3:00-3:50 PM

Difficult Conversations, Pleasant Discussions

3:00-3:50PM, Room: 269

Katherine Heithmar, FLS International

This session aims to give you the confidence and tools necessary to tackle the many difficult discussions you may encounter in the typical IEP/PLS setting.

Topic Area(s): Conflict Resolution
Welcome to the 3rd Annual MATSOL Private Language School and Intensive English Program Conference!

We would like to thank CELOP for graciously hosting the conference in their space, and National Geographic Learning for providing lunch. We would also like to thank all of our exhibitors:

- Cambridge University Press
- ETS TOEFL
- IELTS USA
- ISX World
- National Geographic Learning
- Oxford University Press
- Pearson
- Pro Lingua Associates
- Townsend Press

Finally, we would like to thank the MATSOL Board of Directors, staff and members for your support! Without all of your generous contributions this conference would not be possible.

We hope you enjoy the conference!

Best,

MATSOL Private Language Schools Special Interest Group
Joy MacFarland, Josh Stone, Sarah de Pina & Rachel Kadish

3:00-3:50 PM

Ha Ha—How to Use Humor in the Classroom
3:00-3:50 PM, Room: 264
Josh Filipowski, International School of Advanced Learning
Humor in the classroom opens doors to communication creating a comfortable atmosphere conducive to learning. By effectively incorporating humor into lesson plans, teachers can ease some of the stress associated with language learning and cross-culturally connects students.

Topic Area(s): English for Specific Purposes; Intercultural Communication; Speech, Pronunciation & Listening; Teaching Grammar; Vocabulary, Lexicon

Board Games: Improving English While Creating Community
3:00-3:50 PM, Room: 268
Megan Thai, FLS International
Playing board games is a fun and great way to increase interaction among students, but they are challenging to effectively integrate into lessons. This session will discuss and demonstrate how board games can be used to facilitate higher level language practice and build community.

Topic Area(s): English for Specific Purposes; Intercultural Communication; Speech, Pronunciation & Listening; Vocabulary, Lexicon; Reading, Literacy
3:00-3:50 PM

Muslim Student Inclusion

3:00-3:50 PM, Room: 260

Sumaiya Zama, Council on American Islamic Relations

My Muslim Student explores the realities of working with Muslim students by contextualizing our politically charged environment and centering identity-based learning of the Muslim community. The training will provide a safe space to ask questions about Islam, Muslims, specific scenarios you may encounter, etc.

*Topic Area(s): Intercultural Communication*

EXHIBITOR SESSION: Revising and Aligning Curriculum to International Scales to Drive Progress

3:00-3:50 PM, Room: 262

Sarah Towler, Shawn Wolfe and Alla Schlate, Pearson

Using the Global Scale of English and CEFR we began to explore the potential for review, revision, development of curriculum for the purpose of improved student placement and measurable progress. In this session we will explore the necessary tools, processes, and practices to evaluate or create a high quality curriculum.

*Topic Area(s): Exhibitor Session, Continuing Professional Development; Curriculum Alignment and Measurable Progress*

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MATSOL Members Benefits

- Subscription to MATSOL Currents newsletter and the monthly MATSOL E-Bulletin.
- MATSOLworks job listings.
- Access to members-only resources on the MATSOL web site and E-lists.
- Membership in MATSOL Special Interest Groups.
- Opportunities to volunteer on MATSOL committees.
- Support of MATSOL's local and national advocacy on behalf of all ELL/ESOL professionals, our students, and their families.

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10:00 AM - 3:50 PM

Complimentary Headshot

10:00AM-3:50PM, Room: 279

Kevin Thai, Three Circles Studio

Three Circles Studio - We approach each client with admiration as the most important individual in their field, and then work to share their unique qualities to others important to them. Come by today to update your professional headshot for LinkedIn with a complimentary session.

www.ThreeCirclesStudio.com | Kevin@threecirclesstudio.com (617) 875-2282 | IG/FB/ThreeCirclesStudio

*Topic Area(s): Complimentary headshot with watermark*
2:00-2:50 PM

EXHIBITOR SESSION: Fairness as a Consideration in Writing Test Items

2:00-2:50 PM, Room: 268

Marian Crandall ETS

There are so many variables to be considered in writing test questions that one essential consideration, fairness, is sometimes overlooked. In this session, we’ll define fairness, review some universal principles for creating fair assessments, and discuss the challenges of using them in culturally diverse ESL classrooms.

