



Newsletter

July 2022

Join ATESOL ACT

- ◆ Enjoy membership benefits and discounts for 2022
atesolact.org.au/join

In this issue

- ◆ News from your President and our Working Parties
- ◆ ACTA Conference [26-28 SEPTEMBER 2022, BRISBANE | ACTA 2022](#)
- ◆ Meet your 2022 Committee

Forthcoming events

- ◆ Three for One – ACTA Conference Tasters
Wed. 31 August 2022, 5-7 pm,
Jamison Southern Cross Club
- ◆ Exploring employment options in EAL/D teaching, Sat 22 Oct (T4, W2), 2-4 pm, venue TBN

Contributions welcome

- ◆ We'd love your stories, teaching ideas and opinions
secretary@atesolact.org.au

From the President

Well! We thought 2022 might be easier. But we were wrong! This year is proving just as tough as the previous two years – maybe even tougher. It's the *unpredictability* that is getting to everyone, together with sickness and its aftermath, and the endless regulations and modifications to keep us all safe.

Our year started well in February with a presentation from the National Museum of Australia: see below. The AGM in March was preceded by an inspiring talk from Glenn Flanagan on the work of Companion House. (We plan to follow up this talk in 2023 with a PD event on using interpreters.) At the AGM we thanked those Committee members who were stepping down, having given so generously of their time and talents to us all: Jakki Cashman and Jennifer Meyers (who have served over many, many years), Colleen Caddey-Murphy, Barbara Rogstad and Mali Wijesundara. Most recently, our wonderful Secretary and this Newsletter's editor, has taken up a position at the University of South Australia. Their asset will be Canberra's great loss! We miss you! We were pleased to welcome three new Committee members: Bee Bee, Patrick and Jessica. See more about your 2022 Committee below. You can read my President's report at: [President's Report 2022 AGM - Google Docs](#)

Despite our smaller numbers on the Committee and the effects of the pandemic, we have worked hard to keep the Association ship moving along. An example of the problem with fewer members is this newsletter, which, to be honest, has been in the pipeline since February this year! We apologise for the delay but we know you know we're human, just like everyone else, and people's commitments to work and family must have priority. We especially thank Mei for generously agreeing to see it through to publication. Clearly, however, we now *really* do need people to offer their services to lighten the load.

But to end with some great news: watch out for our updated website, now under construction. It's going to be lovely!

With best wishes to you all,

Helen

From the Editor

Mei French

Welcome to our Winter 2022 Newsletter. In this edition, we review some of our activities this year, and introduce the 2022 committee members.

We're inviting you to join one of the **ATESOL ACT Working Parties** so that we can benefit from your expertise in pursuing the work of the association. Our **Schools and Adult TESOL** working parties are focussed on planning professional development sessions for educators in those sectors, and engaging with advocacy on sector issues. The **Communications** working party seeks to keep members up to date with news and resources from the association and wider TESOL field through our socials, website, email list and publications like this newsletter; and the **Membership** working party aims to promote the association and ensure we are reaching all our diverse sectors.

If you'd like to contribute to our work, please contact secretary@atesolact.org.au.

Working Parties

School EAL/D

Convenor: Janica Morella

The Schools Working Party is a small but dynamic group of teachers, representing Early Childhood to College EAL/D learning.

We attempt to be innovative by organising practical professional learning events that reflect current research. We generally try to hold at least one event per term, to make it truly worthwhile and interesting for our members both locally and nationally.

Our Term 1 professional learning event was led by the National Museum of Australia. Their staff took us on a virtual tour of the rich NMA resources that can be used with English language learners. We followed this up with a joint session with the Adult WP, led by Janica and Bronwyn. If you are interested in joining our committee or have some great professional learning ideas, please contact treasurer@atesolact.org.au.

Adult TESOL

Convenors: Heather White & Helen Moore

In Term 2, together with the Schools Working Party, we held an informal online "afternoon tea" for all TESOL teachers, including those from the adult sector. This built on the Term 1 event with the National Museum of Australia (see opposite). We shared practical ideas for using resources in the brilliant free Digital Classroom: [Australia's Defining Moments Digital Classroom | National Museum of Australia \(nma.gov.au\)](https://www.nma.gov.au/australias-defining-moments-digital-classroom).

You can access the event recording at:

<https://www.atesolact.org.au/pd-events/australias-defining-moments-digital-classroom-national-museum-of-australia/>

In term 4 *Exploring employment options in EALD teaching*, will help you find out what is needed for various employment options, including working with adults in the AMEP and at CIT.

