



NEWSLETTER 2023

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Dear Esteemed Members,

Reflecting on the remarkable journey of TESOL Türkiye throughout the past year fills us with immense pride and gratitude. As we look back on the accomplishments detailed in the reports from the professional councils and the special interest groups, we are truly inspired by the dedication, collaboration, and innovation demonstrated by each member of our association. We all faced challenges both nationally and internationally. In the midst of global adversities and local disasters, our association has continued to grow and heal together, thanks to our community's unwavering commitment and collaborative spirit.

We express our heartfelt gratitude to Sinem Atamsoy Koşar for her steadfast leadership and tireless efforts during this challenging period. Her contributions have been invaluable in shaping the direction of TESOL Türkiye. In November 2023, we welcomed Evrim Üstünlüoğlu to her new role as President. TESOL Türkiye has already started to run new projects thanks to her ability to lead with passion, vision, and integrity.

As we move forward into the future filled with opportunities and challenges, we will continue to work together, support one another, and strive for excellence in all that we do.

TESOL Türkiye

TESOL TÜRKİYE

Everything started when a small group of teacher trainers got together to form a professional group. T-PLUS was born then, and it continued functioning as an informal professional organization. T-PLUS organized 10 big events over the period of 5 years giving a chance to ELT professionals to share their experiences.

When T-PLUS grew bigger, and reached around 200 members, it was time to change it to a formal association. For that reason, all the formalities to establish an association were completed and T-PLUS became TESOL in Türkiye.

In the year 2018, the dream about being an affiliate of TESOL International came true. The application process was completed and TESOL International approved TESOL Türkiye as a formal affiliate. Upon receiving this good news, the name of the association was changed as TESOL Türkiye.

MISSION STATEMENT

İngiliz Dili Öğretimi ve Mesleki Gelişim Derneği (TESOL) is a national association of ELT professionals committed to advancing the quality of English language teaching by contributing to the sustainable quality of teacher education and in-service professional learning in Türkiye through collaboration, open exchange of practice, research, standards, and advocacy.

VISION STATEMENT

To become an international association trusted for knowledge and expertise in English language teaching, teacher education and in-service professional learning.

The fundamental goals of İngiliz Dili Öğretimi ve Mesleki Gelişim Derneği (TESOL Türkiye), in line with the mission and vision statements specified above, are as follows:

- To provide a platform where a large community of teachers and teacher educators can exchange views, experiences, practices, research so as to learn from each other and offer mutual professional support
- To encourage collaboration for professional development and quality assurance
- To help members develop their professional areas of interest through Special Interest Groups (SIGs)
- To develop links with Teachers' Associations throughout the world for teachers to share knowledge and experience globally
- To offer professional development opportunities and awards open to all members

- To offer practical assistance to those who wish to establish their own professional development center and/or to those who need professional
- development at an institutional level by offering courses, roadshows, webinars, local events
- To implement research based activities that will help understand the member needs for both personal and professional improvement

CORE VALUES

- Integrity guided by ethical and transparent action
- Professionalism demonstrated by excellence in standards, research, and practice that improve learning outcomes
- Commitment to life-long learning
- Respect for diversity

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2022-2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**SİNEM ATAMSOY
KOŞAR**
PRESIDENT



**EVİRİM
ÜSTÜNLÜOĞLU**
PRESIDENT-ELECT



**MELİŞ AKDOĞAN
GÜNDOĞDU**
TREASURER



ASLI YILMAZ ERCAN
BOARD MEMBER



NİLGÜN İNER
BOARD MEMBER

TESOL
TÜRKİYE

TEACHING ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

2023-2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**EVİRİM
ÜSTÜNLÜOĞLU**
PRESIDENT



**MELİŐ AKDOĐAN
GÜNDOĐDU**
PRESIDENT-ELECT



**SİNEM ATAMSOY
KOŐAR**
BOARD MEMBER



ASLI YILMAZ ERCAN
BOARD MEMBER



NİLGÜN İNER
BOARD MEMBER

TESOL
TÜRKİYE

TEACHING ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MEET *the* BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



**HANDE KEFELİ
ÇALIK**



**İNTİKAM İLKAY
ÖZDEMİR**



**SABİRE PINAR
ACAR**

TESOL
TÜRKİYE

TEACHING ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

PROFESSIONAL COUNCILS

- Associate Network Professional Council
- Events Planning Professional Council
- Grants and Scholarship Professional Council
- Membership Professional Council
- Promotion Professional Council

