

# TIRF TODAY

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Promoting research and best practices to improve the use of English in the emerging global knowledge economy of the 21st century

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### TIRF Board Elects Three New Trustees

At its board meeting in Philadelphia on March 28<sup>th</sup>, the TIRF Board elected three new Trustees. Here is some information about them.



**Andrew B. Sugerman** is Senior Vice President and General Manager of Disney English in Shanghai, China. He received a Master of Business Administration with High Honors from The University of Chicago, Booth Graduate School of Business. Mr. Sugerman has eighteen years of general management and operations experience in both start-up and Fortune 100 companies. His expertise has helped build global learning-based retail and digital consumer businesses, and has consistently grown revenue, profit, and equity value in the companies for which he has worked. He has a strong track record of developing products and services that meet consumer needs in the global marketplace. In 2009, he was appointed as a Consultant Research Fellow of Shanghai Normal University and a Consultant Professor of Shanghai Institute of Tourism.



**Richard A. Boyum** works for the US State Department as the University Partnership and Grants Evaluation Coordinator for Afghanistan and Pakistan. He received a Master of Education in Bilingual Education and English as a Foreign Language from Georgetown University. Throughout his career with the State Department, Mr. Boyum has gained extensive international experience in program management, grants administration, training, facilitation, and leadership development.

He is proficient in French, Portuguese, and Spanish, and is conversant in Arabic, Thai, and German. In 2005, Mr. Boyum received TESOL's James Alatis Award for his outstanding contributions to the field in 2005. He was honored with the Royal Thai Achievement Award for his innovative satellite educational programming in 2004. He also served on TESOL's Board of Directors from 1996 to 1999.



**Michael Legutke** is professor emeritus of TEFL at the Justus Liebig University of Giessen in Germany. He has worked at the Department of Research at the Goethe Institute - Munich, as a German Language Consultant to the Pacific Northwest of the United States, and as a language teacher in Germany. Dr. Legutke has served as a member of the editorial board of *TESOL Quarterly*, as a member of the Research Standing Committee of TESOL, and as president of the German Association of Foreign and Second Language Research. He is an advisory board member of the *Zeitschrift für Fremdsprachenforschung (ZFF – Journal of German Association for Foreign Language Research)*. He is currently working on a state-funded research project, which is investigating the teaching of English in primary schools in the multilingual urban context of Frankfurt/Main, Germany.

"I am delighted with the election of these new trustees," said Dr. Kathi Bailey, Chair of the TIRF Board. "They bring a wealth of international experience and will provide the Board with a range of views on the issues facing language educators and researchers today."

### TIRF Trustee Receives Prestigious Award

TIRF Trustee MaryAnn Christison, Professor of Linguistics at the University of Utah, was recently honored with the James Alatis award "in recognition of outstanding and extended service to TESOL." In making the award, TESOL President Dr. Christine Coombe cited MaryAnn's seven-year term of service on the TESOL Board of Directors, including being President from 1997-1998, as well as her many major responsibilities for chairing the organization's Conventions over the years. MaryAnn was also recognized for her numerous publications and intellectual contributions to the field. Dr. Coombe also noted MaryAnn's current role as the Chair of TIRF's Research Advisory Committee.



MaryAnn Christison

Upon receiving the award, MaryAnn had this to say: "I have known Jim and Penny Alatis for years and am honored to have them as dear friends. It is wonderful for TESOL to recognize service to name the award after Jim Alatis as his commitment to TESOL is legendary."

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# TIRF

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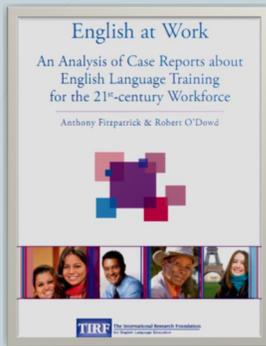
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Kathleen Bailey,  
Chair of TIRF

## TIRF Presentation at TESOL 2012, Philadelphia



At the TESOL Convention in Philadelphia this past week, TIRF launched its latest commissioned study, *English at Work: An Analysis of Case Reports about English Language Training for the 21st-century Workforce*. After a brief “meet and greet,” the study was summarized by co-author Tony Fitzpatrick, who noted several high points of the analysis of twenty case reports on English language training programs for the workforce. After Tony’s presentation, TIRF Trustee Dick Tucker shared his insights about the importance of English language training for the workforce. He drew upon his recent one-year experience working for Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar.

