



ми з вами 15 років

**ШКІЛЬНИЙ**  
**СВІТ**  
**ЕКСПЕРТ**  
у галузі освіти

За сприяння Національної академії педагогічних наук України

Англійська мова та культура. Видається з січня 2000 року 4 рази на місяць

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**International education cannot be the work of one country. It is the responsibility and promise of all nations. It calls for free exchange and full collaboration... The knowledge of our citizens is one treasure which grows only when it is shared.**

*Lyndon B. Johnson,  
message to Congress in February, 1966, on international education*



## СЬОГОДНІ В НОМЕРІ

### РЕФОРМА ОСВІТИ

**Інтерв'ю з Оксаною Коваленко** «Знання іноземної мови — це не примха, а необхідність часу».

### НАШ ГІСТЬ

**Директор Корпусу Миру в Україні Даглас Тешнер:** «Будьте впевненими в своїй професії та пишайтеся своєю роботою».

### ПЕДАГОГІЧНА МАЙСТЕРНЯ

Зробіть свої уроки більш продуктивними та цікавими з нашими авторами, які в цьому році проходять атестацію. Теми та рівні різні – від наймолодших учнів, які тільки починають вивчати мову, до старшокласників, яких цікавлять важливіші теми – Україна та Європейський Союз, Українська діаспора тощо.

**Our Guest**

**Douglass TESCHNER:**  
**“Have confidence in your profession and take pride in your work.”**

1. Can you tell our readers some words about your teaching career and the way you have become a member of a big PC family?

After graduating from the University of Massachusetts with a degree in forestry in 1971, I joined the Peace Corps and served as a forestry volunteer in Morocco from 1971-1973. I was the first member of my family to join the Peace Corps although, since then, seven more have served as Volunteers, staff, or staff spouses spanning three generations.

Professionally, I mostly worked in the United States in non-profits (NGOs) although I also did some teaching. Starting in 2002, I worked 6 of the last 8 years overseas, including leading projects with USAID in Rwanda and Morocco.

2. Have you ever dreamt about being a PC Director and what are your main objectives here in Ukraine?

Being a Peace Corps country director is a great job because I get to be part of the great work our Volunteers and staff are doing. It is a popular job and many people apply so it is quite competitive. I first served as Country Director in Burkina Faso in West Africa from 2008 – January 2010, and then I moved over to Ukraine in February of this year.

My goals as Country Director are (1) to ensure the health and safety of our Volunteers, (2) to inspire the staff and Volunteers to achieve a higher level of personal and professional achievement, (3) to raise the profile and impact of Peace Corps in Ukraine, and (4) to grow the post to a level of 450 Volunteers by 2012, while ensuring quality, high expectations, strong Volunteer support, a strong sense of teamwork, a high level of transparency, and excellent training for both our Volunteers and staff.

3. Has the mission of the PC changed since it was founded on the initiative of J. F. Kennedy?

The mission is unchanged over the past 49 years. Next year, we celebrate 50 years of the Peace Corps history.



The mission of the Peace Corps is to promote world peace and friendship by:

- helping the people of interested countries in meeting their need for trained men and women;
- helping promote a better understanding of Americans on the part of the peoples served;
- helping promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of Americans.

4. What do you think are the most crucial problems to be solved by Peace Corps Volunteers in Ukrainian schools?

Some of the issues we at Peace Corps see as important include:

- encouraging critical thinking skills as a part of Communicative Approach to language education;
- fostering conversational skills, fluency and aural comprehension;
- resource development (textbooks, lesson plans, audio/video materials);
- fostering confidence in the local teachers and creating a more collaborative environment.

Also, for Volunteers who serve as Teacher Trainers, it is methodologically challenging to train the teachers of English to teach students using Communicative Approach. It can also be a challenge is working with young teachers of English who have no teaching experience.



5. You have been staying in Ukraine for some time already? What are your impressions of our country? Can you name some associations for you about Ukraine before coming here? Have they been changed after arriving in our country?

Ukraine is a very beautiful and interesting country; lots of history makes it especially interesting and there are many historic sites to visit. I am enjoying it very much.

Before coming, I knew that Ukraine was the breadbasket to the Soviet Union. I see now the excellent soils and land are ideal for agriculture so I understand why! I was also familiar with news reports of the Orange Revolution. Of course, after you visit a country, you learn a lot more, and I still have many parts of the country to visit.

I am also excited to be in a country that was part of the former Soviet Union because I grew up as a young child during the Cold War when it seemed like we were enemies, but now we are friends!

6. What are your further prospects for teaching English in Ukraine? Do you have any special programmes or approaches for teachers of English in our country?

Our Volunteers do a lot more than teach in schools. Many run teacher training camps and weekend IT workshops. Our PCVs also get together to share resources through regional groups we call the Collaborative.

7. What do you like doing in your spare time?

I love to climb mountains and have climbed many in Europe, North America and Africa. Of course, I have already climbed Hoverla in the Carpathians. I like to go on walks, especially in the forests around Kyiv. In the winter, I am a cross country and alpine skier and did both in the parks around Kyiv last winter.

8. Do you have any motto that keeps you moving?

I am a lover of quotes. Here are two of my favorites:

The place to improve the world is first in one's own heart and head and hands.

— **Robert M. Pirsig**

Every job is a self-portrait of the person who did it. Autograph your work with excellence.

— **Author Unknown**

Over many years, I have collected quotations that strike me as particularly important and meaningful. Here are several. I hope you find them useful.



**Some of Douglass Teshner's Favorite Quotes**

The only policy likely to succeed is to try to make the future.

— **Peter Drucker**

Face reality as it is, not as it was or as you wish it to be.

— **Jack Welch**

A ship in harbor is safe — but that is not what ships are built for.

— **John Shedd**

You have to believe that there is nothing you cannot be, nothing you cannot do and nothing you cannot have if you work hard enough and persist without fear.

— **Gordon Weinberger**

Life is either a daring adventure, or nothing.

— **Helen Keller**

Savor your existence. Live every moment. Do not waste a breath.

— **Nando Parrado**

There are always flowers for those who want to see them.

— **Henry Matisse**

9. What can you wish Ukrainian teachers at this challenging time?

Have confidence in your profession and take pride in your work. Set high expectations for yourself and your students. Be open to the new ideas.

I see many good things happening in Ukraine, and that will surely continue. Ukraine has a bright future and teachers are an important part! Peace Corps is proud to be a small part of this exciting future for your wonderful country.

*The idea of the interview is Tatiana Mykhailenko's.*