Associate Network Professional Council

The Associate Network Professional Council (ANPC) supports İngiliz Dili Öğretimi ve Mesleki Gelişim Derneği (TESOL Türkiye) by establishing a strong associate network. The main objective of the ANPC is to connect professionals in English Language Teaching (ELT), fostering relationships and partnerships with national and international associations and institutions dedicated to excellence in ELT. Comprising five members and a chair, the ANPC appoints members through an application process overseen by the TESOL Board of Directors. At the moment, Assoc. Prof. Evrim Üstünlüoğlu leads the ANPC from İzmir University of Economics, and its members include Kısmet Funda Akgül (Freelance), İntikam İlkey Özdemir (Ege University), Özlem Baykan (Özyeğin University), Özge Coşkun Aysal (İzmir University of Economics), and Selen Şirin Dülger (Özyeğin University).

As the ANPC, we have established partnerships with nine associations. These are TESOL Spain, HUPE Croatia, TEFL Kuwait, TESOL Greece, TESOL NILE, NELTA (Nepal), TESOL Ukraine, ELTA Serbia, and CETE/TESOL Georgia.

We have shared our professional issue (*Professional ELT Magazine Online*) with our affiliates to encourage the exchange of professional knowledge, information, and expertise.

In collaboration with our affiliates, we have also organized an online monthly webinar series called 'Teachers' Voices: We Grow Together, We Heal Together' - The healing power of Professional Development in hard times.' The main aim of these webinars has been sharing our experiences in dealing with difficult and extraordinary situations such as wars, earthquakes, etc.

The format of the webinar led by a moderator from the host team is as follows:

- 10 minutes of mini-talk by each speaker
- Question / Answer session

The participants in these webinars have shared their feelings, coping mechanisms, and suggestions related to the chosen theme for each webinar to create a space for reflection and growth.



We hosted the first webinar on the 29th of March 2023 as TESOL Türkiye. The speakers from Türkiye shared how they managed to turn the challenges of the destructive earthquake in Türkiye brought into opportunities and helped them to heal and grow together.

We held the second webinar on the 26th of April 2023 with our affiliate, TESOL Ukraine. The representatives from TESOL Ukraine shared the challenges they faced due to the ongoing war and how they managed to support each other despite the obstacles and heal together.



We held the third webinar on the 31st of May 2023 with our affiliate TESOL Spain. The speakers representing TESOL Spain talked about mental health and how to take care of ourselves as teachers.



The fourth webinar was held on the 6th of July 2023 together with our affiliate TESOL Nile, Egypt. The speakers talked about how to overcome our fears regarding the use of AI and how to embrace AI.

We held the fifth webinar on the 29th of November 2023 as TESOL Türkiye again. The theme of this event was “How to deal with negative behavior in the workplace.”



The sixth webinar of the series was held on 13th of December 2023 with our affiliate TESOL Greece. The speakers from TESOL Greece spoke about resilience interventions through CPD.

We have been conducting regular online ANPC meetings and maintaining correspondence with our affiliates and associates like the British Council and the American Embassy. We are currently in the planning stage of a grant project with the American Embassy, led by our chair.

<https://tesolturkey.net/our-affiliates>

Events Planning Professional Council

Since July 2023, EPPC has been chaired by Aslı Yılmaz Ercan. The council is composed of Beril Ayman Yücel, Christina Manea Gültekin, Mehmet Durmaz, Nesibe Bilgiç, Sinem Atamsoy Koşar, and Songül Tömek Batçıoğlu. Following a call for new members, four individuals—Aylin Dewan, Begüm Kut, Esra Yatağanbaba, and Tuğçe Temir—joined the council on 20 January 2023.

Get-together Events & Webinars

TESOL Türkiye launched a series of monthly get-togethers called the ‘Teachers’ Voices’ Series, scheduled to take place on the last Wednesday of every month. The purpose of this event is to explore how teachers benefit from professional development activities during challenging experiences such as a pandemic, earthquake, war, and more. Since March 2023, EPPC has been organizing these gatherings. The inaugural session, titled “The Healing Power of Professional Development in Hard Times,” was conducted by TESOL Türkiye in March. This free event gained substantial attention from TESOL Türkiye’s affiliates, leading to three subsequent joint events.

