



# AETK NEWS

The Association of English Teachers in Korea  
Volume 4, Number 5 February 1986

## *President's Message*

Happy New Year!

I would like to take this opportunity to wish each of you the best for the coming year. I pray that you will find happiness and fulfillment in your involvement with English teaching in Korea. During 1984 and 1985 we in AETK have come through a period of great change. At the end of 1984 we experienced a large turnover of membership when many "oldtimers" left Korea or changed to another area of work. This loss to our association at one time was almost a fatal blow and some of us seriously questioned whether we could survive as a group.

Another of these changes was the loss of several good meeting places in the central downtown area which for one reason or another were no longer available for our use. The last couple of meetings at Yonsei University, I think have proved to be convenient for many of our members, but we are still open to suggestions for a "better" meeting place.

All of these challenges which seemed to have been threatening our very survival have been met and overcome and I look forward to 1986 as a year of growth and progress. Coming up on March 15th at 2:00 P.M. is our annual business session and election of officers for this next year. Needless to say this is a very important meeting for the future. Please consider very carefully who you think could fill the following offices: President, Vice President (Program Chair), Secretary, Treasurer, Member at Large.

Also at this meeting we will be considering the proposed constitutional changes that were mailed to you earlier. If for some reason you did not get your copy of this document please contact Miss Kim (782-1775).

In February we also have an excellent opportunity to hear Dr. Peter Strevens speaking on "A Model of the Learning/Teaching Process." I hope

to see you at the Yonsei University Conference Center on February 25th at 7:00 P.M. Please feel free to call me at any time if I can be of any help (782-1775).

Sincerest personal regards,  
JOB GENE AUTRY

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## *Association News*

Dr. Peter Strevens, a British scholar and well known figure in the world of English language teaching, will be the featured speaker at the February AETK meeting to be held on Tuesday, February 25 at 7:00 P.M. (Note the change from our usual Wednesday/Saturday schedule.) The meeting will be at the Conference Center on the Yonsei University campus. The Conference Center is located behind the Central Library, just below the Foreign Language Institute (see the map on page 2).

The AETK Annual Business Meeting will take place on March 15 at 2:00 P.M. (location to be announced). Items of business will include election of officers for the coming year and voting on proposed changes in the Constitution and Bylaws which were circulated to AETK members in January.

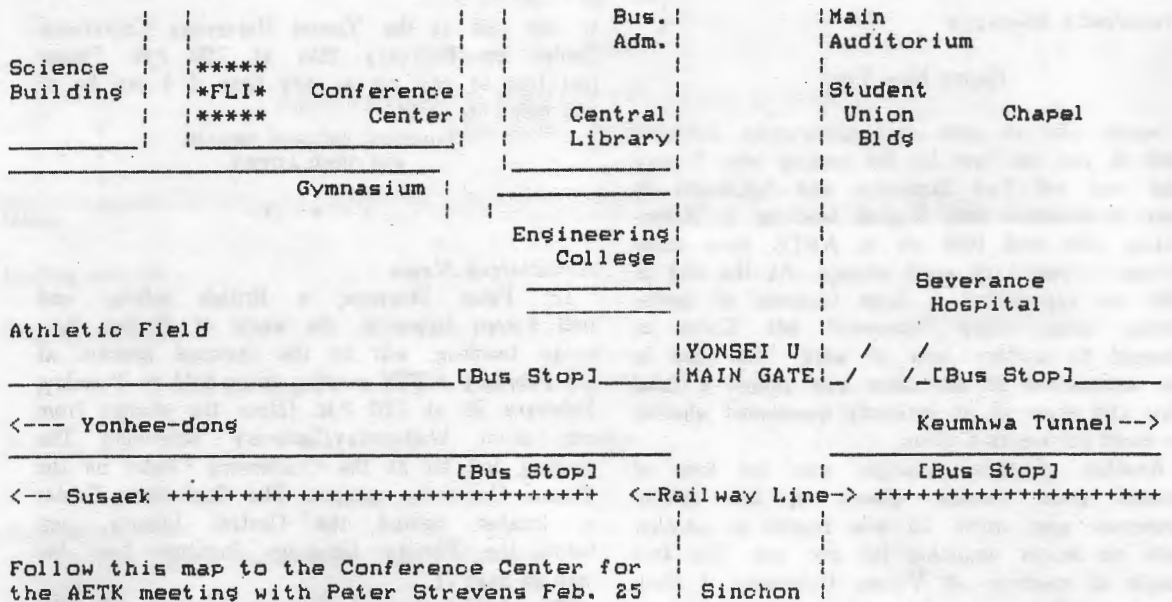
The workshop announced for March has been postponed due to lack of response from AETK members willing to participate in planning and conducting the program. If you are interested in seeing the workshop idea revived, please speak to someone on the Coordinating Committee.

