment.

Article 6: Accord

The operation of the SETESOL Regional Council shall be governed by this Accord. The Accord will be established by a simple majority of all affiliates, when voted by the representatives as indicated in Article 5. These representatives shall vote based on decisions already determined by their affiliate's respective executive board.

Article 7: Ratification

This Accord takes effect when ratified by over half of the member affiliates of SETESOL. The ratification of this Accord is illustrated by the signatures provided below:

