



# The Gwangju Communicator

Newsletter of the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter of Korea TESOL

May 2018

## Students' Struggles and Society: LesBiTrans Migration, Academic, and Employment Experiences in Korea

By Chelle Jones

**C**helle Jones draws on ethnographic observation, archival research, and semi-structured interviews to answer the following questions: How is South Korean society shifting in terms of LGBTQ acceptance? What is the status of South Korean law concerning LGBTQ rights? How do LGBTQ migrants perceive their school and workplace environments, healthcare resources, and economic security? How do transgender and lesbian, bisexual, gay, and queer people in South Korea negotiate gender, race, and citizenship status as they secure employment, manage family ties, pursue relationships, and access healthcare?



This presentation is relevant to teachers of students of all ages and all sexual identities, as it provides insights into Korean society and the sociocultural influences shaping students' identities, perceptions,

beliefs, and values – a glimpse, in short, into what students deal with on a daily basis. Teachers will come away with greater understanding of the context surrounding their students, and in particular their LGBTQ students, which can translate into empathetic, supportive classroom practices.

### THE PRESENTER

Chelle Jones is an American sociologist who first arrived in South Korea in 2006 and has spent eight years living in the cities of Gwangju and Seoul. Jones is a PhD candidate in sociology and LGBTQ studies at the University of Michigan. Jones graduated from Seoul National University with an MA in Korean studies in 2014. Jones' fifteen months of dissertation fieldwork are funded by a U.S. Department of State Fulbright Research Grant, Foreign Language and Area Studies Grant, and SeAh Haiam Research Grant.



*(To be presented on May 19 at the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter KOTESOL meeting at Gwangju National University of Education.)*

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### Officer-at-Large

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### Join Korea TESOL

Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter

<http://koreatesol.org/join-kotesol>



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### Facebook

Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL

[www.facebook.com/groups/GwangjuKOTESOL/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/GwangjuKOTESOL/)



## ■ Joining Korea TESOL

**Who May Join:** English teachers of any level or nationality are eligible to join. KOTESOL welcomes native and non-native speakers teaching at public schools, language institutes, colleges and universities, and other organizations, as well as tutors. Undergraduate students may join as student members.

### What Memberships Types Are Available?

- **Regular 1-Year Membership:** 50,000 won.
- **Lifetime Membership:** 500,000 won. Student and International Membership options are also available.

**How to Join:** Apply by using the online membership form at <http://www.koreatesol.org/>. On the front page, click on “Join KOTESOL” in the menu, and follow the directions. Help available at a Chapter meeting.

Alternately, paper membership application and renewal forms are available at Chapter meetings for those who prefer making a hard-copy application with Chapter assistance.

**Membership payment** may be made by either of these two methods:

- Bank transfer to **KOTESOL:** KEB-Hana bank account number 299-890069-83204.
- Payment in cash to the Chapter Membership Officer at a Chapter Meeting.

# Using Technology to Improve Classroom Engagement

Aaron Jones

For teachers arriving in Korea from the West, the question of engagement has always presented various challenges in the classroom. Koreans, unlike their Western counterparts, find life satisfaction from enjoying school. Additionally, life success in Korea remains inexplicably linked to the classroom and the success achieved at school. Therefore, how can foreign language teachers invite their students to enjoy class while also learning effectively?

With the cultural values of Western teachers and Korean students often being vastly different, it can be challenging for teachers to effectively engage students in ways that are not at odds with the general cultural and educational norms. How can foreign language instructors engage students in a culturally sensitive way that does not remove them too far from their comfort zones? Can technology be utilized in the classroom in a way that is relevant to students in Korea and still remain engaging?

This workshop focuses on research and methods for utilizing Korean students' technological literacy to

enhance instruction and engage in a classroom structure known mainly for lecture and testing. Engagement, in and of itself, takes on various forms as it moves across one culture from another. As research has shown, Korean students are engaged in the classroom when they enjoy class and are simultaneously succeeding.

The purpose of this workshop is to present interactive and engaging technology strategies as the bridge between those two concepts. In an increasingly global society, technology remains a constant that can bridge the gap over cultures and, especially with Korean students of almost all ages, can aid them to gain critical thinking skills without removing them from their cultural context. By utilizing technology, foreign teachers are able to fruitfully engage Korean students in language learning without violating their social or cultural constructs in a classroom setting. By the end of the workshop, teachers will have gained useful tools and theoretical understanding that will boost their pedagogy to engage Korean students through technology.



## THE PRESENTER

Aaron Jones currently serves as an assistant professor at the University of Suwon's English Language and Literature Department. Aaron has served as a language instructor at the collegiate level in both Korea and the United States. His research interests include engagement strategies and their effectiveness in regard to cultural context. Aaron received his Master of Arts in Teaching ESL and Master of Arts in Global Leadership from Dallas Baptist University. Email: [ajones@suwon.ac.kr](mailto:ajones@suwon.ac.kr)

(To be presented on May 19 at the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter KOTESOL meeting at Gwangju National University of Education.)

clear understanding  
smooth confident listening reading  
flowing fluid FLUENT speaking writing  
natural competent connecting  
comprehensible

Focus on Fluency

The 2018 Korea TESOL  
International Conference  
October 13-14, Sookmyung Women's University, Seoul

Call for  
Proposals

Now through May 31, 2018  
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## Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL May Chapter Meeting

- Time: Saturday, May 19, 2018, 1:45–5:00 p.m.
- Place: Gwangju Natl. University of Ed., Teacher Training Bldg., Room 811 (1st Floor)

### ■ Schedule: Chapter Meeting, Main Session

**1:45 pm:** Sign-in and Meet-and-Greet (Admission free for newcomers. Future membership always welcomed.)

**2:00 – 2:50 pm: PRESENTATION 1**

***Using Technology to Improve Classroom Engagement***

Aaron Jones (University of Suwon)

**2:50 – 3:10 pm:** Refreshment & Networking Break

**3:10 – 4:00 pm: PRESENTATION 2**

***Students' Struggles and Society: LesBiTrans Migration, Academic, & Employment***

Chelle Jones (University of Michigan)

**4:10 – 4:45 pm: SwapShop Session (Open to All)**

Everyone is encouraged to share their Teaching Discoveries and “Secrets” with the group. Share your Teaching Tips, Ideas, Classroom Activities, Games, ELT Books, or other Teaching Wisdom. (Handouts welcomed.)

**4:45 – 5:00 pm:** Announcements / Drawing for Door Prizes / Closing

After-Meeting Dinner at The First Alleyway downtown.

## Upcoming Chapter Events

**June 9, 2018. Chapter Meeting.**

*When You Meet the Suicidal Student*

– Dr. OH Jung Keun

*What Makes a Great Lesson? vs. What Makes a Lesson Great?*

– Daniel Svoboda (Hankuk University of Foreign Studies)

**August 11, 2018. Chapter Meeting.**

*A Framework for Explaining Activities and Games to Learners with Limited English*

– Andrew Griffiths (Daejeon Education Training Institute)

**July 14, 2018. Chapter Meeting.**

Gwangju National University of Education

## Upcoming KOTESOL Events

**October 13–14, 2018. Korea TESOL International Conference**

*Focus on Fluency*

Sookmyung Women's University, Seoul

### Reflective Practice SIG

**Morning Session**

*Self-Compassion*

**May 19 (11:00–12:30)**

Bryan Hale Facilitating

*At Coffee Lab Mujii (near GNUE)*