Topic Area(s): Exhibitor Session; Assessment

Assessment & the American Sitcom: An Intensive English Programming Innovation

2:00-2:50 PM, Room: 269

Torin Shriver, Nicholas Santavicca, Jennifer TenBusschen, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth

Assessment for Learning (AFL) is a collaborative method where learners and instructors both evaluate the learner’s current skillset to identify knowledge gains and gaps for future learning. This workshop will demonstrate to IEP professionals how to utilize sitcoms as a tool for AFL (using classroom video clips and assessment examples).

Topic Area(s): Video & Digital Media; English for Specific Purposes; Intercultural Communication; Speech, Pronunciation & Listening; Writing, Composition; Teaching Grammar; Vocabulary, Lexicon; Materials Creation/Adaptation; Test Preparation
Scripting & Modeling Instructional Language: The Microteaching Challenge
2:00-2:50 PM, Room: 264
Henry Gerlits, Massachusetts International Academy
Have you ever explained a new activity, then frantically ran around addressing student confusion you hadn’t anticipated? Or is your modeling clear every time? In this interactive workshop, you can try recording and evaluating your own instructional language for a common yet complex classroom activity. Come take the microteaching challenge!

Topic Area(s): Continuing Professional Development; Video & Digital Media; Speech, Pronunciation & Listening; Materials Creation/Adaptation

So You Want to be a Professional Materials Writer
2:00-2:50 PM, Room: 266
Jennifer Meldrum, EC English
Have you ever wondered how professional writers got their jobs? This session will take you through the steps most writers take, what mistakes to avoid and how to introduce yourself to potential employers.

Topic Area(s): Continuing Professional Development; Materials Creation/Adaptation
Applying the 6 Principles to ESP Course Design and Delivery
9:00-9:50 AM, Room: 260
Carol Pineiro, Michelle Smith, Boston University

Presenters demonstrate how TESOL’s 6 Principles for Exemplary Teaching of English Learners are applied to the design and development of ESP courses to produce positive outcomes. Examples from the health and medical field are given with pre-and post-term reflections that offer suggestions for improved delivery.

Topic Area(s): Continuing Professional Development; English for Specific Purposes; Materials Creation/Adaptation

EXHIBITOR SESSION: Transform your Classroom with a TED English Learning Experience
9:00-9:50 AM, Room: 262
Sarah de Pina, National Geographic Learning

Today, learning English is now considered an essential part of a 21st century education. In this session, we will explore how powerful ideas from globally-acclaimed TED Talks can be used to support any curriculum and prepare learners with the communication and 21st century skills they need to be successful global citizens and future leaders of the planet.

Topic Area(s): Exhibitor Session

Activities to Use in a Pinch
2:00-2:50 PM, Room: 260
Joanna Pushee, Freelance / NECC / Cartus

In this interactive session, attendees will be asked to share one or two of their favorite go-to activities. The facilitator will begin with sharing her version of baseball with teaching English prepositions. She will also share a sticky note dice game that can be used as an ice breaker, or a way to get students talking. Participants in this session are encouraged to share their favorite activities even if those activities are beloved by many teachers already. You might learn a new twist on an old favorite!

Topic Area(s): Speech, Pronunciation & Listening

The Problem in Our Textbooks: Encouraging Simplified Grammar
2:00-2:50 PM, Room: 262
Mandie Bauer, ACS English

“Present progressive” or “present continuous”? “Relative clause” or “adjective clause”? Using examples from popular grammar books, this session critiques the different ways ESL books teach the same grammar point, and how we, as teachers, can support our students so that everyone is, literally and figuratively, on the same page.

Topic Area(s): Writing, Composition; Teaching Grammar; Vocabulary, Lexicon; Materials Creation/Adaptation
Classroom Activities for “Unpacking” Academic Discourse: Grammar, Cohesion, and Noun Clauses
1:00-1:50 PM, Room: 268
Douglas Willcox, EC Boston
Do your ESL students struggle with mastering the finer points of EAP? This workshop analyzes differences between written and spoken English, introduces ready-to-use exercises for identifying grammar characteristic of cohesive texts, and analyses lexical and grammatical devices used to create cohesion in texts, including noun clauses.

