

ESL Advisory Council: 2014 Agenda
Master's for Teaching ESL to Adult Language Learners
UAB School of Education (SOE), Dept. of Curriculum & Instruction (C&I)
Monday, January 13, 2014 (9:30-11:00) in EB 226

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Today's Objectives

- Provide summary of last ESL advisory council meeting
- Provide update on progress undertaken since last meeting
- Brainstorm ideas for promoting the MAEd/ESL program's new International Track
- Explore PIACC (Survey of adult competencies) Community Partnerships
- Identify needs and goals for the coming year

3. Summary of our last ESL Advisory Council meeting (Jan. 19, 2012)

Accomplishments for establishing our MAEd/ESL program's new International/adult track
MAEd/ESL approved by ACHE (2011) with tracks for teaching K-12 & adults (International Track)
Student backgrounds (career change, int'l studies major, student visa holders, missionaries, soon retiring)
ESL Advisory Council webpage was created

Accomplishments for strengthening our MAEd/ESL program and its international/adult track
English Conversation Classes "Lab School" as of Summer 2011 (formerly at the Smolian House)
Research studies: Alumni from earlier "adult" ESL master's, parents at Shelby's Family Literacy
Partnerships: Literacy Council (TLC), ESL service providers, GB Returned Peace Corps Volunteers
Students: 18 graduates from former "non-certification" MA for teaching ESL to adults (6 years) = 3 per year

4. What progress has been made since our last ESL Advisory Council meeting (2 years ago)?

Students

21 graduates from new international/adult MA (3 years: from 2011-12 to 2013-14) = 7 per year
Good employment record for our MAEd/ESL alumni: local and overseas (Ivory Coast pending)
Research study examining needs of international students in our MAEd/ESL
Hired as tutors at UAB: ELI's Bridge program (started this semester) and Athletic Academic Center

Instructors

Susie Olmstead-Wang (EESL 617, 627, 647), Josie Prado (EESL 615, 637), Rebecca Oxford (EESL 657),
Julia Austin (EESL 687, GRD 704), Susan Spezzini (EESL 625), Monica D'Amico (610)
Appreciation to Susie Olmstead-Wang: Created 5 of these courses and formerly taught 6 or 7 of them.

Curriculum (33 credit hours): 4 linguistics courses, 4 methods courses, and 3 practicum-related courses

Starting to realign courses to prepare for seeking program accreditation from TESOL
Perhaps we should convene a task force (similar to how we created curriculum in 2009-10)

Pre-Practicum experiences (100 hours)

English Conversation Classes at UAB's SOE: Tuesdays at 12:30 and 7:30 pm
Large increase in number of participants and also in students who are teaching them
Pre-practicum: in many other institutions that provide ESL classes (Linda DeRocher)

Practicum Teaching (teaching one course for one semester)

Practicum teaching placement is now called "Apprenticeship teaching"
Apprentice teachers at UAB's ELI (including Hoover library), Samford's ELLI, and Gadsden's ALI
New instrument to observe apprentice teachers and for them to observe expert ESL teachers
New system for having apprentice teachers supervised by lead teachers at host institutions

Partnerships with Peace Corps to provide master's program for outgoing PVCs and returning PCVs
2013 Master's International (outgoing) – first student will be going to Colombia in August
2014 Coverdell Fellows (returning) – first potential student contacted us from Madagascar
Stipend to be provided by UAB's Sparkman Center for Global Health

5. How can we better promote our MAEd/ESL program's international/adult track?

6. What is the PIACC (survey of adult competencies) Community Partnerships? Linda DeRocher

Pillars of Integration and ESOL programs
How can we help TLC prepare for the National Dialog? Should we create a task force?

7. What are other needs/challenges/goals regarding ESL instruction for adult language learners?

8. How can UAB's MAE/ESL program help ESL service providers?