

2017 Fall Conference Feedback

Please note that we do not publish feedback on our presenters.

This conference provided me the opportunity to...

- Revitalize and re-energize. Thank you for this opportunity to network and reflect on why (the students!) we chose to get into our profession.
- A booster shot of joy!
- Refresh my ideas/methods/reflective process.
- Meet and connect with other teachers along with share experiences. Great to be able to chat with people in similar context to my own.
- Take a day off from parenting so I could reflect, engage with my colleagues, and learn something new.
- Talk with colleagues
- Get new ideas for providing assessment and feedback
- Reflect on teaching
- Reflect on my teaching and role at a university
- Share with others
- Learn new ideas
- Meet my colleagues.
- Collaborate with others
- Great reminders; gain new info.
- Learn more about TESOL methods, and resources that can be used in the classroom.
- Think about how to do reflective practice with my students.
- Meet with others in my field! This is great for those of us who are the only ones in our building.
- Learn new information from other ELL colleagues.
- Gather a few new resources from vendors and keynote speaker.
- Meet other ESL instructors
- Talk with sales reps and look at their materials
- Learn more about WITESOL
- Learn about ESL in the workplace and Teaching Abroad.
- Learn new things and meet new people.
- Too many ideas to use in the classroom.
- Meet my colleagues.
- Connect with teachers in a classroom as an undergrad.
- Learn more about ways to include interactive and engaging tools in the classroom.
- Reflect and think more about how to aid ESL students.
- Collaborate with other educators and university staff members. It was a treat to hear experiences at all levels.
- Connect with other educators and get insight into other perspectives on teaching in this field.
- Collaborate with other ESL specialists and learn about new opportunities for professional growth.
- Learn new things and socialize with colleagues.
- Learn new journaling and reflection techniques.
- To touch base with my students and help them reflect as well.
- I was able to comprehend what my role as a bilingual tutor really is, and how I can better help the students I work with.
- Connect with other TESOL teachers in the state.
- Increase my understanding of working with second language learners. Getting different perspectives on issues related to ESL students.
- Gather info for classroom

- Get reinvigorated
- Get a better insight into teacher education in a US context.

At future conferences, it would be beneficial to...

- Share the attendees list as people sign up. Having a comprehensive list may help to sway some that this conference is more than K-12 focused.
- Kathy this is for you. ;-)
- Address WIOA (THE WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT) issues and implementation in our adult ESL programs.
- Have more sessions geared towards k-12 education.
- Possibly create groups and have a sharing time with people from similar areas or who work in similar contexts.
- Add more choices for breakout sessions.
- Have signs for roundtable sessions.
- Have breakfast again
- Have a screen so agenda can be posted and advocacy can show pictures and visuals at luncheon.
- Large space so no attendance issues arise.
- Provide sessions that are focused on k-12 education broken down into elementary and secondary levels.
- Have more time to discuss with fellow teachers. Also, if coffee and dessert at the venue are expensive is there some alternate, like providing chocolate bowls or something ;)
- Give better attention to room set up
- Better regulate room temps - very warm in all rooms
- In breakout sessions list what grade/ELL levels the presenters will be directing information towards.
- Have table set ups
- Provide appropriate grade level for breakout sessions
- More elementary-based information
- Have discussions on working with refugees/adults.
- Have shorter passing times; 15 minutes is too long.
- Shorter passing times. It'll save time.
- Have more people working with high-schoolers (is that possible?)
- Have breakfast included, even if just fruit and bagels with juice, coffee and milk.
- Have the event at a less expensive site (Madison H.S. or UW-Madison) to allow for breakfast, afternoon snack, etc.
- More vendors would have been nice.
- It was hot in every room and not enough seating.
- Professional teacher resources for purchase at site.
- Have more hands-on activities and more educator collaboration. I would like more input from other educators - what works/doesn't work for them, etc.
- Include handouts for breakout sessions, have tables at sessions - to take notes on :).
- Conference rooms were small and made it hard to see the board/screen. Also got hot - not comfortable.
- Have vendors with elementary materials as well
- I was hoping to see more vendors of materials to see things in person vs ordering online based on sample pages only.
- Have vendors for elementary k-5 material support.
- Label sessions with grade level focus.
- More info on co-teaching 21st century thinking.
- Have better tech support
- Audio set up
- Include more information relevant to K-12

Please add any further comments below:

- The conference was very well organized and implemented ---- thank you very much. Nolite te bastards carbonarum, Tim! :)
- Loved the roundtable session - could there be more than one?
- This was probably the best WITESOL conference I have been to.
- Thank you for the opportunity to present. I'm sorry that I didn't meet Heather today. She was very helpful in our preparation for today as was Kathy Stamos. Thank you!!
- Enjoyed the conference.
- Thanks to Lori for her advocacy work - inspirational!
- Thank you! Your efforts are very appreciated!
- It was a wonderful conference. I'm glad I had an opportunity to come.
- I enjoyed and felt empowered by the conference!
- Have presenters that can help give ideas/information out that one can take back and use within their classrooms.
- Great organization and keynote speaker.
- Too college-aged ELL student focus.
- Myself and fellow district teachers did not get the emails about logistics--parking, breakfast (we assumed there would be breakfast) etc. Other attendees said they received them so I'm not sure where the mix up was.
- Great conference - it is great to see how WITESOL is committed to helping ESL people grow in professional excellence whether teachers, administrators, private institutions. Thank you!
- Didn't feel there was much geared towards elementary EL teachers.
- Overall, great conference with relevant and useful information.
- Overall great. Good flow and info.
- Awesome! Great Job :)
- Beautiful place to host conference. Liked having Madison as the site location. Felt more centralized.
- I enjoyed this! It was a well-prepared and well-executed conference with a plethora of relevant topics. Thanks!!
- No cookies or coffee.
- Please label sessions with grade levels it applies to.
- It seemed that there were more high school and college teacher-geared sessions and not near as much for elementary educators.
- The rooms were a little stuffy and crowded.
- I was hoping to be able to leave with more strategies to use/implement in mainstream and EL classroom. But thank you for providing the opportunity to come together. #teacherlearning
- The taco bar was not the best choice for lunch.
- Overall, it was lovely to be present at the conference. Very well organized.