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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Professor Ann Mabbott Selected by U.S. Department of State for Prestigious English Language Specialist Assignment

St. Paul, Minn. -- The U.S. Department of State selected Emeritus Professor Ann Mabbott of Hamline University for an English Language Specialist project focusing on content-based academic language at several different universities in St. Petersburg, Moscow and Krasnoyarsk, Russia.

Mabbott is part of a select group, as one of approximately 80 U.S. citizens each year selected to serve on an English Language Specialist assignment. This is her second assignment. Last year she went to Spain.

Emeritus Professor Mabbott was the Director of the Center for Second Language Teaching and Learning at Hamline University from 1996-2009. During that time, Hamline University's ESL licensure program received National Recognition Status from CAEP and TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages) and she was invited to speak nationally and internationally as an expert in how to teach English as a second language.

Along with her colleague, Michelle Benegas, she received a grant from the US Department of Education for Hamline's ELM (English learner in the mainstream) program, which is designed to help all teachers educate English learners in mainstream classes. Since August, 2018, Mabbott has retired from her full-time position at Hamline, which allows her to bring her work to other countries.

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, EL 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 sent hundreds of TESOL scholars and educators abroad to promote English language learning, enhance English teaching capacity, and foster mutual understanding between the U.S. and other countries through cultural exchange. On assignment, EL 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 back 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 our website, contact us by telephone at 202-632-6452, or e-mail ECA-Press@state.gov.

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