

LEARNING, TEACHING, & STUDENT EXPERIENCE CONFERENCE 2023



Thursday 29th June (online)
09:00 to 14:00

Conference Theme:

**ENGAGING LEARNERS IN AND
BEYOND THE CLASSROOM**

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CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

09.00-09.30

INTRODUCTION

Introduction and opening
Dr Steven Herron and Prof Julie Smith

09.00-12.50

STAFF PRESENTATIONS

(20 minutes presentation and 5-10 minutes Q&A)

09.30-10.00 **Session 1: Levelling the field: an argument for allowing the use of automated language adjustment tools in assessed writing**
Kelly Webb-Davies, Bangor University International College (BUIC)

10.00-10.30 **Session 2: Practical suggestions to make the learning environment more inclusive, interactive, and motivating for students**
Yvonne Leonard & Peter Hughes, De Montfort University International College (DMUIC)

BREAK

10.40-11.10 **Session 3: Academic Self-Efficacy and Students' Transitions to Higher Education**
Richard Cashman, International College Dundee (ICD)

11.10-11.40 **Session 4: Education for Sustainable Development in Pathways Colleges: Why and How?**
Owain Llewellyn, Bangor University International College (BUIC)

BREAK

11.50-12.20 **Session 5: How you utilise and manage a range of physical or virtual learning environments so that they are appropriate to your learners**
Xiangyu Zeng, University of Bradford International College (UBIC)

12.20-12.50 **Session 6: Using multiple choice questions as a tool for Active Learning**
Matthew Downie, De Montfort University International College (DMUIC)

13.00-13.45

EXTERNAL EXPERT PRESENTATION

(30 minutes presentation and 10-15 minutes Q&A)
Effective classroom-based assessment and feedback
Thom Kiddle – Director, NILE

13.45-14.00

PLENARY AND CLOSING REMARKS

Dr Steven Herron

PRESENTERS & BIO

Julie Smith (Baroness Smith of Newnham)
Governor, OIEG Board of Governors
Professor of European Politics, University of Cambridge

Julie graduated from Brasenose College, Oxford in PPE and was awarded her doctorate by St Anthony's College, Oxford. She has subsequently studied in Hamburg and taught at the Central European University in Budapest before becoming a lecturer in European Politics at the University of Cambridge and became a Fellow of Robinson College. She has been a Reader in European Politics since 2018. Outside her academic career, Julie has been active in local and national politics with the Liberal Democrats, having served as a councillor on Cambridge City Council for more than a decade. She was ennobled as Baroness Smith of Newnham in 2014 and is an active peer with an interest in Defence and Europe. She is the Visiting Parliamentary Fellow of St Anthony's Oxford.

Kelly Webb-Davies
EAP Tutor and Module Lead
Bangor University International College (BUIC)

Kelly completed her BA(Hons) Linguistics in Australia at the University of Western Australia and the University of Melbourne, with one year studying abroad at the University of Sheffield. Since 2009 she has taught phonetics and phonology in the Bangor University Linguistics Department and has conducted research on the prosody of Welsh and Welsh English. She has been teaching English for Academic Purposes since 2019 when she obtained a CertTESOL and she is currently a DipTESOL candidate nearing completion. Her areas of interest are education technology, social justice, and teacher training in phonetics and phonology.

Yvonne Leonard
English and Studies Skills Tutor
De Montfort University International College (DMUIC)

Yvonne's EFL career began in China in 2011, where she spent 12 months teaching children and teens for English First. Following this, she moved to Hanoi in Vietnam, where she worked for Apollo, an International House affiliate school. Most recently Yvonne worked for the British Council in Bangkok for 9 years, completing her DELTA, training as an IELTS examiner, and beginning her current MSc TESOL with the University of St Andrews in Scotland. Yvonne moved back to the UK from Asia last year as she wanted to focus on teaching EAP in a UK university context. The energy and diversity of DMUIC have been inspiring for her.