The second installment, “We Grow Together, We Heal Together,” marked the first joint event and was organized by both TESOL Türkiye and TESOL Ukraine in April. In July, TESOL Türkiye collaborated with TESOL Nile to conduct the third get-together, titled “Overcoming Fears and Embracing AI.” TESOL Türkiye independently organized the November session, titled “How to Deal with Negative Behaviour in the Workplace.” The final event of the year was another joint effort, this time with TESOL Greece, featuring the theme “A Walkitation Route that Changed My Life” and held on 16 December.

The theme of Artificial Intelligence and Language Teaching, which has made a mark on the agenda in recent months, was one of the focused topics in 2023. Thus, the webinar titled “Using AI in Language Teaching: ChatGPT as a Tool for Language Pedagogy” was conducted by Hakan Tarhan, PhD., on May 23, 2023.

TESOL Türkiye plans to resume the Teachers’ Voices Series, and conduct webinars led by TESOL Türkiye trainers, addressing topics that have attracted significant attention in the ELT world.

Annual Conference

The 5th TESOL Türkiye International ELT Conference, themed “Embracing Differences: The Key to Inclusive Education,” was hosted by Bartın University, Department for Foreign Language Education, ELT Program, on 20th-21st October. The Conference Chair was Beril Ayman Yücel, and the Conference Co-chair was Aslı Yılmaz Ercan. Approximately 130 attendees from various levels of education, representing 7 different countries, participated in the event. The Pre-Conference Events (PCE) took place on 19th October. Two Special Interest Groups, LAMSIG and TEDSIG, held onsite sessions, while the third Special Interest Group, METASIG, organized a virtual event. The conference featured keynote speakers Ahmet Şerif İzgören, Gabriela Kleckova, and Rachael Harris, each delivering inspiring and highly thought-provoking talks.

Following the thirty-five sessions presented at the conference, the delegates left the event content, having gained insight into: (1) the importance of educating individuals holistically with a full understanding of values such as respect, trust, kindness, and ethics, (2) the significance of fostering a sense of belonging in the Inclusive Practice Classroom, (3) the skills, strategies, resources, and environments necessary to embrace differences.



Grants and Scholarship Professional Council

The Grants and Scholarships Professional Council (GSPC) supports TESOL Türkiye by seeking and securing grants and scholarships from foundations, government agencies and other sources for the purpose of creating adequate funding to enable TESOL Türkiye to achieve its mission of advancing the quality of English language teaching by contributing to the sustainable quality of teacher education and in-service professional learning in Türkiye. The main objective of GSPC is to manage overall grant and scholarship efforts of the association.

The council is composed of Sinem Atamsoy Koşar (Liaison/Chair), Melis Akdoğan Gündoğdu (Co-Chair), Ferah Şenaydın and Pınar Sekmen.

Events and Contributions

GSPC sought sources and solution partners for TESOL Türkiye 5th International ELT Conference

Solution Partners and Gifts:

- Giveaway trainings for 10 teachers- by Teacher X
- One –week Teacher Training Course at Linguaviva Language Centre based in Dublin- by IB Global Educational Consultancy
- Teaching IELTS Training Program – by ITTC (International Teacher Training College)
- Selfie Frame – by Professional Support in Education

(with Tesol Ukraine Participants – Tesol Türkiye 5th International Conference)



Grants Applied

- U.S. Mission Türkiye Grants Program

5th TESOL Türkiye International ELT Conference Embracing Differences

“The Key to Inclusive Education Outreach Project”

Purpose

- To support language teachers by creating awareness of the importance of inclusive learning-friendly environments,
- To help teachers learn from best practices in embracing differences and exchange approaches, methodologies, strategies, and resources about inclusive education,

- To create platforms to discuss, brainstorm and reflect on diversity related policies and systems to create equal opportunity for all,
- To help teachers build resilient classes and embrace differences in schools by improving quality and equality in increasingly diverse settings,
- To create a high visibility and awareness for inclusive education.

IATEFL Small Grants – Projects for Associates: Teacher Empowerment

“Your Voice Matters and Heals”

Several traumatic events have occurred in various parts of the world in recent years, causing significant harm to people's mental health. Earthquakes hitting 10 cities in Türkiye's southern region, the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine, and the global pandemic are just a few examples of such events. To address these traumatic events' widespread effects, educators must learn coping strategies to help their students' emotional well-being. Teachers can play a vital role in helping students deal with these experiences by promoting a safe and supportive environment. By creating a safe and supportive learning environment, providing opportunities for students to express their emotions and concerns, and linking them to resources and support services, teachers can assist students in coping with trauma and promoting their emotional well-being. The goal is to create a supportive and healing environment that also enhances teachers' professional development, job satisfaction, and performance, which automatically will guide them to the optimal conditions for learning-caring-sharing cycle within the frame of empathetic listening and genuine communication not only with the colleagues but also with their learners.

