



# SPELT eBulletin

# **May 2023**



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## Conference November 4-5, 2023



SPELT has opened an Early Bird Discount for REGISTRATION for the 39th SPELT International Conference 2023.

Registration Fee				
Category	Members	Non Members		
Early Bird* June 1 to July 31, 2023	1800	2200		
Regular* August 01 to October 31, 2023	2500	3000		
On-Site		3500		



https://forms.gle/XeNgZBHTSh69ucTw7

Dear Colleague,

I would like to take the pleasure of inviting you to the 39th SPELT International ELT Conference, **Teaching-Learning of English Language: Looking Towards the Future.** The SPELT International Conference is a unique platform that provides exhilarating opportunities to all colleagues including classroom practitioners, researchers, and teacher educators, for professional development through exchange of ideas in the realm of education via interactive and innovative sessions.

The conference also aims at heightening teachers' and learners' interest in enhancing their competence and creativity, meeting the professional development needs of ELT professionals, and narrowing the gap between teachers and researchers at the national and international levels.

#### The schedule of the Event is as follows:

Karachi: November 4 & 5, 2023

Proposals / Abstracts are being solicited herewith for the 39<sup>th</sup> SPELT International Conference. **The last date for submitting your proposals is August 31, 2023.** 

The Abstract form is enclosed for your convenience. The call for papers can also be downloaded from the conference website: <a href="https://spelt.org.pk/39th-spelt-international-conference-2023/">https://spelt.org.pk/39th-spelt-international-conference-2023/</a> and it can also be downloaded from the given link. <a href="https://forms.gle/HaZ9ZPDrtD30DdKo9">https://forms.gle/HaZ9ZPDrtD30DdKo9</a>

Should you have any queries in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Looking forward to welcoming you. Regards,

Sonia Kazim Chair Conference Professional Council

FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE VISIT THE SPELT WEBSITE OR CONTACT THE SPELT HEADOFFICE AT 0333-3754250



"Instructors often focus on high-stakes writing while overlooking the value of low-stakes writing." (Bean, 2011)

This practical workshop will look at the value of 'Low-stakes' writing which allows students to express themselves without the fear of doing it "incorrectly" in terms of various aspects of writing like mechanics or clarity. Low-stakes writing can improve high-stakes writing, something that Elbow (1997) would refer to as a goal for teachers - to produce excellent pieces of writing as to get students to think, learn and understand more of the course material."

As part of this workshop, we will do a lot of writing and sharing. The facilitator will also devote some time to look at 'collaborative assessment,' a model designed to help teachers look closely at student work; seeking to understand the student, their imagination and their creative process.



https://forms.gle/eFzM6NeXd4pQkQCg8

Mohsin Tejani has been associated with the field of education for over three decades. He has worked as a Teacher, Teacher Educator, Master Trainer, School Principal, and on other leadership and managerial positions with different organizations.

Mr. Tejani has a Masters in English from the Middlebury College, Vermont, USA where he attended courses on writing and the teaching of writing. He has attended and presented at ABLWriting **Workshops** Massachusetts. USA and has worked extensively with all levels of learners both nationally and internationally. He also has a Certificate for Overseas Teachers of English from Cambridge University. He has attended training programmes at Phillips Academy, Andover, Massachusetts, USA, Harvard University, USA, Sheffield Hallam University, UK, and Oxford University, UK.

He is the Founder and Executive Director of the School of Writing and President of Society of Pakistan English Language Teachers.



In today's diverse classrooms, teachers face the challenge of accommodating students with varying language proficiency. This webinar offers practical strategies to create an inclusive and engaging learning environment for all learners.

Our experienced presenter will explore key aspects of managing mixed-ability learners. Learn how to assess students' language levels, design differentiated instruction, and address diverse learning styles. Discover effective techniques for grouping and pairing students based on abilities, facilitating peer tutoring, and providing timely feedback.

The webinar will introduce instructional strategies and resources to differentiate instruction, such as adapting materials, scaffolding techniques, and integrating technology. Gain insights to foster a supportive and collaborative classroom environment where students learn from each other and feel motivated to participate.

**CLICK HERE** 

https://forms.gle/So9kVMytS16XLWjR6

**Bilal Khan** is a seasoned passionate and accomplished leader, teacher, counselor, editor, moderator, skill development expert and mentor.

