

# Panel Discussion at Teachers' Roadmap Conference 3

In the 21st Century, the world has become a global village. Hence, it is the need of the time for different teacher organizations to collaborate in order to maximize learning and provide optimum opportunity of networking to teachers. In this regard, Society of Pakistan English Language Teachers partnered with Pahoa Sabaq for their 3rd Teachers Roadmap Conference held on February 8, 2020 at the Arts Council, Karachi. SPELT organized a panel discussion on *Challenges in Achieving Quality Education*. The panelists were renowned and eminent educationists namely Prof Zakia Sarwar, Dr Bushra Khurram and Ms.Huma Thavar. They shared practical ideas, based on their classroom practice, for achieving quality in education. The panel discussion, brilliantly moderated by Ms. Lubna Mohiyuddin, was highly appreciated by the conference participants. Report by Sonia Kazim



# **SPELT Working Committee Updates**

### **Conference Committee**

Gear up for the biggest International Conference of the country!

SPELT 36th International Conference will be held in



Karachi on 7th & 8th November 2020

Islamabad & Lahore on 14th & 15th November 2020

Abbottabad on 21st & 22nd November 2020

Stay tuned for Call for Papers and registration information.

### **Academic Committee**

#### **Free Academic Session**

Topic: "Writing Approaches to Teach Writing effectively"

Facilitator: Mr. Mohammad Hasan Abbasi

Date: 29th February' 2020, Saturday.

Time: 3:00-5:00 pm

Venue: SPELT House, Phase II, Ext. D.H.A. Karachi.



## **Workshop Committee**

## Exciting opportunity for professional development of teachers.

Topic: "Using Literature circles in the English Language

Classroom: Authentic, Engaging and Fun"

Facilitator: Ms. Judy Sharkey, Dr. Carolyn Layzer

Date: March 14th, 2020.

Time: 3:00-6:00 p.m.

Venue: SPELT House, 101, Phase II, DHA, Karachi.

Fee for members: Rs. 2500

Fee for Non-members: Rs. 3000

## Facilitators' Profile



**Dr. Judy Sharkey,** Ph.D., is a Professor of Education at the University of New Hampshire, USA. Her research focuses on teacher learning and development in plurilingual/immigrant communities and is informed by sociocultural learning theories and social justice teacher education (SJTE). Her recent edited volumes include Engaging Research: Transforming Practice in Elementary Classrooms (2018, TESOL Press), and with Megan Madigan-Peercy, Self-Study of Language and Literacy Teacher Education Practices: Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Contexts (2018, Emerald Publishing).



**Dr. Layzer** is a Senior Associate at Abt Associates, Inc., in Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA. Dr. Layzer has conducted evaluations of early learning programs and process and implementation studies of a variety of educational programs. Prior to joining Abt, Dr. Layzer taught EFL in Africa, the Americas, and East Asia

Every month, SPELT organizes professional development workshops for teachers. This year we have planned a 30-hour course for English language enhancement of teachers. This course will brush up teachers' spoken English skills, and will give them confidence and strategies to improve their oral interaction skills in English. This course will be conducted by the Executive Director of SPELT, **Prof. Zakia Sarwar.** For details, please see:

Topic: Enhance your spoken English

Facilitator: Ms. Zakia Sarwar

Dates: 15th, 17th, 19th, 21st, 24th, 26th & 28th February 2020

2nd, 4th & 7th March 2020

Timings: 2:30 p.m to 5:30 p.m.

Fee for Non-members: Rs. 8500

Fee for members: Rs. 8000

### **SPELT Conference 2019, Islamabad**

The conference was to be initially held on 2-3 November 2019 but was postponed owing to an unavoidable political situation in Islamabad. It was then rescheduled for 21-22 December, under considerable pressure owing to the weather conditions as well as political disturbances. However, the enthusiasm of people was visible from their resolution to attend despite difficulties. The event elicited interest of participants and presenters from schools, colleges and universities not only from in and around the twin cities but also from other cities like Gujrat, Sargodha and Faisalabad. There were more than hundred people in attendance on each day, despite some political disturbance in the twin cities of Rawalpindi and Islamabad. Around 70 presentations and workshops shared the expertise and researches of the language teachers, in which they shared their best practices and explorations in the area.



Dr. Samina Amin Qadir, Ex Vice Chancellor Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi delivered a very informative keynote speech. She also received SPELT life time achievement award in acknowledgement of her services for SPELT.

A recorded presentation by Hywel Coleman attracted the audience towards his knowledgeable presentation. Prof. Zakia Sarwar, Dr. Ana Lado, Dr. Christopher Hastings and Eve Smith were the plenary speakers of the conference. Dr. Ana Lado also conducted a workshop. The second day of the conference remained significantly dynamic for the SPELTers. A book of linguistics published by SPELT and sponsored by Dr. Akram Azam was launched. In the words of Dr. Mubina Talat, an SFL expert, "this book is a major step towards bringing Prof. Ruqaiya Hassan "home to Pakistan". Another landmark achieved by SPELT this year was the completion of "Ruqiaya Hasan Online SFL Course for Pakistani Teachers: Introduction to Systemic Functional Linguistics". Six graduates of the course, for different phases received their certificates with a complimentary copy of the newly published book Panel discussion marked the end of the event. The panelists included Dr. Nasim Akhtar Raja, Dr. Ana Lado, Prof. Zakia Sarwar and Mr. Abdul Majeed.

For details of SPELT's monthly workshops and academic sessions, stay tuned to our Facebook page for event notifications.

Please contact the SPELT Head office for registration.



www.facebook.com/headofficespelt

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