Membership Professional Council

Throughout the year 2023, the MPC has diligently worked to enhance the membership experience and ensure the smooth functioning of our association.

In May 2023, a rotation within the MPC membership occurred, with Merve Aydın and Arif Yıldızlı selected through the call for volunteers announcements. Both members, as part of the Task Force, contributed to the council under the leadership of Council Chair Melis Akdoğan Gündođdu. A significant achievement during this period was the comprehensive update of the National Associations Database (DERBİS) to align with the revised list of members. Simultaneously, the Google Mail Group list underwent meticulous updating, including the acquisition of a new Google email address (tesolturkiyempc@gmail.com). Standardized welcome emails are now efficiently dispatched from this designated email account.

Throughout the year, all membership and registration procedures were conducted online, ensuring a seamless process for members to upload their national ID cards/passports and photos to the system. Despite this streamlined approach, the MPC encountered challenges associated with inaccurate member-provided information. The national database's verification protocols identify and prevent the submission of erroneous data. TESOL Türkiye, in compliance with legal obligations, is mandated to complete member registrations accurately. Consequently, the MPC, at intervals, courteously requested members to review and, if necessary, rectify the information entered on their personal details forms to maintain data integrity.

The MPC remains committed to fostering an environment of precision, transparency, and efficiency in our membership processes.

Promotion Professional Council

Throughout 2023, the Promotion Professional Council (PPC) made dedicated efforts to assist TESOL Türkiye by distributing information that aligns with the association's mission and strategic objectives through diverse communication channels.

During this year, some rotations and changes occurred within the Promotion Professional Council. Sultan Zeydan became a council member in February 2023, and in May of the same year, Şebnem Öztürk, Cemile Doğan and Sevtap Arşan joined the team. In May 2023, Nilgün İner took over the council chairmanship from Sibel Tüzel Kandiller. Following these changes, the PPC continued its operations with the following members: Nilgün İner, Mehmet Derviş Saltık, Şebnem Öztürk, Cemile Doğan, Sultan Zeydan, and Sevtap Güvenli Arşan.

Social Media

The year was initiated with a call for volunteers for different councils, accompanied by subsequent reminders to encourage participation on social media. Throughout the year, the activities, including the publication of infographics detailing the process of becoming a TESOL Türkiye member, providing updates on the affiliates, announcing all news about the TESOL Türkiye conference (e.g. dates, keynote speakers, sponsors, etc.), promoting SIG events and the webinars were successfully carried out.

Beyond TESOL Türkiye events, the council extended its reach by sharing posts on significant days and global developments (e.g., International Women's Day, Teachers' Day, the February Earthquake in Türkiye). These efforts aimed to show TESOL Türkiye's solidarity and unwavering support for its community. The monthly sharing of inspirational quotes was also undertaken by the council as a key activity, aiming to provide TESOL Türkiye members with regular doses of motivational and thought-provoking content, contributing to the positive atmosphere within the community.

In addition to the visuals prepared for social media sharing, the PPC also contributed to designing materials such as the conference poster, certificate templates, roll-ups, and photo frames for the TESOL Türkiye Conference in 2023.



Website

TESOL Türkiye takes pride in maintaining an interactive and informative online presence through its official website. Accessible at tesolturkey.net, the TESOL Türkiye website is designed to provide a user-friendly experience, offering a wealth of updates.

One of the notable features on the website is the dedicated section for the Professional ELT Magazine Online (PEMO). Led by the PPC, this segment was updated with insightful articles in January and June with the 10th and 11th issues of the PEMO, respectively, contributing to the professional development of ELT practitioners.

Announcement segment served as a vital communication channel alongside social media accounts. Here, the PPC regularly posted announcements of association events, important calls for volunteers for professional councils, announcements of new affiliate agreements, scholarship opportunities, and other significant updates such as calls for papers, deadlines and changes to make sure that members can stay actively engaged with the association by checking this segment for the latest opportunities to contribute, collaborate, and benefit from various programs.