He possesses master's degrees in English literature as well as in International Relations with B.Ed. license for teaching. He is also an accredited trainer from ICLT Mexico. He has been associated with education for 16 years as a teacher, coordinator, vice principal and E.L.I (English language Instructor). He is currently serving as a Vice Principal of a private school in Hyderabad, Pakistan.



https://us02web.zoom.us/j/35439262 99?pwd=TFZQMnVENm0rMGx1clMwS1 pLbU5HUT09

Meeting ID: 354 392 6299 Passcode: SPELT2022



## ELT NEWS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FROM AROUND THE GLOBE

# IATEFL WMS SCHEME for SPELT MEMBERS LAST CHANCE TO AVAIL THIS OFFER!

#### Dear Members,

We are pleased to inform you about this wonderful opportunity to become a member of the International Association of Teachers of English as a Foreign Language (IATEFL) by paying PKR 2500 only. This exclusive offer is time-bound, and only for SPELT members.

The benefits of becoming an IATEFL member through the Wider Membership Scheme are:

- 1. Keep yourself updated about the latest happenings in the ELT global community
- 2. Get connected to the wider English language community (100+ affiliates of IATEFL)
- 3. Get access to FREE resources for IATEFL members only
- 4. Get first-hand information about scholarships and grants
- 5. Get discount on conference registration and other paid courses/webinars

If interested, please send you IATEFL membership request to the SPELT office with your membership details. You will then be guided about how you can make your payment. please get in touch with Sadia Jamil for more information and payment details:

• **Cell Number:** 0333-3754250

Landline Number: 021-3-5313731-33-34

• Email Address: speltheadoffice@gmail.com

IATEFL Link: <a href="https://forms.gle/2iPGX3eRd2kjdgGXA">https://forms.gle/2iPGX3eRd2kjdgGXA</a>

The last date for submission of details including proof of bank payment is **June 15, 2023.**We hope you will benefit from this exclusive offer.





## Scholarship applications for Brighton 2024 are open!

If you would like to submit an application to win a scholarship, please

visit <u>www.iatefl.org/scholarships</u> today to get started. Applications will close at 16.00 (UK time) on Wednesday 21 June 2023.



**Asia TEFL** 

celebrates its 20th anniversary this year. With your constant support and participation, AsiaTEFL has

grown remarkably in both size and content, boasting about 19,000 members from all around the world who have gathered together with the shared goal of developing our profession: English language teaching in Asian contexts and cultures.

The 21st AsiaTEFL International Conference, or AsiaTEFL 2023, being held in celebration of our 20th anniversary, will take place at Daejeon Convention Center, Daejeon, S. Korea, August 17-20, 2023. The conference theme is "Celebrating ELT in Asia: Visions and Aspirations." Please visit the AsiaTEFL website for more details.



https://www.asiatefl.org/m
ain/main.php?main=2

SPELTER Naziha Ali represented SPELT at the TESOL International Conference 2023 in Portland, Oregon, USA (21-14 March). As a follow-up of the conference, she also participated in an online panel discussion titled "Getting Started as an Affiliate Leader: The Road to Success" on May 13, 2023.

Thank you Naziha for proudly representing SPELT at these international forums!

WE ENCOURAGE ALL ACTIVE SPELTERS TO APPLY FOR BEING NOMINATED AS SPELT REPRESENTATIVES at the TESOL or IATEFL international conferences 2024. Please submit your application to the SPELT office with your membership details at least 10 weeks in advance of the conference dates for your application to be considered.



## The TESOL International Annual Convention 2023 Portland, Oregon, USA



This year 2023, once again, I had the honor of representing SPELT at both the TESOL International Annual Convention and the IATEFL International Annual Convention.

The TESOL International Annual Convention & English Language Expo was held in Portland, Oregon from 21st to 24th March with an additional 2 days of a virtual convention on 3rd and 4th April. As always, this event brings together a global community of English language teaching professionals. Not only that, but the conference also provides attendees with the opportunity to choose from almost 900 in-person sessions and interact with exhibitors showcasing the latest ELT

products and services. This year especially, for those of us who have been unable to engage with our professional networks abroad owing to COVID-19, the convention had a special significance as 3 years ago, the world went into a lockdown just a week before the TESOL convention.

The day before the actual convention was the meet up of all affiliates of TESOL International. While not all affiliate representatives were able to make it, the TESOL Affiliates Leadership Workshop was a really nice warm-up to the actual convention which made it possible to meet previous and new acquaintances from around the world who represented their respective teachers' associations in their own countries. A few affiliate representatives made formal presentations of their own challenges as teachers' associations. This was followed by the TESOL Leadership Recognition Reception which was a slight change from the usual luncheon with Affiliate Leaders. The day concluded with the opening keynote by Sammy Ramsey, a professor at the University of Colorado who runs a nonprofit called the Ramsey Research Foundation. In his talk titled, 'Biodiversity and Diversity in Bio: What's the Point?', he spoke about why ecosystems thrive with diversity, why human systems follow the same pattern, and what the major barriers are to achieving diversity in natural and man-made contexts.

