

95TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

ON COMMON GROUND

NCTE

**The National Council of Teachers of English
in association with the
Pennsylvania Council of Teachers of English and Language Arts
and the Western Pennsylvania Council of Teachers of English**

**National Council of Teachers of English
November 17–22, 2005
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**

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Chronological Summary

Wednesday

NCTE Executive Committee, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Committee on Resolutions, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Thursday

Committee on Resolutions, 8:00 a.m.–Noon
Preconvention Sessions, 1:00–3:45 p.m.
Meetings of Council Committees, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Elementary, Middle Level, and Secondary Get-Togethers, 5:00–6:30 p.m.
Opening General Session Banquet, 7:30 p.m.

Friday

First-Timers' Welcome, 7:00–8:00 a.m.
Convention Kick-Off Session, 8:00–9:15 a.m.
Hearings on Resolutions, 9:15–11:00 a.m.
Meetings of Council Committees, 9:30 a.m.–5:15 p.m.
A Sessions, 9:30–10:45 a.m.
AB Session, 9:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.
B Sessions, 11:00 a.m.–12:15 p.m.
Exhibits Open, Noon–6:00 p.m.
C Sessions, 12:30–1:45 p.m.
Middle Level Luncheon, Conference on English Education, 12:30–2:15 p.m.
D Sessions, 2:30–3:45 p.m.
DE Sessions, 2:30–5:15 p.m.
E Sessions, 4:00–5:15 p.m.
Annual Business/Board of Directors Meeting, 5:30–7:00 p.m.
College Celebration and Reception, 7:00–10:00 p.m.

Saturday

Breakfasts, 7:00–9:15 a.m.
Meetings of Council Committees, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
F Sessions, 8:00–9:15 a.m.
Film Festival, 9:00 a.m.–5:05 p.m.
Exhibits Open, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Tour Exhibits, 9:15–11:00 a.m.
Research Roundtables, 9:30–10:45 a.m.
G Sessions, 9:30–10:45 a.m.

GH Session, 9:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

H Sessions, 11:00 a.m.–12:15 p.m.
Elementary, Secondary, and College/CCCC Luncheons, 12:30–2:30 p.m.

I Sessions, 1:15–2:30 p.m.

J Sessions, 2:45–4:00 p.m.

JK Sessions, 2:45–5:30 p.m.

K Sessions, 4:15–5:30 p.m.

Special Interest Groups, 5:45–7:00 p.m.

Sunday

Breakfast, 7:30–9:45 a.m.

L Sessions, 8:30–9:45 a.m.

Lesson Study Workshop, 8:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

Exhibits Open, 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

General Session, 10:00–11:15 a.m.

M Sessions, 11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m.

Conference on English Leadership Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

Commission Meetings, 12:30–6:00 p.m.

N Sessions, 1:00–3:00 p.m.

CEL Convention, 2:45–5:00 p.m.

Monday

One-Day Workshops, 9:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

CEE Colloquium, 9:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

ALAN Workshop, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

CEL Convention, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Elementary, Middle Level, Secondary, and College Section Steering Committees, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

CCCC Executive Committee Meeting, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Commission Meetings, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Tuesday

NCTE Executive Committee, 8:00 a.m.–2:30

One-Day Workshops, 9:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

CEL Convention, 8:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

ALAN Workshop, 8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Greetings from the Program Chair



Kyoko Sato

I take great pride in welcoming you to our 95th Annual Convention here in Pittsburgh! Today the city enjoys an international reputation for transforming itself from a Dickensian past into an environmentally “green” city, exemplified by the sleek and elegant new Convention Center where we will be meeting. Pittsburgh is a wonderful metropolis of stark contrasts, both in its unique geography and its distinct neighborhoods. Colorful bridges form essential links over the Allegheny, the Ohio, and the Monongahela Rivers, accentuated by steep residential hillsides. Because of this unique topography, negotiating your way from the Convention Center to your hotel may take a bit longer, but the little extra time will allow you to enjoy the company of your colleagues and make new friends on the shuttles.

The contrastive cityscape of Pittsburgh poses an appropriate backdrop for the multiple points of view that the diverse members of NCTE bring to this convention. Such a wide variety of proposals were submitted, each so imaginative and different. I was heartened to read the majority that steadfastly maintained one of NCTE’s core beliefs, the student’s ability to construct meaning, which is why we have come together—to meet on common ground. You will be energized by attending sessions that incorporate the arts into the classroom, from opera to hip-hop. If you need help in learning how to use technology in your classroom, or to link new wireless capabilities to motivate student writing, there are presenters here who know and will share. Build community while embracing diversity through various genres of multicultural literature. Participate in an extensive Day of Research! Teach teachers more effectively! Several presenters will show you how to help struggling readers learn how to read and write. I want to highlight particularly the sessions on the English Language Learner. If you are currently stymied by the presence of several non-English speaking students who are assigned to your mainstream English/language arts classes, you no longer need to finesse the situation. There are several presentations that will help you take stock of what you already know about teaching oral language, reading, and writing but will offer more specific suggestions on how to develop new scaffolding techniques and effective assessment measures.

In addition, there will be two new events. The first will recognize all National Board Certified Teachers who are also members of NCTE at a special celebratory reception. The second will feature a day-long Sunday workshop on “Lesson Study: Thinking Deeply about Student Learning.” Lesson study is a teacher-led, standards-based planning and assessment technique used primarily by educators in Japan. The process holds particular relevance for teachers in the United States in the current environment of high-stakes testing and scripted curricula, which have become the numerical bellwether for student learning. Lesson study is professional development at its peak in that the process fulfills both rigor and reflection in assessment and a collaborative creative mode in lesson design. However, the primary focus is not on how well the teacher performs but on how effectively the student learns. This process, which is teacher-led accountability at its best, hones the art of teaching among highly-qualified teachers who ascribe to demanding standards for every student.

I extend a special invitation to all first-year teachers and first-time convention attendees to come to our free Kick-Off Breakfast. I want to make sure that your initial experience will be so positive that the first-timer will continue to return to our annual conventions every year. Of course I also welcome to this convention, all second-timers, mid-career, and veteran teachers, professors, authors, publishers, filmmakers, librarians, administrators, allied organizations, the press, and the politicians. I look forward to meeting all of you here in Pittsburgh!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kyoko Sato". The signature is fluid and cursive.

*Kyoko Sato
NCTE President-Elect and
2005 Program Chair*