The Adult TESOL Working Party is a very small group. We are looking for interested adult ESOL educators to join us to make sure ATESOL ACT can continue to assist and represent teachers in this sector. Please contact president@atesolact.org.au

Communications

Convenor: Mei French

The Communications working party, under the able and enthusiastic leadership of Barbara Rogstad, had some ongoing projects during 2021. Maintaining and updating the ATESOL ACT website has been a priority, and Barbara brought her considerable knowledge and experience to the task. We have now commissioned a highly recommended website developer to upgrade the website, which is currently “sleeping” because we no longer have a website editor. We are staying active on social media thanks to our new Committee member Bee Bee. We would love to stay in touch through our newsletter through your contributions – that might be teaching ideas, stories from the field, profiles of teachers or learners, or reviews of useful resources.

Please get in touch by writing to

president@atesolact.org.au

Stay connected to ATESOL ACT!

<https://twitter.com/ATESOLACT>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/545614015481708>

<https://www.atesolact.org.au/>

Membership

Convenor: Sarah Warren

The Membership Working Group has met regularly this year and discussed how to cater for our diverse membership. We've investigated different ways of communicating more effectively with ATESOL ACT members and continued to navigate changing landscapes due to the evolving nature of the COVID. We have analysed data from previous events and professional learning opportunities held in 2021, comparing these with comments and further suggestions from participants. We connected with preservice/university students in April and are looking forward to meeting with preservice/university students at the University of Canberra. This is a membership opportunity to have conversations with early career education students, advocate for ongoing mentoring, support EAL/D learners and raise the ATESOL ACT's profile at ACT tertiary institutions.

Joining a Working Party does not mean a large time commitment, and your ideas at even one of our meetings would be very welcome! *No need to join the Committee – if you are a current member of ATESOL ACT, we'd love to have you join in the conversation.* If you'd like to participate, please contact president@atesolact.org.au

ACTA News

The Australian Council of TESOL Associations (ACTA) is our peak Council, bringing together ATESOL associations around Australia. Representation on the Council is determined by the number of members in local associations. The current ACTA President is Dr Anne Keary, whose special expertise is in Early Childhood Education. ATESOL ACT Councillors are Bronwyn Singh and Patrick Kelly.

ACTA brings us many benefits, not least the biennial conference (see below) and financing our journal *TESOL in Context*, which is free on-line. Check out: [Publications – Australian Council of TESOL Associations](#). ACTA works hard to advocate for our profession, most recently with the **ACTA EAL/D Roadmap for Schools** and the **AMEP Action Plan**. If you're interested in the policies that govern your working life, go to: [Advocacy – Australian Council of TESOL Associations](#). For **news and information on Professional Learning around Australia** (at members' rates and often free), sign up at the bottom of the page: [News – Australian Council of TESOL Associations](#)



The full program is now available!

The Australian Council of TESOL Associations International Conference 2022 is hosted by QATESOL in the sunny city of Brisbane and will be held on **26-28 September 2022** at the **Hilton Brisbane, Queensland**.

The conference program is jammed packed with 3 days of keynote presentations, concurrent sessions, trade, and social functions.

We encourage you to **register now for the three day conference to secure the Early Bird discount!**

Early Bird Registrations Close: Friday 12th August 2022

Full Conference Registration – AATESOL ACT Member

Early Bird: \$800

Full Rate: \$900

Full Conference Registration - Non Member

Early Bird: \$890

Full Rate: \$990

Conference Keynote Speakers

Pushing the Boundaries of EIL Pronunciation Research & Practice: Insights From the Outer and Expanding Circle Varieties. Professor Ee Ling Low | National Institute of Education (NIE), Nanyang Technological University (NTU)

Pushing the Pedagogical Boundaries: New Tools to Forge New Approaches to TESOL. Associate Professor Russell Cross | Melbourne Graduate School of Education, Australia

Creating EAL/D Student and Teacher Flourishing in a Time of Constraint: Pushing the Boundaries of Possibility. Associate Professor Margaret Kettle | Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia

If you have questions, please contact the appointed Conference Organisers, Iceberg Events:

Mika Roldan

Phone: +61 7 3876 4988

Email: mika@icebergevents.com.au

Meet your 2022 ATESOL ACT Committee

Helen Moore, AM, PhD

President, Adult TESOL Working Party



I'm a "retired" (!) teacher educator, who set up the first full professional TESOL teacher education program at La Trobe University (Melbourne) in the late 1970s. Later I became Acting Director of the La Trobe University Language Centre (1991-93), which included AMEP and ELICOS students. I've taught in Papua New Guinea, England, Holland and China as well as Australia. My 2004 doctoral thesis from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) in Toronto analysed policies impacting on English language teaching in Australian schools from 1948 to 1996. Returning to Australia in 2004, I worked for the AMEP Research Centre on two projects (continuous enrolment and provision for refugee youth with minimal/no previous schooling). Since 2004, I've worked on policy advocacy through the Australian Council of TESOL Associations (ACTA). My other passion is music.

