

Alice Boyne Named ESU President

Alice Boyne was elected National President of The English-Speaking Union of the United States by the Board of Trustees at its semiannual meeting in Providence, Rhode Island in November, 2003, during the ESU Annual General Meeting.

Ms. Boyne, who has served as Executive Director of the ESU since 1999, will hold the title of President and Executive Director. William R. Miller OBE, Chairman of the ESU, praised Ms. Boyne's leadership, energy and dedication to the ESU as he reviewed the strategic decisions carried out during her term as Executive Director to firmly establish the ESU's financial health. These include creation of an unrestricted fund for operation and growth, expanded development capabilities, and establishing membership growth incentives for ESU Branches. Mr. Miller also cited Ms. Boyne's efforts to improve communications with members, her commitment to enhance the quality and scope of ESU educational programs that advance the ESU mission, and her dedication to developing new National/Branch partnership programs.



A 30-year veteran of the ESU, Alice began her ESU career as assistant to the Deputy Executive Director. During her tenure, she has introduced the National Shakespeare Competition, established the British Universities Summer School scholarship program at the Globe Theatre, the Treadwell Memorial Challenge Grants, the Ambassador Book Awards and Books as Envoys. As President, Alice succeeds Doe Thornburg who has been passionately committed to this organization on the Branch, regional and national levels for over 50 years. Mrs. Thornburg, as President Emerita, will continue to act in an advisory capacity to the National Board of Directors.

Previous Presidents of the ESU include Hon. J. Sinclair Armstrong and former United States Presidents Dwight D. Eisenhower and William Howard Taft.