The opening day of the convention, 22nd March was highlighted with the Presidential plenary where Joyce Kling, the outgoing president of TESOL International spoke about 'Inspiring the Future of Research in ELT'. Together with a group of researchers representing AAAL, TESOL, and TIRF the panelists in this plenary reflected on current research trends and findings in the field and discussed possible areas of interest and practice. Other plenaries included, Rachel Elizabeth Weissler on, 'Language, Power, and The Brain: Linguistics for Social Justice' on 23rd March. An assistant professor at the University of Oregon, Rachel spoke about how negative linguistic ideologies influence our perceptions of people and the need to attune ourselves to talking about social justice as well as to viewing linguistic behaviors through a sociocognitive lens. The James E. Alatis plenary on 24th March, the last day of the convention, was by **Asmaa AbuMezied**, an economic development and gender justice expert. She spoke about 'Demanding Economic Justice for Care Work'. Drawing on cases in Palestine and other countries in the Middle East and North Africa, she shared the root causes of undervaluing care workers and shared recommendations on ways forward.

For me, this was a busy convention as I had presentations scheduled on all three days. On the first day, 22<sup>nd</sup> March, I was part of a panel on 'Integrating Global Education into International Educational Contexts' representing the Global Education Professional Learning Network. Together with colleagues from Peru, Columbia, Saudi Arabia and Egypt, I shared some insights about integrating Global Education into the Pakistani educational context while other panelists represented the same in their own contexts.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> March, the Affiliates Network Professional Council organized the Affiliates Communication Workshop that brought together numerous affiliates once again (including SPELT) to share the multiple challenges that affiliates face in communicating with TESOL and within their associations. Not only that, but some affiliates also shared success strategies to encourage and support others. This seems like an ideal forum to share success strategies and it is recommended that SPELT should aim to present some information at the communications workshop next year, which was not possible due to last minute representation this year. Following the workshop, I facilitated a rather interesting table talk called, 'Tea with Distinguished TESOLers' on the subject of 'To Translanguage or not to Translanguage' – an area that is becoming increasingly popular in the second/foreign language classroom research. The Affiliates Network Professional Council organized a generous reception this evening to conclude the day. This was another opportunity to engage with new representatives of various teachers' associations from around the world.

The last day of the convention, 24<sup>th</sup> March, featured another one of my presentations, this time with a colleague from Calgary. Together, we presented 'The Road Not Taken Can Be Fun: Translanguaging for Success!'. It is interesting to note that this year's convention featured numerous sessions on the need to employ plurilingual/translanguaging pedagogies, the need for visible social justice practices in language education and more inclusivity. Some sessions reflected on Chat GPT and AI support in identifying plagiarism or as teaching tools. The convention itself, of course, closed with the Annual Business Meeting where the new executive board was installed and given charge and followed by a lavish reception for attendees.

A very interesting aspect of this convention was the fact that the RELO sponsored participants from Pakistan all braved the cold weather and dressed up in national clothes at the convention. And quite a few scholars either from Pakistan or who have conducted research in Pakistan presented their work at the convention. My takeaway from TESOL International this year is that considering there are so many opportunities to showcase our association at such a large event, we must start preparing early on this year to be able to share SPELT success stories at the Affiliates Meeting, the Communications workshop and also organize a special session featuring all activities that SPELT has been engaged in for the past many years as well as how it has adapted to changing times.

#### Naziha Ali Raza













https://spelt.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Issue-3-2022-2.pdf

### Join SPELT to reap many more benefits...

To join SPELT as a new member or renew your membership, please download the membership form from the link: <a href="https://forms.gle/69dNXszTETcNTLDX6">https://forms.gle/69dNXszTETcNTLDX6</a> Please fill the form, submit the fees online and send the picture of your bank receipt to <a href="mailto:speltheadoffice@gmail.com">speltheadoffice@gmail.com</a> To join the SPELT Facebook group, please visit the link:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/235003087675238/ You will be asked for your SPELT membership number, before your request is accepted.

## **About Membership Subscription and Dues**

Individual	Institutional	Life	Special
Membership	Membership	Membership	Membership
			Package for 3 years
PKR 1500	PKR 5000	PKR 15000	PKR 4000

**International Package for 3 years** US\$ 125/

**International Membership for 1 year** US\$ 60/

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