Christina Braun

Vice President, Membership & Schools Working Parties

I immigrated to Australia from Germany ten years ago. Changing my country also meant a career change. Although I have always worked in education projects within not-for-profit organisations, I am now an early childhood, EAL/D, and French teacher. I have always enjoyed learning and speaking other languages and practising them while working and travelling abroad. Last year, I completed the Graduate Certificate in TESOL and Foreign Language Teaching at the University of Canberra, which was the beginning of my involvement with ATESOL. I am currently completing a Master of Education at Curtin University, specialising in linguistic and cultural diversity. I enjoyed my first year on the ATESOL committee, working on various projects to advocate for learners and teachers. I look forward to planning more exciting PLs for mainstream and specialist teachers and growing our membership.



Janica Morella

Treasurer, Schools Working Party Convenor



I was born in Malta and moved to Australia when I was two. Maybe it's because of this huge move that I love to travel and have always been inspired by different cultures and languages. I acquired my Certificate in Teaching English as a Second Language (CERT TESOL) qualification in Spain, through the University of Cambridge. I loved teaching English in Belgium and Japan to students ranging from 2 to 72 years old! In Canberra, I now teach English to primary school students who are either new arrivals to Australia or who have other languages/dialects at home and need support. I joined the ATESOL ACT Committee in 2019. It has been a wonderful way to network with other EALD teachers and to continuously upskill through the many professional learning opportunities.

Mei French, PhD

Secretary, Communications Working Party (*stepped down 1 June 2022 due to moving to Adelaide*)

I am a teacher educator and educational linguist with UniSA, specialising in multilingual pedagogies for EALD learners. I have presented professional learning for the Education Directorate and supported Catholic schools in the Canberra region, as well as developing EALD and multilingual curriculum and resources for South Australian, Victorian and NSW schools. I enjoyed over twelve years teaching and leading secondary EALD programs in South Australia, teaching refugee, migrant, local and international students, and serving as chief assessor and curriculum leader for senior secondary EALD subjects in SA. Supporting and advocating for TESOL professionals and students is an important dimension of my teaching, and before joining ATESOL ACT I served on the SA TESOL committee, including terms as President and Vice President. I have presented professional learning for ATESOL ACT, SATESOL, VicTESOL, and at ACTA conferences.



Jessica Colleu Terradas

Schools Working Party



I was born on a remote island off the coast of Africa and then raised in Paris. I came to Australia in 2007 to complete my Masters, which ignited a passion for social justice through education and becoming an Australian citizen. Volunteering in Central Australia, I witnessed the disadvantages faced by Aboriginal people. That planted a seed which has grown into a strong desire to help improve the lives of others. Trained as a special education teacher, I spent 7 years supporting students at educational risk at Como Secondary College (Western Australia). As the recipient of a teaching Award and a Churchill Fellowship, I worked as a literacy and instructional coach in the

South Australian Education Department, coaching teachers and advising leaders in diverse teaching contexts. In 2022, I began in a new position as a Senior Officer- Teaching and Learning (Literacy & EAL/D) in Canberra and Goulburn Catholic Education. My work is driven by the belief that every student is capable of successful learning. As a new ATESOL ACT committee member, I look forward to engaging in conversations and contributing to raising greater awareness about EAL/D issues at both classroom and system levels. I believe I am a strong advocate for students at risk who are the most vulnerable in the classroom, including Aboriginal students and EAL/D learners, and wish to continue promoting effective practices in schools that demonstrate evidence of strong student growth.

Patrick Kelly

Schools Working Party, ACTA Councillor

I have over 30 years' experience in the areas of teaching and student diversity. I have worked as a teacher, special educator, and an advisor around students with diverse needs including those students for whom English is an additional language or dialect. Since February 2018, I have worked as the Curriculum and Assessment Specialist – Student Diversity for ACARA. In this role, I work with other Curriculum Specialists on aspects of the Australian Curriculum. I am passionate with regards to ensuring that the diverse backgrounds, identities, abilities, and interests are not barriers to them accessing a meaningful education experience.