Topic Area(s): English for Specific Purposes; Writing, Composition; Teaching Grammar

Advocacy 101: Building Confidence to Approach Your Congress Members
1:00-1:50 PM, Room: 269
Mackenzie Kerby, ELS Boston
Industry stakeholders are called to advocacy during these perilous times for IEPs. This session will teach newcomers the logistics of a successful first appointment with congressional offices. Attendees will learn the basics of pitching and how to respond to unfamiliar objections. This interactive session will develop confidence for advocacy newcomers.

Topic Area(s): Advocacy

Improving Learner Pronunciation
9:00-9:50 AM, Room: 264
Csilla Tambor, English At Large
Workshop & PowerPoint presentation discuss the four key components of English pronunciation: sounds, word stress, sentence stress and intonation. Pronunciation practice activities for each component are provided in a handout packet. This workshop is part presentation with PPT slides, and part pair discussion and interactive workshop activities.

Topic Area(s): Speech, Pronunciation & Listening
9:00-9:50 AM

Creating Extension Activities, Part 3
9:00-9:50 AM, Room: 268
Ksenia Ducey, Target ISC
In this workshop, teachers will practice creating engaging and challenging activities targeting specific language skills, such as pronunciation, grammar and spelling. This is the third workshop in this series. Be ready to work, sweat, learn and laugh!

Topic Area(s): Materials Creation/Adaptation

Modifying Intensive English Program Curriculum to the Needs of Adolescent Students
9:00-9:50 AM, Room: 269
Liz Soteros McNamara, FLS International
An influx of adolescent students to private language schools is a seasonal occurrence in the Boston area. This presentation will provide strategies for modifying the lessons from private language school ESL units written for adults to meet the academic, cognitive, and social-emotional levels of adolescent students.

Topic Area(s): Speech, Pronunciation & Listening; Writing, Composition; Teaching Grammar; Vocabulary, Lexicon; Reading, Literacy; Materials Creation/Adaptation

1:00-1:50 PM

Field Trips Forever!
1:00-1:50 PM, Room: 264
Samantha Young, Kaplan International
This workshop will showcase fun, free (to low-cost) field trips that have a strong academic purpose, require little prep, use minimal physical resources, and can be adapted to groups of varying levels and sizes. Planning, implementation, and follow-up considerations will be covered, including virtual options.

Topic Area(s): Materials Creation/Adaptation

EXHIBITOR SESSION: Reading, Listening, and Chunking
1:00-1:50 PM, Room: 266
Andy Burrows, Pro Lingua Associates
Fluent reading and listening are not really done word-by-word. They are done in chunks (phrases). A phrase such as "in the classroom" is not conceived as three separate words. Grammatically and phonologically they are a unit (chunk). Learners should work with chunks, as in our newest book, “Talking with Americans,” and our “Hopes and Dreams.”

Topic Area(s): Exhibitor Session; Continuing Professional Development; Speech, Pronunciation & Listening; Reading, Literacy
TPR and B-boying (Breakdancing)
1:00-1:50 PM, Room: 260
Jon-Peter Sit, Massachusetts International Academy
Discover how b-boying (breakdancing) allows students to acquire colloquialisms, discuss highly debated social issues, and forget about losing face. Participants will judge a bboy battle using an official criteria-based rubric and are highly encouraged to literally and figuratively “get down” with a firsthand experience in TPR through b-boying.

Topic Area(s): Intercultural Communication; Speech, Pronunciation & Listening; Vocabulary, Lexicon

Meaningful Education in Challenging Times
1:00-1:50 PM, Room: 262
Caroline McKinnon, FELT NY/Long Island University
Meaningful Education in Challenging Times will look at the impact the outside world has on our learning and how we can engage students through targeted and meaningful practices, which will help foster a sense of stability. Through practical exercises, we will look at the small things we can incorporate into our teaching, that can bring big results.

Topic Area(s): Intercultural Communication

Fun & Creative Writing Activities for All Levels
10:00-10:50 AM, Room: 260
Noga Laor, Long Island University
Writing is hard!! This is a common sentiment that we hear from students of all levels on a regular basis. Writing tends to be one of the more difficult skills for students to master, whether it is because they haven’t had much exposure to writing in either English or their native language, or simply because writing can take on so many different forms, making it that much more of a slippery skill to handle. Because of this, some students tend to shy away from writing. In this workshop, we will explore why students may have difficulty writing, as well as experience a variety of activities that will make writing both enjoyable and productive for students of all levels.

