Letter from the Editor

Readers,

Welcome to the Winter 2024 issue of *WAESOL Educator*. This is my seventh issue as editor of WAESOL Educator and, regrettably, my last. My first issue was Winter 2021 when I took over at the last minute and at the bottom of a very steep learning curve. It was exciting and overwhelming in equal measure. Since then and with the valuable help of too many to name (but Martha Savage, Christina Mitma-Momono, and James Hunter really deserve a shout-out) we have continued the tradition of publishing excellent articles by English language teaching professionals. I think I am most proud of having spearheaded the transition to systematized double-blind peer reviews which I believe has had a positive effect on the quality of the writing. It means that a variety of experienced voices in the field read and give valuable feedback to our authors. Part of our mission at *WAESOL Educator* is to "support and mentor potential authors" so with our amazing peer reviewers we regularly go through several rounds of reviews with authors who might need a little help wordsmithing. As I was once told by a mentor at Oxford University Press, "Everyone needs an editor!" (although, being British, she would have eschewed the exclamation mark).

And so, my last issue: There are articles here that we hope will spark your imagination, motivate you to try new activities, wrestle with cutting-edge topics, or reinforce your existing teaching practices. The articles range from important concepts in our profession such as asset-based language, ungrading, and learning styles to useful tech ideas such as HotSeat, ChatGPT, and ELSA. Those working with multilinguals of all levels might benefit from the information on Theme deployment and on intentional classroom conversations around reading. Connect with us on social media to let us know what resonates with you.

Please consider submitting an article for the next issue. We all learn better when we learn from each other. Share with us what you're doing in your classes that is working well for you, a presentation you have given, or professional development you have learned from. The deadline for submission for the summer issue is April 15 and for the winter issue is November 15.

Best wishes,

Bridget Green *(She/Her)*

Editor

Land Acknowledgment

Washington Association for the Education of Speakers of Other Languages (WAESOL) recognizes and honors our many diverse Indigenous and Native Peoples in the Pacific Northwest, in the United States, and globally-past, present, and future. We acknowledge that the arrival of the English language impacted the traditional languages and cultures of the Native, Indigenous, and First Nations Peoples and we celebrate the work to reclaim or maintain their languages and cultures. We stand in solidarity with the Native, Indigenous, and First Nations Peoples and respect their sovereignty, cultural heritage, and lives. May we all take a moment to honor the Indigenous tribes and Indigenous lands that we reside on and pay our deepest respects.