Moreover, the website served as a dynamic platform for announcing and promoting TESOL Türkiye events, including conferences, special interest group (SIG) events, and webinars. 5th TESOL Türkiye International ELT Conference, Teachers Voices Series, TESOL Türkiye Webinar: Using AI in Language Teaching: ChatGPT as a Tool for Language Pedagogy, Combining Program Evaluation and Research for Transformative Education (LAMSIG), TESOL Türkiye LAMSIG Biennial Conference 2023, LAMSIG Pre-Conference Event 2023, METASIG Workshop: Item Analysis II, METASIG WORKSHOP: Standard Setting, METASIG Pre-Conference Event 2023, TEDSIG Pre-Conference Event 2023 and affiliate events were among the 2023 Events, promoted on the website.

Professional ELT Magazine Online (PEMO)



As of April this year, Sibel Taşkın Şimşek handed over the role to Şebnem Öztürk. In both January and July of 2023, two editions of the 'Professional ELT Magazine Online' were published. Each issue is packed with articles that provide valuable insights. Members can conveniently download PDF versions of the magazine, gaining access to valuable content on a biannual basis.

PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

MEET the **ASSOCIATE NETWORK PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL**



EVRİM ÜSTÜNLUOĞLU
LIAISON/CHAIR



İNTİKAM İLKAY ÖZDEMİR



ÖZGE COŞKUN AYSAL



ÖZLEM BAYKAN



KISMET FUNDA AKGÜL



SELEN ŞİRİN DÜLGER



GÜLÇİN COŞGUN
SIG REPRESENTATIVE

TESOL
TÜRKİYE

MEET the **EVENTS PLANNING PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL**



ASLI YILMAZ ERCAN
LIAISON/CHAIR



SİNEM ATAMSOY KOŞAR



BERİL YÜCEL



CRISTINA MANEA GÜLTEKİN



AYLIN SELİN TÜRÜDÜ DEWAN



BEGÜM KUT



MEHMET DURMAZ



SONGÜL TÖMEK BATIOĞLU



TUĞÇE TEMİR



NESİBE BİLGİÇ



ESRA YATAĞANBABA

TESOL
TÜRKİYE

MEET the **GRANTS AND SPONSORSHIPS PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL**



SİNEM ATAMSOY KOŞAR
LIAISON/CHAIR



MELİS AKDOĞAN GÜNDOĞDU
CO-CHAIR



PINAR SEKMEN



FERAH ŞENAYDIN

TESOL
TÜRKİYE

MEET the **MEMBERSHIP PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL**



MELİS AKDOĞAN GÜNDOĞDU
LIAISON/CHAIR



MEHMET DERVİŞ SALTİK



ARİF YILDIZLI



MERVE AYDIN

TESOL
TÜRKİYE

MEET the **PROMOTION PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL**



NİLGÜN İNER
LIAISON/CHAIR



MEHMET DERVİŞ SALTİK



SULTAN ZEYDAN



CEMİLE DOĞAN



SEVTAP GÜVENLİ ARŞAN



ŞEBNEM ÖZTÜRK

TESOL
TÜRKİYE

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS



Leadership and Management
Special Interest Group



TEACHER EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT





TESOL Türkiye LAMSIG's aim is to facilitate connecting and developing managers and leaders in the field of English Language Teaching, both in Türkiye and abroad, through sharing resources, ideas, and good practices.

We bring together academic managers, directors of studies, school owners, senior teachers, coordinators, supervisors, principals, deputy heads, and anyone else involved in or interested in leadership and management in language teaching organizations.

Our main activities include:

- organizing workshops, seminars, training, discussion forums, and working groups for research and conferences
- facilitating networking among managers, leaders, coordinators, senior teachers and deputy heads through digital and face to face platforms
- taking part in national and international leadership events
- providing guidance, consultancy, mentoring and coaching through professional development activities and training
- organizing or facilitating social activities among members
- operating internationally, affiliating and conducting joint studies or cooperating with foreign associations/agencies

LAMSIG Executive Board (2023)

Donald Staub (Joint Coordinator)
Özge Coşkun Aysal (Joint Coordinator)
Ali Ceylan (Treasurer)
Gökçe Erkan (Archivist)
Ceren Aktay (Social Media Specialist)
Özlem Baykan (Co-Event Organizer)
Zeynep Oğul (Co-Event Organizer)

Overview

In 2023, LAMSIG predominantly conducted face-to-face activities with a concurrent focus on our online endeavors, showcasing our adeptness with online activities. Events comprised an online webinar, a face-to-face Biennial Conference, a pre-TESOL Türkiye conference event, the Annual General Meeting, and comprehensive promotional initiatives, particularly through

social media. The subsequent sections of this report will provide a concise overview of the planned activities for the year 2024.

