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The newsletter of *The Boston Language Institute*

December 2012

Message from the President



Dear Friends,

The holiday season of 2012 is upon us. Important moments with family and friends await us all in the next month. It is fitting that the season should be opened by Thanksgiving, a holiday which asks us to reflect on what we are grateful for.

The expression of gratitude is essential to our lives; it is a building block to prosperity and a medicine in times of need. Professionally, The Boston Language Institute gives me many things to be grateful for.

The Institute is characterized by a sense of teamwork which transcends department boundaries and makes the workplace both exciting and productive. The ESL, TEFL, Foreign Language and Translation Departments work together for the sake of all of our clients.

We are blessed to have a company culture that fosters collaboration and sees our employees reaching out to help one another and go that extra mile to serve our growing clientele.

Late nights at the Institute are a cross-departmental phenomenon. In Translation and Interpreting Services, Director Muneeb ur Rahman, about to begin his 17th year with the Institute, has been known to work past midnight, often on marketing and content development outside his normal job description.

Muneeb is not the only one to step outside his job description to make the Institute run smoothly. For Foreign Language Department, senior program coordinator Claude Chartier, takes on responsibilities that go beyond her department when she comes in early to cover the office manager, something she does whenever sickness or any other emergency rears its head.

Over in Accounting, the commitment to a job well done is no less. Gurumeet Singh Khalsa, starting his 15th year in April, comes in on Sundays to get extra work done. And the drive only grows over time: Vice President Behnaz Rezaei, celebrating 22 years with the Institute in January, frequently surprises clients by taking calls on her cell phone while on vacation.

I am grateful to Muneeb, Claude, Gurumeet, Behnaz, and a committed team that never hesitates to step beyond department boundaries and job descriptions to give generously from the heart. I am grateful to a clientele that continues to reward us with trust.

God bless you and your loved ones. May you keep on giving and receiving -- in all areas of your lives.

Siri Karm Singh Khalsa
President

Department Messages and Current Events



Foreign Language Instruction

For the benefit of our students, we now offer free online placement tests in Italian, German, Spanish, Russian, French and Portuguese! They assess student readiness for various courses and determine appropriate placement prior to registration.

Our open houses are another opportunity for students to meet teachers and see the school. We want to make sure students remember the December 28 deadline to register for the upcoming winter session. Gift certificates may be purchased in advance and applied to class of 4 to 12, immersion programs and private instruction.

- *Claude Jeanne Chartier*
Senior Program Coordinator
- *Valeria Graffeo*
Program Coordinator

BLI Translations

Over the last few years, we have developed unique expertise in the area of multimedia translations. Government organizations and corporations rely on multimedia in their training programs and numerous translation services such as subtitling have always been a requirement of the entertainment and media industry. We replicate multimedia experiences in a



variety of languages and place great emphasis on expanding the possibilities in multimedia translations.

- *Muneeb ur Rahman*
Director, BLI Translations

Please join us!

TEFL Certificate Programs
Foreign Language Programs, &
Foreign Language Programs

OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday, February 19, 2013, 5 - 7 pm



There will be a presentation at 5:45 p.m. by the Institute's president and the co-directors of English language programs.

Meet TEFL trainers, staff and program graduates!

Refreshments will be served.

For directions and details, see
bostonlanguage.com



English as a Second Language

We have a highly diverse group of teachers who travel to places like Saudi Arabia, Italy and China often to teach or pursue Master's Degrees. The youngest of our teachers is just 22 years old and the oldest retired from commercial pursuits long ago in order to teach English here in a friendly and supportive environment. Let me share a few examples - We have a new teacher, Thomas Dattilo, who completed our TEFL program, spent a year teaching English in China and now teaches English at The Boston Language Institute. Another teacher, Andy Bader, is heading to the Ukraine to join the Peace Corps. Ross Feldberg, one of our ESL teachers, is a former biology professor from Tufts University. All are graduates of the TEFL Certificate Program.

-- *Darlene Madera*
Program Coordinator

The Challenge of Business and the Business of Challenge: Mastering Life's Upsets While Building True Prosperity

A 3-hour workshop with
Siri Karm Singh Khalsa
Saturday, January 12, 2013
1:00 – 4:00 pm

When challenge strikes, no matter how painful, first thank God for the blessing. The Siri Singh Sahib (Yogi Bhajan) taught that when you live in gratitude, your troubles flee. "God knows you're on to His tricks, so He leaves you alone."

Through lecture and discussion laced with wisdom and humor, sharing a yoga set and meditations designed to build prosperity, Siri Karm will guide you along the path of balance between spiritual practice and business principles that leads to true success.

Register online:
www.YogaAtTheAshram.org
368 Village St., Millis, MA 02054
\$45 Registration



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20/20 OFFER

Register and pay in full
for a private program
(one-on-one instruction)
in any foreign language
by **March 15, 2013** and
save **20%** on the tuition.

*program can begin any time in 2013.
** 20-hour minimum.
*** Immersion programs exempted.

TEFL Graduate Teaching in South Korea

Tiffany Amoakohene graduated from The Boston Language Institute's English Teacher Training



Program in April 2011 and is now teaching English in South Korea.

Tiffany writes:

“After earning my TEFL certificate in April 2011 and working for a short time at The Boston Language Institute, I decided to see the world and teach abroad. I applied to be a Guest English Teacher (GET) in South Korea's public school system through the the English Program In Korea (EPIK). My

journey began this past August when I was placed at an all girls' middle school in Busan's Haeundae District. Although my focus at BLI was learning to teach adults, my training prepared me in numerous ways to be a dynamic and effective teacher. My primary focus is helping my students strengthen

their English conversation skills. I've already noticed an improvement in their level of confidence. When I first began teaching at the middle school, most of my students agreed that English was their least favorite subject. However, this is starting to change. BLI's communicative method has

enabled me to think creatively and engage my students in a subtle and practical way that makes learning English fun.



Although my day to day schedule is often very rigorous, I'm enjoying the learning process. South Korea has become a very popular destination

for foreign English teachers. However, the demand and the need is still great. For many of my students, my presence at the school will be their only encounter with a native English speaker. I'm excited to be in Busan and I look forward to the year ahead.”

TEFL Graduate Traveling to China



Sue Shenkman, a 2011 TEFL graduate will be traveling this summer to China with SABEH (Sino-American Bridge for Education and Health, Inc.), an organization that places American teachers in various cities and towns in

China to teach English and American culture. Sue will be going to the ancient city of Xi'an and the town of Hanyin.

TEFL Graduate Teaching in Saudi Arabia

Joel Sanderson graduated from The Boston Language Institute's English Teacher Training Program in April 2011 and is now teaching English in Saudi Arabia.



Joel writes: “I've been in Saudi Arabia for eight months now and am enjoying my time here. Clearly, the change in culture has been the most interesting part of my experience so far. The people I have met here, though, have been very welcoming and supportive. If you are able to adjust to a very different culture and lifestyle, (and enjoy warm weather!), KSA is a good place to teach.”