The executive summary of the study is now available on TIRF’s website, and can be downloaded for free by [clicking here](#). The full version of the paper will soon be posted to the TIRF site as well.



(From left to right) David Nunan, Denise Murray, Dick Tucker, and Adrian Palmer



Trustees Dennis Hogan and Donna Christian Enjoy the “Meet & Greet”



Audience Members at the TIRF Presentation on English Workforce Training

## Gifts In Kind: How You can Contribute

“Gifts in kind” are a category of charitable donations which do not involve money. Gifts in kind consist of goods and services provided by individuals and groups to nonprofit organizations. For example, the refreshments for the TIRF networking session held just before the recent presentation at the 2012 TESOL Convention were donated by a corporate sponsor.

TIRF benefits greatly from gifts in kind. Here are some of the wonderful donations we have received in the past: board and staff meals (Heinle Cengage and Pearson Education); Board meeting space (Heinle Cengage, Pearson Education, and TESOL); staff travel and lodging (TIRF Trustees’ frequent flyer miles and hotel points, and Instituto Guatemalteco Americano - IGA); event hosting (Cultura Inglesa - São Paulo, IGA, Ministry of Education - United Arab Emirates, and TESOL); plaques (Cambridge ESOL Examinations and Pearson Education); printing (British Council, Cultura Inglesa - São Paulo, Heinle Cengage Learning, IGA, National Geographic, and Pearson Education); publicity (American Association for Applied Linguistics, American Council on the Teaching of Foreign

Languages, British Council, CATESOL, Center for Applied Linguistics, Cultural Inglesa - São Paulo, IGA, International Language Testing Association, TESOL, TESOL Arabia, and US State Department); refreshments (Alta Books and TIRF Trustees); website consulting (Byte Technology); and website hosting (University of Utah).

Gifts in kind help the Foundation save money and further its mission. For instance, many organizations have contributed office space (Carnegie Mellon University, Georgetown University, Monterey Institute of International Studies, School for International Training, University of Maryland – Baltimore County, University of Michigan, and TESOL). Many individuals have provided translations services (Shani Abergel, Badr Al Jahwari, Namju Cha, Wallace Chen, Rebecca Cheney, Tetsuko Fukawa, Lee Eisenberg, Heather Kokesch, Sky Lantz-Wagner, Courtney Pahl, Kristina Swamy, Xueting Wang, Lawrence Zhang, and Tony Zeuli).

We are very grateful for all of these gifts in kind, and we hope that you will see, from the lists above, some novel and interesting ways in which you can support TIRF with similar contributions.

## Report from the Chair — The Profession that Keeps on Giving

There’s an old saying that if March comes in like a lion, it goes out like a lamb. This phrase usually refers to the weather, but this March ended with a triumphant roar for TIRF at the 2012 TESOL Convention in Philadelphia.

It was a very busy week starting with an all-day Board meeting on March 28<sup>th</sup>, followed by the TIRF networking session, and the launch of our latest

commissioned report. We are very grateful for co-author Tony Fitzpatrick and Trustee Dick Tucker for their informative presentation.

The TESOL Convention is always a major professional development opportunity, but it’s also a wonderful reunion. In Philadelphia, we reconnected with many who have supported TIRF since its inception in 1998.

My old friend Gabriel Diaz-Maggioli noted that TESOL is a profession that keeps on giving. He said, “It’s like a hug that never lets go.” Whether or not you attended the TESOL convention, I hope you will consider yourself hugged, regardless of the weather wherever you may be.

*Kathi Bailey*