

Julia Robinson

Education

1995 Master of Arts

Language Education/TESL
University of British Columbia.

- Thesis: *The Role of Journal Writing in Initiating Reflection on Practice of Tutors in a College Learning Centre*

1982 Bachelor of Arts

English Language
University of British Columbia

Professional experience

1982 - present Douglas College New Westminster, B.C.

2010 – present

English as Second Language Instructor

- English for Academic Purposes program.

2010 – Present

Teaching English as Second Language Instructor and Coordinator

- Instructor *TESL 2204: Tutoring ESL Students*
- Coordinator of TESL program beginning 2011

1993 - 1994 and 1996 - 2010 Learning Centre Coordinator

- Founded the Douglas College Learning Centre.
- Developed the Learning Centre from an initial one semester half-time release and two peer tutors to its current 2 full-time faculty, 3 full-time staff and approximately 40 peer tutors on two campuses and online.
- Designed peer tutor pre-service and in-service training curricula.
- Taught LERN 100 (Academic Peer Tutor Training) and co-taught FINA 1100 (Aboriginal Mentor Support) - with Sandi Strate and Se'qwa:ynten.
- Successfully applied for and renewed College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA) accreditation at 3 levels (Regular, Advanced, Master) for Learning Centre tutor training.
- Trained peer tutors in the Learning Centre.
- Developed individual learning plans to guide students and their tutors.
- Developed resources for student and tutor use in the Learning

Centre – handouts on reading, writing, grammar, study skills and tutoring techniques.

- Tutor students in writing, reading and study skills.

The Learning Centre won a National Council on Student Development (NCSD) Exemplary Program Award in 2000.

2006 – 2007 **Faculty Development Coordinator**

- Organized faculty development opportunities for faculty from across the college.
- Presented faculty development sessions on various pedagogical strategies and issues (see examples below).
- Co-led Scholarship of Teaching and Learning cohort project into student preferences in learning.
- Chaired College-wide Faculty Development Committee.

1982 - 1996 **English as a Second Language Instructor**

- Taught listening, speaking, reading, writing and pronunciation in college preparatory ESL program, Intermediate to College Prep.
- Taught ESL adjunct course to PSYC 100.
- Taught short immersion programs for students from Quebec and international visa students.
- Taught community ESL classes at Beginner and Intermediate Levels (Maple Ridge Campus).

1985 - 1986 Open Learning Institute Richmond, B.C

Distance ESL Program Supervisor and Tutor

- Set up pilot project for first ever use of OLI's distance education ESL program.
- Supervised other professional tutors.
- Assessed students for placement.
- Tutored beginner ESL students by mail and telephone.

Additional professional activities

Recent Presentations (2000 - present)

2011 *Marking: a frank conversation* (with Lin Langley) Douglas College Faculty Development Sessions.

2010 Pacific Northwest Writing Centres Association, Western Oregon University. *If They Build It, We Will Go: Bringing the Best of Your Writing Center into a Learning Commons*. Panel Presentation with Larry Nicholls (Seattle University), Judy Solberg (Seattle University), and Jake Herman (Western Washington University).

2006 - 2009 Douglas College Faculty Development Sessions. *Examples:*

- *Building a framework for your college course* (with Lin Langley).
- *Writing effective assignment instructions.*
- *Starting the semester well.*

- *Marking: a frank conversation* (with Lin Langley).
- *Learning Commons visioning session* (with Patti Romanko).

2008 North Island College, Courtney, BC. *Key decisions in starting a college learning centre* (day-long workshop).

2007 Canadian Learning Commons Conference, UBC. *Tutor training and certification* (plenary).

2007 Vancouver Community College. *How to tutor writing* (day-long workshop).

2006 Pacific Northwest Writing Centers Association (PNWCA), Corvallis, OR. *A mouse or an elephant's ear? Writing centres as part of something bigger.*

2005 PNWCA, Bothell, WA. Panel Chair. Panel members from Douglas College, Whatcom Community College, Everett Community College and Oregon State University. *Using on-line learning environments in tutor training.*

2004 PNWCA, Centralia, WA. *Tutoring self-editing strategies to ESL students* (with Cecil Klassen).

2003 Canadian Association of College and University Student Services (CACUSS), Vancouver, B.C. *Addressing Plagiarism from the Learning Centre* (with Cecil Klassen).

2003 TESL Canada Conference, Burnaby, B.C. *Writing for academic purposes: Students in transition* (with Janet Allwork, Cecil Klassen, Amy Modahl, and Laurel Whitney).

2002 Writing Pedagogy Forum, Bothell, WA, *Second language acquisition and the needs of ESL students in the regular classroom* (with Cecil Klassen and Debbie Smith).

2000 National Council on Student Development (NCSD), Clearwater Beach, FL. *The Douglas College Learning Centre* (with Ted James); Terry O'Banion Shared Journey Award Finalist.

2000 Learning Specialists Association of B.C. (LSABC) Hosted Fall Conference at Douglas College (with Donna Thompson). Panel Member: *Training peer tutors.*

Selected Publications

2009-10. Examples of student handouts created for use in the Learning Centre: *Developing Fluency in a Second Language*; *A Self-Editing Guide*; *Developing Fluency in Second Language Writing*; *Organizing an Oral Presentation*; *Editing for articles* (with Cecil Klassen); *Building Paragraphs Around Quotations*; *Elements for Analyzing Fiction*; *The Writing Process: a Checklist.*

2006. *Peer Tutor Manual*. Douglas College Learning Centre.

2004, February. Preparing students for academic writing; Insights from the Learning Centre, *TEAL News*, 14, 23, 30.

1999. Implementing language competency: No one best solution (with Cecil Klassen, Terry Loughrey, Jan Selman and Debbie Smith). *Discourse*, 4 (1), 7-12.

1996. *Partnerships in learning: Teaching ESL to adults* (with Mary Selman). Toronto: Pippin Publishing.

1995. *The role of journal writing in initiating reflection on practice of tutors in a college learning centre*. Master's Thesis, University of BC.

1994. *Using peer tutors in a learning centre*. Province of British Columbia, Ministry of Skills, Training and Labour.

1992. *An approach to ESL literacy assessment* (with Cecil Klassen). Province of British Columbia, Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology.

Professional memberships

BC Teachers of English as an Additional Language

College Reading and Learning Association

Learning Specialists Association of B.C.

Pacific Northwest Writing Centers Association – founding member