**TESOL Advocacy and Policy 2017 Summit**

This presentation will talk about TESOL tenth annual Advocacy and Policy Summit attended by two GA TESOL representatives, Mr. Anthony Dahlen and Ms. Kendra Castelow, as well as Ms. Lisa Porter, in Alexandria, VA in June 2017.

One of the purposes of the summit was equipping TESOL professionals with the tools to become influential advocates on behalf of English Learners (ELs), as well as embedding the knowledge of key education policies. Attendees spent three days learning from policy experts, networking with TESOL professionals and understanding effective advocacy techniques and strategies. The summit culminated in over 100 meetings with senators, representatives and staffers on Capitol Hill.

Attendees enjoyed the opportunities to expand their professional networks and meet fellow TESOL professionals. While preparing for their meetings on Capitol Hill, the attendees learned about current legislation in Congress affecting ELs and educators, as well as tips on how to effectively hold meetings and discuss EL issues with members of Congress and their staffers. The participants worked in small groups, often with peers from the same state, strategizing for their meetings on the Hill. Many participants from the same state met with their representatives as a group, in a concerted effort to advocate on behalf of ELs and fellow educators from their home state.

Besides talking about an educational and legal material covered during the summit sessions, the presenters will also go over the meetings with their representatives in the House and Senate, the things discussed at the meetings, extension of the invitations to the senators and congressmen to visit their schools, and any positive outcomes and results.