

TABE NEWS



VOLUME XIX, ISSUE 2

DECEMBER 2009

WE HAVE MOVED

TABE is now located in the heart of downtown San Antonio at 110 Broadway Suite 480. If you are in the area please stop by and visit with us.

TABE IS NOW ON TWITTER

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Message from the President

WOW! What a conference! Attended by almost 2000 educators and parents, attendees found opportunities to grow professionally, meet researchers and experts in the field, and attend quality professional development sessions. Presentations were based on research in second language acquisition, biliteracy development and assessment, bilingual teacher preparation, and proven practice in effective dual language programs.

We were delighted to host so many educators and parents at this year's conference as their participation was an indication of their devotion to children and families, to bilingual/ESL colleagues, and to the advancement of the bilingual education profession. Thanks to our local committee who tirelessly planned, brainstormed, and organized such a fabulous reunion of friends and colleagues. On a personal note, I know my 6-year old had a blast danc-

ing Thursday and Friday night. In fact, Saturday he was asking if there was going to be another dance!

While it is true that the TABE conference is huge for us, the advocacy work we do in Austin is a tremendous responsibility.

We have done a lot to elevate TABE as the leader in Bilingual Education but we have an unfinished agenda:

1. Increase funding for enrichment bilingual programs,
2. Rectify the exiting of children from bilingual programs as early as 1st grade,
3. Increase the number of certified bilingual teachers, educating them on the economic benefits of bilingual education for this state, and inviting them to visit your classroom.
4. Complete the TABE 9-pt plan (implemented under Leo Gómez' leadership in 2005).

We will continue to educate, advocate, and collaborate at the state level by meeting with key stakeholders and holding people accountable. You can help us by contacting your local representative or senator and educating them on the economic benefits of bilingual education for this state and inviting them to visit your classroom.



Dr. Iliana Alanís is the 2009-2010 TABE president.

TABE News

Published by the Texas Association for Bilingual Education

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Parent Pre-conference Institute

By Blanca Ortega, Parent Representative

The Parent Pre-conference Institute was used to promote bilingual education and to inform parents about the different bilingual programs their children's schools offer.

At the Parent Institute, we were honored to have as our keynote speaker Dr. Josefina (Josie) Tinajero, Dean of the College of Education, University of Texas at El Paso.

Participants were also entertained with a performance by Ana Coca, a Bilingual Specialist in the Graevine Colley-

ville ISD in the Dallas/Fort Worth Area

There were ten different sessions for the parents; sessions addressed how parents can help support their children's math and science development. In addition, sessions were provided about how to prevent drug usage and gang involvement.

TABE hosted approximately 165 parents at the Institute.

Thanks to all the parents from Houston ISD, Spring

ISD, Aldine ISD, and Lamar ISD who participated in the Institute.



Dr. Josie Tinajero and Blanca Ortega.



Over 150 parents attended the Parent Institute.

"The sessions were very informative and presenters gave good ideas that can be taken back into the classroom.:"

TABE Conference participant



Pre-conference Institute participants were provided a full day of professional development. Activities included key note speakers, concurrent sessions, and a lunch with networking opportunities.

BESO Pre-conference Institute

By Hiromi Saito, BESO Representative

100 BESO members had the opportunity to attend the annual BESO institute where Dr. Lucila Ek, Jesse Romero, Lada Kratky, and Dr. Guadalupe San Miguel were the guest speakers. Not only did the BESO students get to listen to two university pro-

fessors, a children's book author, and TABE's legislative liaison, they also interacted with other students around the different universities in Texas. Dr. Ek spoke about her doctoral dissertation, Romero spoke about legislation in Texas, Lada Kratky read her own books, and Dr. San Miguel spoke

about the importance of being bilingual in Texas. Students from UT-EI Paso, UT-San Antonio, UH-Clear Lake, A&M Kingsville and many more were inspired by great words of wisdom and were encouraged to pursue their goals and to always strive for more.



Dr. Ek discussed her dissertation with BESO students.

Behind the Scenes



Local Conference Planning Committee Co-Chairs, Gracie Guerrero and Janie O'Connor

Have you ever thought about what goes on behind the scenes to ensure that a conference goes as planned? The TABE conference in Houston would not have been possible without the work of the local TABE affiliate members who volunteered countless hours of their time and energy on the

planning committee.

There are so many things that go into planning a conference. Do you know who stuffed conference bags and handed them out with your registration materials? Who reviewed proposals, organized the conference schedule, and put the program to-

gether? Who made sure the student entertainment and art were there for you to enjoy? Who put up the signs for the sessions? All of these tasks were done by volunteers.