ACTIVITIES

LAMSIG Webinar: “Combining Program Evaluation and Research for Transformative Education”-May 9, 2023

2023 began with an online webinar on 9 May (Combining Program Evaluation and Research for Transformative Education) by Prof. Dr. David Anderson from Eastern Michigan University who delivered a thought-provoking session on "Combining Program Evaluation and Research for Transformative Education". Dr. Anderson challenged the conventional notion that education colleges drive societal change, arguing that community activist organizations should be the focus of study to understand societal needs. He proposed a model emphasizing the identification and addressing of underlying assumptions for systemic change, utilizing Astin's logic model of Inputs, Environment, and Outputs. Dr. Anderson's philosophy encourages a critical examination of deep-seated beliefs in educational programs and underscores the necessity of constant scrutiny for transformative change. His perspective urges a shift from self-centric considerations to a broader focus on societal impact in visions, missions, and research agendas.

LAMSIG Biennial Conference: “Systems Thinking in ELT Leadership and Management, September 9, 2023

On 9 September, LAMSIG held its first Biennial Conference at Acibadem University focusing on the theme “Systems Thinking in ELT Leadership and Management”. As LAMSIG, we provide support and development to leaders and managers (current and prospective) in the ELT field and bring innovative ideas to our stakeholders – which is why we believed that framing our conference around systems thinking would be something unique to help ELT leaders more effectively and efficiently run their systems - whether at the University level (such as our School of Foreign Languages) or in K12 education. The Biennial brought together some great systems thinkers from outside the field and within, Asst. Prof. Gaye Defne Ceyhan, Meltem Ceylan Alibeyođlu, Asst. Prof. Esra Atilla Bal and Dr. Deniz Kurtođlu Eken, offering plenary talks, Jacqueline Einer, Dr. Emrah Akkurt, Asst. Prof. Merve Selçuk and Dr. Fatih Yücel, short presentations, and platforms where participants had the opportunity to discuss, share expertise, and exchange experience and ideas.

LAMSIG Pre-Conference Event: “The Role of the Teacher as a Leader in Inclusive Education, October 19, 2023

The TESOL Türkiye Pre-Conference Event was held on 19 October 2023 at Bartın University. The theme of the PCE was Inclusive Leadership, with two invited speakers. Prof. Dr. Neslihan Güney Karaman’s talk was The Role of the Teacher as a Leader in Inclusive Education. Seneca

Ryan's talk was Designing and Implementing an Inclusive and Culturally Sensitive Professional Development Plan. These two insightful sessions were followed by a workshop led by LAMSIG Executive Board on becoming an inclusive leader. The outcome of the workshop was to provide participants with strategies and tools to consider regarding inclusivity and address relevant issues within their own SFLs.

In June 2023, we bid farewell to one of our Executive Board Members, Nilgün İner who made the transition to the TESOL Türkiye Board. The LAMSIG Executive Board then appointed interim Executive Board member, Gamze Demiral Gök. Throughout her period, Gamze Demiral Gök was instrumental in developing promotions and creating awareness for both TESOL Türkiye and LAMSIG via social media. At the Annual General Meeting (AGM) which was held online in October, we welcomed our new Board Member Ceren Aktay. Ceren Aktay took over the role of the Social Media Specialist. Ceren Aktay continuously and creatively created leadership-relevant content and messages (e.g. quotes from famous leaders) to celebrate special days (back-to-school, teachers' day, national holidays). The aim was not only to promote LAMSIG activities, but to boost engagement and keep the LAMSIG brand in the minds of our followers.

LAMSIG was also active on social media, whenever Executive Board members represented (and presented) at relevant conferences and meetings throughout the year, e.g. the Equals International Conference in Tallinn, the IATEFL Conference, the YDYO Directors' meeting in Bartın, the 2nd Aegean Region ELT Conference hosted by Celal Bayar University, the ETS Global Meet Up in Ankara, etc.

