

ETA-ROC
Technical Report to National Council
By Lindsay Herron

Conference Name: ETA-ROC 2016 (2016 PAC/AYF & The 25th International Symposium on English Teaching)

Date & location: November 11-13, 2016

KOTESOL Representative's Contact Information

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Current KOTESOL position: President

Conference Snapshot

Theme: Epoch Making in English Language Teaching and Learning: Evolution, Innovation, and Revolution

Location: Chien Tan Overseas Youth Activity Center, Taipei, Taiwan

Attendance: ~700 people estimated by organizer (500 pre-reg, ~100 onsite; 40 speakers +100 staff from OPs)

Sessions: ~22 sets of concurrent sessions, ~155 presentations total (120 paper presentations, 30 workshops, 5 poster presentations); 8:30-5:40 p.m. each day, 1 hour for lunch (provided for all attendees). I noted fewer publishers than last year.

Asia Youth Forum: 53 international students, 10 local students, 12 advisors

Featured Speakers*

Wiley Blevins	Lin Dilin
Anne Burns	Liu Jun
Winnie Cheng	Whitney Mirts
Andy Gao Xuesong	Bonny Norton
Hu Gwangwei	Barry O'Sullivan
Lynn Maslen Kertell	Richmond Stroupe
Stephen Krashen	Yukio Tono
Syuko Kubota	Lawrence Zhang
Ma. Milagros C. Laurel	

(* There were no plenary sessions, but the opening ceremony was held in a big hall reserved for featured speakers doing concurrent sessions.)

PAC Representatives at Conference

Stephen Ryan, FEELTA

Richmond Stroupe, JALT (filling in for Caroline Lloyd, who got sick at the last minute)
Stephenie Busbus / Milagros C. Laurel, PALT
Unchalee Sermsongswad, ThaiTESOL

Our Other Partners at the Conference

Ganakumaran Subramaniam, MELTA

Expense Report

Amount of reimbursement you are requesting: 200,000 won

PAC Meeting Details

A good portion of the meeting was devoted to discussion about next year's PAC—that is, the PAC we'll be hosting at IC2017. Most notable are the following reminders:

The Conference

- PAC partners are invited to send up to 5 pre-vetted presenters. These presenters have to pay (except the one designated as their rep, of course), but they don't have to go through our normal vetting process. [I doubt any partner will send the full allotment; PALT seemed to be the only PAC partner that sent more than one presenter to ETA-ROC.]
- Partners would like the call for proposals from us ASAP—preferably sent with our rep to JALT—so they can advertise it properly.
- We should send the call for proposals to Richmond Stroupe for the PAC website.
- ThaiTESOL and ETA-ROC suggested we consider extending our conference to three days. (I quickly shot this down and assured them we knew how to run a very full 2-day conference very well.)
- [Personal note/reminder: We should be sure to include some kind of PAC panel in the IC2017 program. Could be very interesting; possible themes might include “25 years of English in Asia,” tying in to our 25th anniversary...?]
- Partners wonder if we'd be interested in hosting a special symposium for PAC and local leaders the day before the conference starts. They suggested this could be similar to TESOL International's “affiliate days”; we could discuss common problems such as defining leaders, attracting and retaining leaders/members, etc. JALT is already talking to TESOL International about the possibility of a joint PAC/JALT/TESOL International symposium of some kind. [I really like this idea; it could be similar to the chapter presidents' meeting, but international; could also offer a good opportunity to explore other partnering opportunities. Let's talk more about this.]

AYF

- We need two people to sign an invitation letter for the AYF students. One of these people should be someone at Sookmyung—someone who can contact the embassies if/when necessary.
- AYF needs to send out the invitation letters to selected students **six months** before the conference; thus, they will need information from us (including the theme, etc.) at least **nine months** prior to the start.
- AYF would appreciate help locating an acceptable hostel close to the conference venue.
- [We might want to include an AYF panel or two during the conference; ETA-ROC did, and though I didn't attend it, it seemed very interesting and popular!]

