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2007 Ohio TESOL Conference Feedback

I feel very privileged for having the opportunity to meet very skilled educators. I was able to review many different ideas to benefit my classes. I would like to discuss several programs that I found especially interesting.

First, Yingchun Li presented "Classroom Culture and Learning Opportunity". Li described her PhD research, which is an ethnographic case study of two EFL classrooms in a higher education setting in China. Li tried to evaluate the value of what actually happens in language classrooms. It was very interesting to hear about her research and her focus on the relationship between the teacher and student. I feel that this relationship is very important; Li gave a lot of insight from her studies at the School of Education and Lifelong Learning, University of Exeter, UK.

Second, Inna Edsall presented "Understanding need of ESL Students with Russian Background". This was especially interesting to me given my personal background and the amount of Slovenian and Ukrainian students with which I work with. Edsall explained Russian schooling and culture; this allowed me to compare that of the United States. My favorite part of her presentation was the description of schooling; this gave me a better understanding of the type of education my students get.

Third, Carol Flischman presented "Civic Objectives in the ESOL Multi-Level Classroom". Flischman researched and made materials to be used in teaching Civic, specifically studying for the BMV. I was very interested in her presentation because I have many students who study for and try to get the drivers license. This presentation

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focused on key words, phrases and signs that would help students pass the DMV test. I could definitely see students especially who don't speak English very well taking advantage of such a helpful lesson.

Fourthly, Irena Joseph presented "Using poster Assignments to Enhance English Language Skills". This presentation was very beneficial to me personally, because I like to use visuals while I teach. Joseph discussed the benefits of creating posters and using them while teaching to increase language skills. I felt that that this was a very interesting way to use a visual in class.

I will definitely apply these amongst other great suggestions to my teaching. I felt that the Passport to Resources a very helpful resource to teachers. I appreciate the opportunity of attending the 2007 Ohio TESOL Conference, I feel that I left with great knowledge and fresh new ideas.