

QATAR TESOL NEWS

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THE FIRST QATAR TESOL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The First Qatar TESOL International Conference will be held on April 14-15, 2006. College of the North Atlantic will host the conference on its new campus which was inaugurated the end of November. The theme is Best Practices in EFL.

Find the Call for Proposals on page two. Check the website for upcoming announcements.



College of the North Atlantic Inauguration. See story on page 3.

Teaching Tip Contest

- Win a prize from Macmillan Publishers
- Submit your Teaching Tip to Jane Hoelker at <jhoelker2qf.org.qa>
- See page three.

Call for Papers deadline January 31st, 2006

- See page two.

BRITISH COUNCIL RENOVATES BY CHRIS NELSON

Improvements to the security of the British Council building have been made. These include a new, secure entry point with separate entrances for men and ladies; close circuit television; and concrete barriers to protect the walls of our compound.

Further important changes are also being made to the interior of the building. These changes will improve services

provided to customers and will also enhance the image of the British Council. By early spring, the British Council will be able to offer:

- An Information Centre where clients can enquire about education in the United Kingdom, British exams and English language classes. The staff will be more visible and accessible than before.
- A new children’s library;
- Continued opportunities to borrow DVDs, English language teaching books and examinations support material;
- A refreshed area where clients can ask about the English language training and register for classes;
- A welcoming, purposeful and professional environment where customers can engage with British educational expertise.

In order to achieve this, the British Council will need to close the library from 3rd December until sometime after the New Year. Every effort will be made to reopen as soon as possible in the New Year. The British Council is grateful for the cooperation and understanding of the public during this period.



View towards the Information centre. From the entrance doors.

**THE FIRST QATAR TESOL INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE
APRIL 14-15, 2006 (FRIDAY & SATURDAY)
COLLEGE OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC**

BEST PRACTICES IN EFL

CALL FOR PAPERS

NAME -----

AFFILIATION -----

MAILING ADDRESS -----

PHONE -----

FAX -----

EMAIL -----

TITLE OF PRESENTATION -----

ABSTRACT (75-100 WORDS)

- USE 3RD PERSON
- EXPLAIN WHAT THE PRESENTER WILL DO
- EXPLAIN THE METHOD OF PRESENTATION (PAPER, WORKSHOP, PANEL)
- INCLUDE CITATION OF RELEVANT SOURCE

BIODATA (50 WORDS)

DEADLINE IS JANUARY 31ST, 2006 (SUNDAY)

SEND BY EMAIL ATTACHMENT TO
DR. SABIHA AYDELOTT AT SAYDELOTT@QF.ORG.QA OR TO JANE
HOELKER AT JHOELKER@QF.ORG.QA.
FAXED PROPOSALS ALSO ACCEPTED AT +974-481-9928.

*Deadline for the
Call for Papers is
January 31st, 2005*

TEACHING TIP: WORDS INTO PICTURES

NADINE MALCOLM WINS THE TEACHING TIP CONTEST.

This idea came to me when I was teaching a study skills course. Because the text was too difficult to understand, I had the students turn words into pictures so it would make it easier for them to learn and study.

Goal:

To get students to take difficult concepts and turn them into visuals so they are easier to study, understand and remember.

Task:

In groups of three or four, students choose a concept, idea, vocabulary, or novel. The students then turn those difficult concepts, ideas, or words into a visual which will become a study guide.

- Students read the concept(s) before coming into class for general understanding.
- Teacher breaks the students into groups of three or four.
- Teacher gives each group a large sheet of

white paper and pens, markers, or crayons.

- Teacher explains that the students will draw a visual and reminds the students not to write any words on the visual.
- Next each small group gives a short presentation, explaining what they have drawn.

Time limit:

It takes a class of twelve to fifteen students two class periods of 50 minutes to compose the visual. It requires a third class period of 50 minutes for each of the four to five small groups to give the short presentations.

Result:

The visual supported the students as they discussed the concept, vocabulary or novel; they did not try to memorize the words from the textbook. The visual learners had an opportunity to see words as pictures which makes it easier for this learning style to remember. Finally, the stu-



Nadine Malcolm teaches at the ABP.

dents really seemed to like this activity because they had a chance to work in groups, to problem solve, to be creative and to draw.