Organizationally, the Executive Board and its membership were active with regular meetings for reflecting and planning. The Board met formally at least 15 times during the year. In September, the Board also welcomed the TESOL Türkiye SIG Liaison, Gülçin Coşgun to its regular meetings.

Looking Ahead

Looking forward to 2024, the LAMSIG Executive Board is busy planning its next online event, which will be held on 23 February, serving as a valuable follow-up activity to our Biennial. We will host three sessions by our Plenary Speakers of the Biennial. The tentative aim of the event is to provide practical workshops on high-demand issues (determined based on the feedback collected from the Biennial participants).

As LAMSIG moves forward, it is developing collaborative opportunities with K12 schools across Türkiye in response to increasing demand expressed at various venues. LAMSIG's Board and members have much to share in a wide range of areas relevant to ELT leadership and management, and they see this as a way to connect with and support English language teaching and learning in K12 education.



The Measurement, Evaluation, Testing and Assessment Special Interest Group – METASIG – was founded in October 2020 with the aim of bringing together foreign language teaching professionals who have experience and/or a special interest in the field of language assessment and testing. As professionals interested in language testing and assessment, we believe in the power of collaboration with colleagues sharing the same passion and goals.

Our main activities include:

- organizing workshops, seminars, and discussion forums,
- organizing training events and working groups for research and development,
- facilitating networking among the assessment teams, managers, and coordinators in different institutions through digital and face to face platforms,
- taking part in national and international language assessment events,
- providing guidance, consultancy, mentoring and coaching through professional development activities and training,
- organizing or facilitating social activities among members;
- operating internationally, affiliating and conducting joint studies or cooperating with foreign associations/agencies.

METASIG Executive Board (2023)

Esin Çağlayan
Pınar Gündüz
Elif Çilli
Şükran Saygı
Hande Günel
Selen Saydam Erdiñ

ACTIVITIES

METASIG Workshop: "Item Analysis" - February 4, 2023

Date: February 4, 2023

Venue: Online

METASIG successfully organized a workshop on "Item Analysis" on February 4, 2023. The event drew ELT professionals keen on enhancing their understanding of language assessment.

Workshop Highlights:

The workshop featured Akif al as the esteemed host, bringing a wealth of knowledge to the participants. With a focus on "Item Analysis," the workshop aimed to provide practical insights into the basics of this essential aspect of assessment.

METASIG Workshop: "Standard Setting" - May 25, 2023

Date: May 25, 2023

Venue: Online

METASIG, dedicated to advancing language assessment and testing, hosted a captivating workshop on "Standard Setting" on the evening of May 25, 2023. ELT professionals from diverse backgrounds gathered to explore the nuances of standard setting in language assessment.

Workshop Overview:

This workshop focused on standard setting in general and standard setting in line with the CEFR. The need to carry out standard-setting studies for our exams and some of the most commonly used standard-setting methods were discussed. Additionally, deliberations took place on how the CEFR could be of use in setting standards, not only for standardized exams but also for formative assessment. This was particularly emphasized, given the heightened importance of its action-oriented approach since the launch of the CEFR Companion Volume in 2018.

METASIG Pre-Conference Event 2023

Date: Oct 19, 2023

Venue: Online

METASIG hosted a Pre-Conference Event on October 19, 2023, welcoming ELT professionals interested in language assessment and testing. The event featured Jan McArthur as the plenary speaker, discussing practical approaches to reimagining assessment in a TESOL context. The event aimed to encourage educators to challenge traditional methods and foster socially just and responsible engagement with knowledge. The second session was run and facilitated by the METASIG board members. It aimed to provide a platform for the participants to discuss their ideas and share their experiences on alternative assessment practices in their institutions.



TEDSIG is a newly established SIG that was founded in October 2023. TEDSIG is dedicated to fostering the education and development of English language teachers in K12 and university settings across Türkiye. The primary objective of TEDSIG is to contribute to the sustainable quality of teacher education, enhance in-service professional learning, and empower the professional development of English language teachers across all levels of education in Türkiye.

The aim of TEDSIG is to support English language teachers and teacher educators in Türkiye and abroad in all aspects of professional growth and development including pre-service teacher education and in-service teacher development. Our goal is also to enable and encourage teachers to take responsibility for their own learning and development throughout their careers and to promote awareness of the importance of ongoing professional development among individuals and institutions.