Other PAC business

- The PAC website is hosted on JALT servers, but the next host of the PAC conference (i.e., us) is expected to pay the hosting charges, about US\$70/year.
- We should send contact emails for our organization to Richmond Stroupe (along with the IC2017 call for proposals).
- MELTA might be bringing a PAC agreement to JALT for us to sign; apparently, though we have an MOU with them, it's not a PAC MOU, and they'd like to join.

Conference Representation Details

1. Who was your main contact person in the hosting organization prior to departure?

Andy Yiu-Nam Leung, President & Conference Chair, leung_andytw@yahoo.ca

2. Main contact person at the conference, if different. (Please list their e-mail address, etc.)

N/A

3. HOSPITALITY and COURTESIES: What hospitality was offered by the conference organizers?

Conference fee waiver, 4 nights' hotel, all meals (4 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 3 dinners, including VIP receptions). Gifts from host (ETA-ROC or Takming University): a glass ornament, a scarf, a ceramic mug, and a mini hanging-banner for Takming University.

4. DUTIES: What representational duties were expected of you?

Opening ceremony, PAC meeting, PAC panel, presentation (1 hour). Also brought name-card case for conference chair/organization president + KOTESOL pocket notebooks (4) for PAC reps.

5. KOTESOL DISPLAY TABLE: What kind and size of display area was made available to you?

All PAC reps shared a table next to the registration area, just around the corner from the plenary hall. Only KOTESOL and Thai TESOL brought anything of note.

6. DISPLAY MATERIALS: What display materials did you take with you?

KOTESOL put out ~25 pamphlets + display copies of TEC (3 issues), KTJ (most recent issue), Proceedings (most recent issue). Removed display copy stickers mid-day Sunday, and all publications were claimed by the end of the conference.

7. GENERAL ADVICE: What general advice would you give to subsequent KOTESOL representatives in future in order to be a most effective representative at this conference?

There's really no place to sit at the partners' table, nor do many partners bring stuff. I'd suggest bringing a handful (20?) of pamphlets, our call for proposals (if it's ready), and a single display copy of several publications (~3 issues of TEC, 1 issue each of KTJ and Proceedings). Spend most of the conference making connections, taking notes on good speakers that might visit Asia occasionally (and might be interested in piggybacking our conference on one of their other visits), and noting how ETA-ROC runs things.

8. COMMENTS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE: Did you learn anything that you would like us to pass on to KOTESOL's International Conference Committee?

The best presentation I saw: Bonny Norton, "Identity, Investment, and English Language Learning in a Digital World" (via Skype). Stephen Krashen was also outstanding, of course!

Special stuff for 25th anniversary celebration: awards for past ETA presidents (~5?), special monograph of papers from the conference, video competition OPs: Mostly booksellers (actually selling books)

9. MISCELLANEOUS: Any other comments on the conference and the role of KOTESOL's representative not covered by the above questions.



Near the registration area



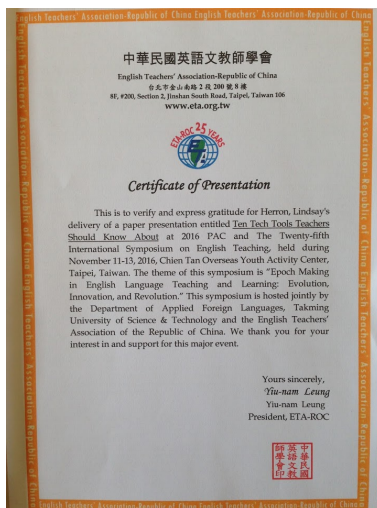
PAC table



PAC sign in the plenary hall



Bag & contents (program book, special collection of papers, pen, CD-ROM of program & special publication)



Presenter certificate



Gifts for PAC (ornament) + all VIPs and presenters at Friday night dinner (Takming Univ. scarf, mug, mini-banner)