

SOUTH PACIFIC WORKSHOPS

Dr. Harold S. Madsen, Brigham Young University's TESL Program Coordinator and Michael E. Foley, new director of The Church College of Hawaii's English Language Institute, recently completed a three week excursion to the South Pacific.

They conducted weeklong workshops in Western Samoa and Tonga for elementary and secondary teachers and administrators. They also consulted with local administrators and teachers about English language programs in Tahiti, Fiji, and American Samoa. Teachers from Fiji and Tahiti joined the workshops.

The visiting educators and participants discussed various aspects of ESL instruction including materials

preparation and adaptation, testing, and dealing with motivation problems and the need to use more English. A video tape recorder taken along provided many of the participants their first opportunity to see themselves in action.

The workshops and consultations have generated a great deal of enthusiasm: Teachers in Samoa have established an informal ESL organization which will publish a quarterly newsletter sharing ideas and teaching techniques. Fiji and Tonga may establish an exchange program of teachers and materials. In Tahiti a newly approved vocational education program will include English instruction for those working in the rapidly expanding tourist industry.