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## The Third International Conference



**THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE FACULTY OF LIBERAL ARTS, MAHIDOL UNIVERSITY, IN CORPORATION WITH THE AMERICAN EMBASSY: REGIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE ORGANISATION AND VOICES IN ASIA COMMITTEE**

**Thailand 16 – 17 January 2012**

**Theme: English Language Education in Asian Contexts: Prospects, Challenges and Proposals**

### 1. Context

In order to foster a mutual exchange of ideas among the ELT practitioners and share their best practices, a group of scholars from Asia organized the Voices in Asia Symposium in 2009 at MARA University of Technology, Shah Alam, Malaysia. The first symposium set the scene to promote mutual learning and collaboration among the ELT practitioners in Asia. English is now a global language and lingua franca. It is no longer confined to native language geographical territories. The majority of the people who speak English are non-native speakers and in non-native contexts. Thus, the dynamics of the pedagogy and practice of English have changed. Within this context, the Faculty of Liberal Arts and the Voices in Asia committee would like to continue to explore the pedagogy and practices of English in the Asian context and learn from one another's experiences. The team would, thus, like to organize a conference where the scholars in Asia will present their experiences of teaching English in different contexts and collaborate together for the enhancement of English language learning in the Asian contexts.

### 2. Objectives

The key objectives of the symposium are:

- To foster the mutual exchange of English teaching ideas in different Asian contexts.
- To promote collaboration among ELT professionals in different aspects of ELT.
- To set up a *Voices in Asia Journal*.
- To encourage collaborative research and student exchange across Asia.
- To nurture cultural heritage in Asia.

### 3. Participants

The participants are ELT practitioners from different Asian countries; the presenters are accomplished professionals who have been working in ELT for a long period of time. In addition to the presentations, thematic discussion on the various ELT issues will also be organized to find areas of collaboration for further projects.

The details of the presenters are as follows.

List of the presenters and participants

SN	Name	Institution	Country	Title of Presentation
1	Prof. Dr.Mats Oscarson	Department of Pedagogical, Curricular and Professional Studies Faculty of Education University of Gothenburg	Sweden	The challenge of student self-assessment in language education
2	Mr. Damon Anderson	American Embassy	USA	Mindsets
3	Dr. Phan Le Ha (VOA)	Monash University	Vietnam/Australia	Struggles for professional identity formation among "White native" teachers teaching in Asia : Implications for ELT in the region
4	Assoc. Prof. Ganga Ram Gautam (VOA)	Mahendra Ratna Campus, Tribhuvan University	Nepal	Teacher education reform in Nepal: Breaking the barriers
5	Prof. Dr. Jayakaran Mukundan (VOA)	UPM	Malaysia	Liberating ESL learners through technology
6	Prof. Dr. Saiqa Imtiaz Asif (VOA)	Bahauddin Zakariya University	Pakistan	Cultural politics and education: Dissemination of ideology through textbooks
7	Assoc.Prof.Dr. Ashraf Rizvi (VOA)	Indian Institute of Management Indore	India	Teaching interpersonal communication to Indian managers: Challenges and prospects.
8	Prof. Dr. Zahra Mustafa (Awad) (VOA)	The University of Jordan	Jordan	Videoconferencing for improving fluency in EFL
9	Dr. Teoh Swee-Ai (VOA)	MARA University of Technology	Malaysia	Incorporating critical thinking in a reading course
10	Asst. Prof. Dr. Ken Lau	The University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong	New era, new opportunities: Developing academic literacy through English-in-the-discipline courses
11	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Marina Dodigovic	Lebanese American University	Lebanon	The effectiveness of electronic word cards in second language vocabulary learning
12	Mr. William Martin	Mahidol University	Thailand	Is business English cost effective?
13	Asst. Prof.Dr. Robert Bianchi	Virginia Commonwealth University of Qatar	Qatar	"3arabizi/Arabish : Arab English online"
14	Asst. Prof. Dr. Szu-Yu Ruby Chen	Wenzao Ursuline College of Languages	Taiwan	Adolescents' digital literacy practices in online discussion forums in Taiwan
15	Ng Yu Jin, Chong Seng Tong, Yee Chiew Ling @ Vivian, Lee Yi Ling, Mr. Mohd Ariff Ahmad Tarmizi, Noor Hafiza Nor Azmi, Alif Fairus Nor Mohamad	Universiti Tenaga Nasional & Universiti Putra Malaysia	Malaysia	Harvesting Specialised Word List in ELT
16	Alif Fairus Nor Mohamad, Ng Yu Jin	Universiti Tenaga Nasional & Universiti Putra Malaysia	Malaysia	Identifying the essential vocabulary of English for Nursing Purposes (ENP)
17	Vahid Nimehchisalem, Jayakaran Mukundan	Universities Putra Malaysia	Malaysia	Determining the Organization Descriptors of the Analytic Scale of Argumentative Writing (ASAW)

#### 4. Conference Expectation:

The expected outcomes of the conference are:

- a) Dissemination of teaching ideas
- b) Collaboration among Asian professionals in various aspects such as student exchange program or specific interest groups research
- c) *Voices in Asia Journal*
- d) Research collaboration among Asian countries to promote English teaching
- e) Asian educational network and cultural enrichment

**5. Date and venue**

The conference will be held at Mahidol University, Thailand. The dates of the conference are 16 – 17 January, 2012.

**6. Conference fee:** 50 USD or 1,500 THB

62 USD or 1,850 THB (including reception)

**7. Publication**

The papers presented in the conference will be published in the *Voices in Asia Journal*.



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