Peter Hughes
English and Studies Skills Tutor
De Montfort University International College (DMUIC)

Peter spent two years teaching young learners in Japan. He then moved to South Korea where he taught IELTS and TOEFL for three years. Upon returning to the UK, Peter completed the DELTA in Bournemouth. Over the pandemic, he had various online teaching jobs before moving to DMUIC in Leicester.

Richard Cashman
Senior EAP Tutor
International College Dundee (ICD)

Richard is a seasoned English for Academic Purposes (EAP) professional, currently serving as a Senior EAP Tutor at the International College Dundee. He has been instrumental in enhancing the delivery of EAP courses and developing a hybrid foundation course. Richard is a dedicated EAP professional with a rich experience in EAP teaching and team management. Richard's former roles include Director of Education and Co-Founder at Experience English in China and Senior English Language Lecturer at Huangshan University, China. Fluent in Mandarin Chinese and holding a Master's degree from The University of Edinburgh, Richard's current research is centred on academic self-efficacy and the application of Legitimation Code Theory in higher education.

PRESENTERS & BIO

Owain Llewellyn
International Year 1
Programme Lead
Bangor University
International College
(BUIC)

Owain is the Programme Lead for the International Year 1 at Bangor University International College. He has an MA in language teaching and previously worked with the British Council. He created <https://eltsustainable.org>, helping teachers reach thousands of learners with engaging environment-themed lessons. He co-wrote online courses for language teachers on embedding environmental matters into language teaching for the British Council and Language Fuel. He was a plenary panellist at IATEFL 2022 on sustainability in ELT.

As an EAP teacher and programme lead, he is interested in education for sustainable development in higher education and the sustainable development goals within curricula.

Xiangyu Zeng
EAP Tutor
University of Bradford
International College
(UBIC)

Xiangyu is an EAP tutor at the University of Bradford International College, where she has been teaching level 3, 4, and 6 courses for nearly a year. She is a first-generation university student, a highly organised & motivated teacher/tutor with over 10 years of experience in the education sector, including work overseas. She graduated with a passion for teaching and English language learning, and after years of teaching, obtained CELTA and has taught English for Academic Purposes ever since. After two master's and two written dissertations, Xiangyu has a more holistic understanding of the importance of dialogue pedagogy, digital inequality and education accountability for international students.

Matthew Downie
Teacher of Chemistry
De Montfort University
International College
(DMUIC)

Matthew has been teaching since 2015 and, since then, he has worked around the world including the UAE, Japan, Mexico, Spain, and Tunisia. He has taught IGCSE, IA Level, IBMYP, IBDP, and AP courses in general science, chemistry, and environmental systems. Matthew has a particular interest in the use of technology within teaching as a tool to aid conceptual understanding and developing students' application skills. Outside of work, he enjoys reading and (trying) to learn a variety of languages.

Thom Kiddle
Director
Norwich Institute of
Language Education
(NILE)

Thom Kiddle is Director at Norwich Institute for Language Education (NILE), where he has worked since 2011. Previously, he was head of academic research and educational technology at the Chilean-British University in Santiago and worked in Portugal, the UK, Australia, and Thailand in language teaching, teacher training, and language assessment. He has a Master's degree in Language Testing from Lancaster University and the Cambridge DELTA, and his role at NILE involves strategic and organisational leadership, training, and consultancy in a range of areas including the CEFR, testing and assessment, learning technologies, and language teaching methodology. Thom is also Chair of the Equals Board of Trustees, and treasurer and founding director of AQUEDUTO – the Association for Quality Education and Training Online. He has published in Applied Linguistics, Language Assessment Quarterly, and System journals; in 2019, two chapters in Routledge Handbooks of Language Teacher Education; and has two forthcoming publications on Quality Assurance and Digital Language Teaching Materials in 2023. Thom was also a plenary speaker at IATEFL 2021.



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