

## **English Access Teacher Training Program**



## **Teacher Training Program: Scholarships to build teaching practices**

"My trip to the U.S. to attend the Annual TESOL Convention in Boston was one of the most valuable experiences I have been offered. It expanded my knowledge regarding teaching techniques and researching teaching and educational material."





MOE English Access teacher Sameh Hamdan was nominated and won a scholarship to attend the TESOL conference held in Boston, USA. Students in MOE schools across the Kingdom of Jordan want to learn English. Fluency in English opens up both educational and occupational doors. With the new mandate from the Ministry of Higher Education, students must have a high-level of English fluency as a prerequisite to pursuing a graduate degree. Many industries, also, are requiring English fluency for hiring. Without English language skills, young Jordanians find their options limited.

The English Access Microscholarship Program has employed a new initiative – to build the skills of government-employed MOE teachers to teach English to lesser-served students, after-school, over the weekend, and during the summer. The US Embassy, to support and ensure instructional quality of teachers participating in the English Access Microscholarship Program, have funded the English Access Teacher Training Program.

Through these funds, AMIDEAST provides teachers with a combination of pre-service training, monthly workshops, and classroom observations. In addition, the *United States Embassy offered three scholarships for Access teachers to attend the* Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) conference held in Boston, MA.

The TESOL conference presented many important interactive teaching methodologies that employed the internet and technology. MOE English Access Teacher Sameh Hamden stated about the conference, "It enhanced my overall understanding of students and my way of communicating with them. The convention presented me with an opportunity to meet many teachers and educators from many different countries, such as the U.S, Latin America, and the Middle East. The lectures and activities offered in the convention were so comprehensive and intensive that choosing which ones to attend was hard."

Upon their return, the beneficiaries of the TESOL scholarships will give workshops to their peer teachers on the techniques and practices they have learned and encountered in their experience abroad. AMIDEAST will provide full technical and logistical support in order to ensure full teacher participation and the sharing and utilization of such techniques.