Our main activities include:

- organizing workshops, seminars, training events, discussion forums, and conferences to contribute to teacher and trainer education and development in the field of ELT,
- facilitating networking among teachers, teacher educators, and trainers through digital and face-to-face platforms,
- participating in national and international teacher training and development events,
- providing guidance, consultancy, mentoring, and coaching through professional development activities and training events,
- operating internationally, affiliate and conduct joint studies or cooperate with foreign associations/agencies.

TEDSIG Executive Board

Bahar Gün (Joint Coordinator)

Beril Yücel (Joint Coordinator)

Hakan Tarhan (Treasurer)

Fatoş Eskiçirak (Social Media Coordinator)

Erkan Arkın (Events & Membership Coordinator)

TEDSIG Pre-Conference Event: “Elevate with Equity: Inclusiveness at the Heart of Professional Development in TESOL, October 19, 2023

Just after its establishment, TEDSIG immediately started working on the pre-conference event, which was held on 19th October 2023 at Bartın University. The pre-conference event was part of the 5th TESOL Türkiye International ELT Conference and its title was “Elevate with Equity: Inclusiveness at the Heart of Professional Development in TESOL”. The event started with an introductory session which aimed at familiarizing the audience with TED SIG, providing an overview of its mission, purpose, and aims. This session also focused on sharing insights into the structure, roles & responsibilities, membership, and the executive board, giving the audience a comprehensive understanding. In addition, TEDSIG Executive Board talked about the diverse range of activities and development opportunities that TEDSIG has in store for its members. The event continued with focus group discussions in which the participants identified the specific needs of current and potential members, ensuring that TEDSIG can tailor its activities to address these needs effectively. The pre-conference event ended with the closing plenary by Gabriela Kleckova from University of West Bohemia in Czech Republic. Her talk was entitled “Elements of ELT teacher education: continued learning”. In this interactive session, the participants found the chance to explore elements to be considered in ELT teacher education/development at changing times. They also discussed in what areas ELT teachers need to develop themselves professionally to support student learning. The session was very well received by the participants as they found the ideas suggested very practical and beneficial.

TEDSIG Online Meeting, November 21, 2023

TEDSIG organised its first online meeting with its members on 21st November 2023. The main focus of this meeting was to create a platform for the members to get together and get to know each other while introducing the SIG to them. The high participation and the interaction among the members at the meeting inspired everyone to share insights, and discuss the exciting journey ahead for the SIG.

TEDSIG Webinar: What’s Hot and What’s Not: Current Global Trends in Language Teacher Education, December 06, 2023

The TEDSIG activities continued with a kickoff webinar by Thom Kiddle, Director of Norwich Institute for Language Education (NILE), on 6th December 2023. The title of his session was “What’s Hot and What’s Not: Current Global Trends in Language Teacher Education”. In this webinar, Thom shared his insights on key issues and emerging trends in language teacher education, focusing on essential competences for contemporary teachers and persistent themes in professional development. Thom finished the webinar by answering the questions of the participants. The webinar was very well attended and well-received by the participants as was evident in their positive feedback shared at the end of the session.

TEDSIG has been very active on social media with regularly shared news about TEDSIG events and activities, TESOL Türkiye events and information and other announcements from other

institutions or associations. It is mainly active on Instagram (tesolturkiyetedsig) and LinkedIn (TEDSIG TESOL TURKIYE)

Organizationally, the Executive Board was active with regular meetings for drawing up the bylaw of the SIG and planning the initial meetings. In September, the Board also welcomed the TESOL Türkiye SIG Liaison, Gülçin Coşgun to one of its regular meetings.

Looking Ahead

Looking forward to 2024, the TEDSIG Executive Board is currently engaged in planning a series of TESOL Türkiye Webinars which will be prepared and delivered by the teacher educators in the TESOL Türkiye Trainers Pool. The series will be entitled: “Revisiting Uncharted Realms”. The aim of the webinars in the series is to explore the significant yet not frequently touched upon topics and themes in the field of teacher education.

Moving forward, the TEDSIG is planning to organize face to face local events for the teacher educators in Türkiye and in Northern Cyprus. The TEDSIG Board is also working on a Trainer Training and Development Program which will be offered to aspiring as well as less experienced teacher educators in both K-12 and tertiary level institutions.

The TEDSIG Board will continue to seek collaborative opportunities with both K-12 schools and the pre/in-service teacher education programs across the country to share a wide range of areas relevant to Teacher Education to achieve its aims set forth at the outset of the organization.



TEACHING ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES



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