Macmillan Publishers Representative, Sheila Hutton, offers the prize of *Learning Teaching*, a teacher resource book by Jim Scrivener, plus the verb wheel pack. In the next contest, a second prize, *Straightforward* and Teaching Tips, will also be awarded. Submit your Teaching Tips to Jane Hoelker.

The students discussed the concept . . . ; they did not try to memorize the words from the textbook.” Nadine Malcolm

COLLEGE OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC-QATAR INAUGURATES NEW CAMPUS

BY RANDALL WOLANSKY

HH Sheikha Moza bint Nasser Al Missned graciously attended the opening of the remarkable permanent campus of the College of the North Atlantic-Qatar. The main CNA campus is in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador on Canada’s Atlantic seacoast.

The inaugural show and dinner took place on 1 December, Thursday evening. Her Highness and the representa-

tives of the College of Technology Project were joined by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador (the Queen’s representative in the province), Mr. Edward Roberts. Past and present members of the Board of Governors of the college and other invited guests from Canada, from the college and its partners in the community also attended the show which was held amid the grassy areas, trees and fountains of the main quadrangle of the new campus.

The striking architecture of the main Duhail campus (located next to the University of Qatar) now houses all but one program run by the college, though the original Rayyan Campus continues to host CAN-Q pre-nursing students. Over 600 students at the college are currently studying in the EFL Department’s three streams: English for Academic Purposes, the Technical Preparation Program, and Pre-Nursing. Several new programs are in the works (Story Continued on page 4.)

Doha, Qatar

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Qatar TESOL First International Conference

April 14-15th, 2006

Best Practices in EFL

Aisha Al-Kadalfi's (Qatar TESOL Vice-president) article recalls her experiences at the TESOL, Inc. Convention in San Antonio last March.

Read her article in the *TESOL Affiliate News* by clicking on the TESOL, Inc. website at www.tesol.org/s_tesol/docs/5000/4957.html?nid=3314.

Qatar TESOL was founded on April 2, 2005 . . .

. . . when the Qatar TESOL President, Sarah Al-Kuwari, signed the affiliate agreement with TESOL, Inc. The purpose of Qatar TESOL is to establish a network of teachers, supervisors and researchers who are committed to improving teaching in English as a Foreign or Second Language in Qatar and/or the region.

Executive Council:

President: Sarah Al-Kuwari (algaaadi@hotmail.com)

Vice-president: Aisha Al-Kulaiji (amk_kbulaiji@hotmail.com)

Executive Secretary: Randall Wolansky (randall.wolansky@cna-qatar.edu.qa)

Executive Treasurer: Sherry Ward (sward@qf.org.qa)

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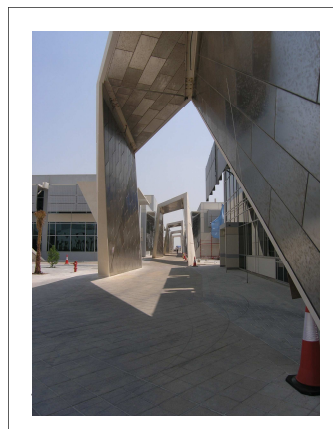
Webpage Editor: George Matthews (gmatthews@qf.org.qa)

COLLEGE OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC-QATAR INAUGURATES NEW CAMPUS

(Continued from page 3.)

as well, meaning that CNA-Q will continue to grow as an important centre of English-language education in Qatar.

The events of Thursday night were a culmination of ten days of special events organized at the college which began with the student awards night held at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel on 20 November. The evening's activities also included technology exhibit-



College of the North Atlantic-Qatar walkway.

tions, seminars on student success and entrepreneurship, leadership, a business case competition judged by leaders of Qatar's business community. Public talks on the role of technology in our world were given by two prominent Canadians: Mr. Bob Richards, CEO of the Centre of Excellence for Applied Research and Training (UAE) and Dr. Roberta Bondar, a former astronaut with the Canadian Space Agency and NASA.