

From the Minnesota Editors, Kimberly Johnson and Anne Dahlman:

2012 has been a busy, exciting year for MinneTESOL and we are proud to present the 2012 issue of the Minne/WITESOL Journal. As you will notice from the work presented here, the ESL field, from K-12, to college, to adult, and teacher education, is doing extremely well in Minnesota. We have some amazing professionals who are phenomenal teachers and teacher researchers, who keep asking questions about teaching, learning and language and are engaged in exploring solutions. In this issue, we proudly share some of these explorations.

In this issue, you will find scholarly contributions in the following four categories:

Leaders in the Field: This is a new category of articles for the Minne/WITESOL Journal. We have invited the winners of the 2011 MinneTESOL Harold B. Allen award, recognized for service to MinneTESOL and the field, to reflect on their experiences with ESL, the lessons they have learned, and the issues that still plague us.

Research Articles: These are reports of empirical studies that include a theoretical framework, description of data and methods, analysis and findings.

Practitioner Voices: This is also a new category of content for the Minne/WITESOL Journal. These reports are short articles that share teaching practices or perspectives, highlighting instructional activities or teaching experiences that might be valuable to other teachers.

Reviews: These are short reviews of recently published English language teaching materials, including journal articles, instructional materials and curricula, texts for professional development of educational websites or software.

So, we end 2012 by thanking everyone who made this journal possible by taking the time to contribute, review, and read the submissions. We begin 2013 by thinking about meeting the needs of members, and focused on serving our well-deserving students, with some exciting potential changes for the Journal in the future. Stay tuned!

Sincerely,
Anne Dahlman and Kim Johnson
Minne/WITESOL 2012 Co-Editors

From the Wisconsin Editors, Adam Pergament and Laura Jones-Katz:

It has been a true pleasure to have been involved in such a rigorous and heartfelt academic and community undertaking as is represented by this publication. Working through the process of shepherding the articles you are about to read here through our review and editorial process caused us to deeply reflect on what it is we do as teachers. This reflection, among other thoughts, highlighted for us

the incredible scope of opportunities and challenges language acquisition represents for our students in the world today. And as such, what became most apparent to us as fundamentally expressed by the writers herein was a passion for teaching, and a deep desire to help students succeed. We therefore feel that the articles posted in this edition of the Minne/WITESOL Journal represent a diverse and disciplined cross-section of some of the best work currently being done in our region. We welcome any and all feedback from MN/WI educators about our selections, and we look eagerly to the coming years of challenges and successes as MinneWITESOL moves forward in shaping and reporting on the ever changing landscape of students and educators.

-Adam Pergament and Laura Jones-Katz