Pattharanit (Bee Bee) Pannuan

Membership & Communications Working Parties



I have always had a passion for learning languages. I come from Thailand, where I had teaching experience at a language school in Bangkok. The research focus of my Master of Arts (English) was the development of English-speaking strategies. I am an experienced and qualified education professional with additional TESOL and IELTS training and a graduate diploma in early childhood education. I migrated to Australia in 2019. I also have experience in the AMEP (Adult Migrant English Program) through volunteering at a local TAFE in Perth as a classroom tutor. I also taught at the language school where I studied CELTA, and worked in early childhood education and care in Perth. In Canberra, I am an early childhood educator at a day care centre at the ANU and an IELTS invigilator. I recently completed a graduate certificate in TESOL at the University of Canberra and am now studying towards Certificate IV in Training and Assessment. My ambition is to be an educational leader. I enjoy engaging with people from all nationalities and ethnic backgrounds, and always wonder how many languages they can speak. I am enthusiastic to use my passion in English to make a meaningful impact on my students. In my free time, I like hiking, visiting museums and travelling. As a new ATESOL ACT Committee member, I'm looking forward to engaging more widely with EAL/D colleagues and promoting our Association.

Bronwyn Singh

Schools & Membership Working Parties, ACTA Councillor

I am currently working as an EAL/D (English as an Additional Language or Dialect) specialist teacher in an ACT Public Schools primary school. I hold a Diploma of Teaching, Bachelor of Education, and Graduate Diploma in TESOL. Canberra born and bred, it was in the United Arab Emirates, teaching in primary schools operating in the English medium, that I was initiated into the TESOL world, and relished learning more about the field at TESOL Arabia conferences. Returning to Australia I became involved in EAL teaching in the ACT's New Arrivals Program at the Introductory English Centres. I have contributed to the ATESOL ACT Committee since 2013, including as President and Vice President.



Sarah Warren

Membership Working Party Convenor



I'm a primary school educator in the ACT Public Education Directorate. I have worked in a variety of different settings throughout Canberra in between overseas postings and study. This included a Masters of Education, particularly looking at Auslan in schools and Deaf Education trends internationally. Currently I teach a Year 4 primary mainstream class at Kingsford Smith School. We have an amazing diversity of home languages and cultures in our community. My involvement as a committee member of ATESOL ACT is central to ongoing professional learning, development and using this in everyday teaching. Valuing the work of our EAL/D specialists and collaborating with mainstream educators helps the learning of all our students. I am proud to be a member of this dynamic association and actively encourage others to join us.

Heather White

Adult TESOL Working Party



I have a long-standing interest in working with people from other cultures, particularly refugees, migrants and Indigenous Australians. Originally a secondary school teacher, I studied TESOL as a result of working with groups of Vietnamese refugees in the early 1980s. I moved to work in adult education after having my own children, initially in the community-based sector in Melbourne. The AMEP has been an important thread in my life in Melbourne, East Arnhem Land and Canberra. In Canberra, I managed the AMEP until mid-2019 when I retired from paid work. It remains a special focus. I have also worked in the Australian Public Service, particularly with overseas-based staff in both English language and cross-cultural training in Australia and overseas, when I was living in Cambodia and Zimbabwe, and often working remotely.

Now is the perfect time to join ATESOL ACT or renew your membership. Please consider an institutional membership for your school, which gives any 2 teachers members' rates at professional learning events. We offer discounted membership for part time or unwaged TESOL professionals. *Student membership is free!*

atesolact.org.au/join

Membership categories

	Regular	Earlybird
Institutional	\$80	\$72.00
Full Member	\$55	\$49.50
Part time or unwaged	\$35	\$31.50
Student (no voting)	\$0	\$0.00

Benefits include

Discounted member's rate at events
Voting at meetings and AGM

Are you a passionate EAL/D teacher?

Do you teach in a school or to adults or international students?

Do you enjoy exchanging ideas with colleagues from other educational settings?

Do you have ideas for stimulating Professional Learning events?

Would you like to learn more about what is happening nationally in EAL/D education and policy?

Are you committed to improving our profession?

Then the ATESOL ACT Committee is the place for you!

Currently we are short of a Secretary, newsletter editor, website manager, secondary & senior secondary teachers, adult ESOL teachers, ELICOS teachers & people to help with events.

***The more people participating in your Committee,
the more we can give back to everyone!!!***

TO JOIN OUR COMMITTEE OR FIND OUT MORE, WRITE TO president@atesolact.org.au