At recent AETK meetings, Barbara Mintz presented a number of useful ideas on the teaching of writing (November), members shared informally with each other regarding various issues (December), and Young-Shik Lee gave an overview of trends in English as a foreign language in Britain (January).

See back page for membership application  
AETK is an affiliate of TESOL International



YONSEI UNIVERSITY



Meetings Here and There

- |           |  |                  |   |
|-----------|--|------------------|---|
| Feb 15    | College English Teachers Association<br>Hankuk University of Foreign Studies | Apr 10-12        | Tennessee TESOL Conference<br>Memphis, Tennessee              |
| Feb 25    | AETK<br>Yonsei University  | Apr 18-20        | CATESOL State Conference<br>Oakland, California               |
| Mar 3-7   | TESOL Convention<br>Anaheim, California                                      | Apr 19-20        | TESOL France Convention<br>Paris, France                      |
| Mar 13-15 | B.C. TEAL Convention<br>Richmond, British Columbia                           | Jul 7-<br>Aug 15 | TESOL Summer Institute<br>Honolulu, Hawaii                    |
| Mar 15    | AETK Annual Business Meeting   | Oct 16-18        | Rocky Mountain Regional Conference<br>Albuquerque, New Mexico |
| Apr 4-5   | LATESOL Conference<br>New Orleans, Louisiana                                 |                  |   |

*Report*

Young-Shik Lee  
*Sogang University*

The Association of Secondary-School English Teachers in Seoul held its annual meeting on November 5, 1985 at Kyung-Ki Girls High School. More than 300 teachers from many different schools in Seoul were present, and at the meeting Michael Jackson, English Language Officer and Vice Representative at the British Council, gave a lecture on the topic "Aims and Objectives in English Language Teaching."

Jackson began by saying that, despite the diversity in language teaching methods, there are certain basic principles to be commonly applied. He listed them as follows:

- a) Language learning involves acquiring a skill, not simply mastering a body of knowledge.
- b) The functions of language are just as important as its forms.
- c) There is no fixed or predetermined relation between teaching and learning.
- d) Communicative competence is a worthwhile objective.
- e) There is a clear pedagogical distinction between teaching language and testing language.
- f) The model of language used in teaching should be appropriate to language learning requirements and not derived from theoretical linguistics or theories of literary criticism.

In connection with these basic principles, the speaker commented on the teaching of English in Korea, noting a number of common features, for example, that it is characterized by the use of grammar-translation methodology, that it is 'content'-oriented with limited reference to the functions of language, that the 'transmission model' of teaching is dominant, that low priority is given to communication in English, that there is a lot of testing which passes as teaching, and so on.

Finally, he suggested reorientation toward communicative aims and improvement of teacher training programs as ways for the development of English language teaching in Korea.

*Editorial*

This issue of AETK News is late and much slimmer than usual, mainly for two reasons. The first is that only two items had been received for it as of January 25, and the second is that your editor has been preoccupied with other tasks.

One of the things which has taken a considerable amount of time is the search for a better way of putting the newsletter together, and one which hopefully will result in a more readable format. Your comments on the changes in this issue will be helpful in determining whether we should continue the search or go back to the old way.

As stated in the June (1985) issue, our goal is to report news of interest to AETK members and to provide a forum for sharing ideas about English language teaching, particularly as they relate to teaching English in Korea. We need your assistance in order to accomplish this goal. Do you have some ideas you want to share with your colleagues through these pages? Then write them down and send them in now for the April issue!

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Your AETK officers are:

Joe Gene Autry, President  
Ruth Fischer, Vice President  
Young-Shik Lee, Secretary  
Robert Wissmath, Treasurer  
In-Won Kim, Member-at-Large

Joining AETK? Renewing? Send the application below with your membership dues (₩10,000) to the Treasurer, or bring it to the next AETK meeting.

ASSOCIATION OF ENGLISH TEACHERS IN KOREA  
Membership Application

Name ..... Date.....

Mailing address.....

City..... Province..... Postal code.....

TEL (Office)..... (Home).....

Position title..... Institution.....

Application is for:

- New membership
- Renewal

Area or level of work:

- Primary school
- Middle school
- High school
- College/university
- Language institute
- Other.....

Major interests:

- Fellowship and sharing with other teachers
- Teaching methods and techniques for classroom use
- Materials development
- Theory and research on language learning/teaching
- Language testing
- Other.....

AETK News is published five times yearly in April, June, September, November and February and is available through membership in the Association of English Teachers in Korea. News items, announcements, and articles related to language teaching and learning are welcomed. Send name and address corrections and material for publication to Dwight Strawn, KPO Box 740, Seoul, Korea 110. Announcements of job openings for foreign teachers are accepted only from organizations which provide visa support. AETK News does not publish announcements by teachers seeking employment.