When we attend a conference, we don't usually think about all the time and energy that the local committee members have dedicated to making the conference a success. The next time you attend a conference, thank the local committee. Their hard work makes the conference possible.

Fact or Myth

Fact. The majority of ELLs in Texas are immigrants.

Myth. Over the last nine years, the number of *non-immigrant* ELLs has increased steadily. New immigrant ELLs represent 4% of the ELL population in Texas. Source: Texas Education Agency

CHANGES

TABE thanks Georgina González for all her work at TEA as our state Bilingual Director. We are grateful for her commitment and dedication to the language minority children of this state. We wish her well in her retirement.

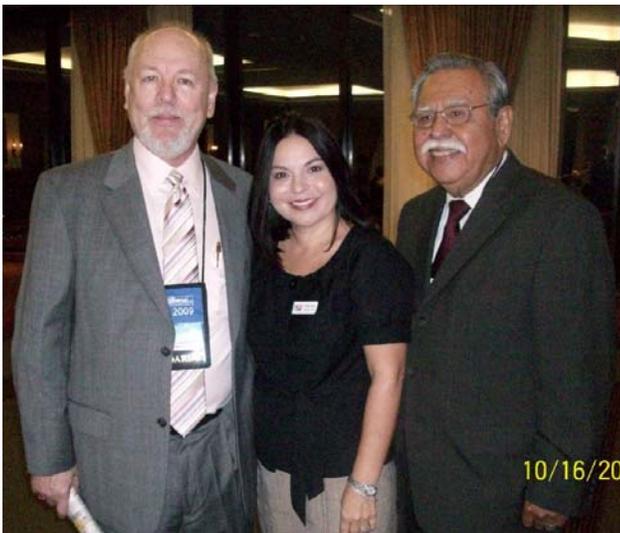


Dr. Iliana Alanís, Dr. Leo Gómez, Dr. Laurie Weaver, Mr. José Hernández, and Dr. Judith Márquez discuss the TABE Conference.

Conference Highlights



Dr. Iliana Alanís, TABE President, cuts the ribbon opening the TABE 2009 Conference with the assistance of Ana Coca, TABE Public Relations, and, Mary Flores, Instructional Professional Development Representative.



Dr. José Ruiz-Escalante, Past TABE President, and Dr. Iliana Alanís, current TABE President, with, Ramón Billescas, another past TABE president.



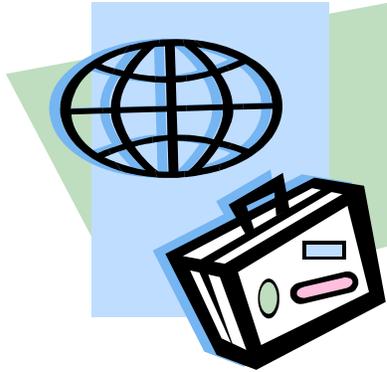
Dr. Lucila Ek moderates a discussion with former bilingual education students.

TABE Honors Teachers



Dr. Josie Tinajero

"The conference was a great learning experience. I was very impressed, inspired and re-energized by top speakers such as Dr. Collier and Dr. Thomas in addition to keynote speakers such as Dr. Tinajero, Dr. Gomez and Dr. Gomez, Alma Flor Ada and Isabel Campoy." TABE conference participant.



TABE Bilingual Teacher of the Year, Karla Anaité Vil-
lela, is honored by Miguel Hernaiz of the Spanish
Consulate of Houston while conference co-chair,
Janie O'Connor, TABE Conference co-chair, watches.



TABE ESL Teacher of the Year, Chrissi Cawthon, re-
ceives congratulations from the TABE Awards Lunch-
eon Emcee, Vicente Arenas of Channel 11 News.

TABE Honorees

TABE recognized three individuals for their efforts in the field of education. Honorees were Dr. Abe Saavedra, former superintendent of the Houston Independent School District, Dr. Ellen De Kanter of University of St. Thomas and Dr. Leo Gómez of University of Texas-Pan American.

"Registration was smooth, friendly, and fast. Presentations were awesome. Organization and hospitality of the conference were excellent. Really enjoyed it."

TABE Conference
Participant



Dr. Ellen De Kanter and Dr. Leo, Gómez, two of the TABE honorees.



More Conference Highlights



TABE Conference participants enjoyed dancing at the President's Reception, listening to student entertainment, and being inspired by speakers such as Alma Flor Ada.



We look forward to seeing you at the TABE 2010 Conference in El Paso, Texas.