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Prof. Dr. Jasmin (Bey) Cowin Selected by U.S. Department of State for Prestigious English Language Specialist Project

The U.S. Department of State announced the selection of Prof. Dr. Jasmin (Bey) Cowin of Touro University for an English Language Specialist project focusing on Assessment and Artificial Intelligence in Russia. Dr. Cowin is part of a select group, as her project is one of approximately 240 that the English Language Specialist Program supports each year. Prof. Cowin will serve as an English Language Specialist as plenary speaker and deliver a workshop for university professors and graduate students in Russia as part of a regional conference dedicated to linguistics, language teaching, and assessment.

Dr. Cowin is a Fulbright Scholar; Associate Professor in the TESOL/Bilingual Department at Touro University, Graduate School of Education, NY; EPFP fellow (New York 2021), pro-bono project coordinator and sustainability analyst for access and equity in digital literacy for Computers for Schools Burundi; former Chair of the artificial intelligence section for WorldCALL 2023 – CALL in Critical Times. Chiang Mai, Thailand, elected member of the CALL-IS Steering Committee for the TESOL International 2023-2024 Electronic Village, and past conference chair of the 51st NYS TESOL conference, 2021. Dr. Cowin also served as an Editorial Board member of the Journal of Systemics, Cybernetics, and Informatics for its special issue "Trans-Disciplinary Communication; TESOL expert and Train the Trainer for the Future Horizons Foundation for Translation, Training, and Development in Sanaa, Yemen; TESOL specialist for Everyone Academy, Morocco; plenary speaker at the National University of Science and Technology, Moscow; and pro-bono lecturer for the Amity Institute of Education, Amity University, India. She served as past Chair of the Rotary Club of New York United Nations International Breakfast Meetings, past President of the Rotary Club of New York, and Assistant Governor for New York State for Rotary District 5.

Recent publications and presentations are: *A Brave New World: AI as a Nascent Regime?* Journal of Systemics, Cybernetics and Informatics, [Cowin, J., (Touro GSE), Oberer, B., & Leon, C. (2023). 21(4), 58-66. <https://doi.org/10.54808/JSCI.21.04.58>]; *Embodied Cognition and Communication in the Age of AI: Exploring the Human-AI Divide*, lecture presented 2023 at Universität Regensburg; *Empowering educators for the 21st century: Discovering the potential of immersive technologies and AI for simulation training* for WorldCALL 2023 – CALL in Critical Times. Chiang Mai, Thailand; and *Decoding Complexity: Visualizing the Trans-Disciplinary Communication (TDC) Logarithmic Spiral*, 1st Meeting for the Association for Trans-Disciplinary Communication (AFTDC).

Dr. Cowin brings over twenty-five years of experience as an educator, technology specialist, and institutional leader. As an Education Policy Fellow at the EPFP™ Institute, Columbia University/Teachers College, she became part of a select group of strategic leaders analyzing trends regarding effective educational policy and leadership, focusing on preparing qualified educators for the complexities of 21st-century classrooms. Her extensive background in education, language acquisition and teaching, the Fourth Industrial Revolution augmented and virtual reality, simulation



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training, not-for-profit leadership, and commitment to education as a basic human right provide her with unique skills and vertical networks locally and globally.

The English Language Specialist Program is the premier opportunity for leaders in the field of teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL) to enact meaningful and sustainable changes in the way that English is taught abroad. Through projects developed by U.S. Embassies in more than 80 countries, English Language Specialists work directly with local teacher trainers, educational leaders, and ministry of education officials to exchange knowledge, build capacity, and establish partnerships benefiting participants, institutions, and communities in the United States and overseas.

Since 1991, the English Language Specialist Program has supported in-country, virtual, and mixed projects in which hundreds of TESOL scholars and educators promote English language learning, enhance English teaching capacity, and foster mutual understanding between the U.S. and other countries through cultural exchange. During their projects, English Language Specialists may conduct intensive teacher training, advise ministries of education or participate in high-level educational consultations, and offer plenary presentations at regional, national or international TESOL conferences. These projects are challenging and those selected represent the best of the U.S. TESOL community. In return, the program provides professional development opportunities to help participants experience different cultures and build skills that can greatly enhance their TESOL careers at home.

English Language Specialists are counted among the more than 50,000 individuals participating in U.S. Department of State exchange programs each year. The Specialist Program is administered by the Center for Intercultural Education and Development at Georgetown University.

For further information about the English Language Specialist Program or the U.S. Department of State, please visit elprograms.org/specialist, contact us by telephone at [202-632-6452](tel:202-632-6452), or e-mail ECA-Press@state.gov.