Topic Area(s): Writing, Composition

That's So Meta! Thinking about Thinking to Promote Deeper Learning
10:00-10:50 AM, Room: 262
Sarah Glinski, EC English
How can English-language instructors apply theories from cognitive psychology and use metacognitive strategies to help their learners process language more deeply?

Topic Area(s): Speech, Pronunciation & Listening; Writing, Composition; Vocabulary, Lexicon; Reading, Literacy
10:00-10:50 AM

Vocabulary Games and Quiz Apps
10:00-10:50 AM, Room: 264
Carol Pineiro, Julie Kozaczka, Boston University/CELOP
The presenters will demonstrate vocabulary games via three apps (Socrative, Quizlet, and Kahoot) and ask participants to take a sample quiz. Afterward, they will rate each of the apps according to their suitability for different levels, skills and content areas of ESL.

Topic Area(s): English for Specific Purposes; Vocabulary, Lexicon; Materials Creation/Adaptation

Designing Grammar Consciousness-Raising Tasks for Your Classroom
10:00-10:50 AM, Room: 266
Molly Exten, UMass Boston
Consciousness-raising (CR) tasks offer a thought-provoking way to teach a variety of grammar topics. This practice-oriented presentation highlights reasons for using CR tasks, presents common forms of CR tasks that can be adapted, and identifies pitfalls in designing CR tasks.

Topic Area(s): Teaching Grammar; Materials Creation/Adaptation

11:00-11:50 AM

EXHIBITOR SESSION: The Teacher’s Guide to IELTS Prep
11:00-11:50 AM, Room: 270
Donna Cameron, IELTS USA
Learn about the value of the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), and discuss tips for creating an IELTS prep course. The presenter will provide examples of the IELTS face-to-face speaking test, and the variety of task types used throughout the test. She will also lead an interactive group activity to explore best practices for creating an IELTS prep course.

Topic Area(s): Test Preparation
Ethnocentrism: How it affects our students’ experience

11:00-11:50 AM, Room: 268
Miriam Chenaif, ELS Boston

Students thrive in an inclusive environment where diversity is celebrated and differences are understood. In order for IEPs to be successful, it is vital for all staff to be aware and recognize ethnocentric behavior. Attendees will benefit by gaining insight to how extensively culture affects the way we think and how we judge others.

Topic Area(s): Intercultural Communication; Inclusion

Make 'em Move

11:00-11:50 AM, Room: 269
David Green, FLS International

Students love being able to get up and move around, play games and have fun. An active classroom is a productive learning environment! We will practice activities that utilize TPR, spaced repetition, role-play, and dialoguing methods. Giving our students enthusiastic communicative practice will engage them and lower their affective barriers.

Topic Area(s): English for Specific Purposes; Intercultural Communication; Speech, Pronunciation & Listening; Vocabulary, Lexicon; Materials Creation/Adaptation

Building International Students’ Academic Identity

10:00-10:50 AM, Room: 269
Natalya Watson, Veronika Maliborska, Northeastern University

There is an increasing need for multifaceted communication support for international students matriculating at US graduate schools. Learn how ESL learners in a graduate writing course transform their academic and language learner identity while completing a research project by exploring linguistic, cognitive, pragmatic, and sociocultural demands of academic discourse communities.

Topic Area(s): English for Specific Purposes; Writing, Composition; Materials Creation/Adaptation

Making Academic Writing Fun for ESL/ELL Students

10:00-10:50 AM, Room: 270
Judith Walz, Massachusetts International Academy

Many ESL/ELL learners are fearful of making mistakes in academic writing, often focusing on grammar and vocabulary. Although these are important, without words on the paper or screen, there can be no improvement. Teachers will learn strategies to breakdown student fears of writing and build confidence, creativity and success.

Topic Area(s): English for Specific Purposes; Writing, Composition
Adult learning requires cognitive revisions to the frames of reference in which skills and meaning are understood. For ELLs, interference from first language and prior experiences can become a barrier to developing new writing skills. Thus, the teacher’s awareness of transformative learning helps guide students more effectively in the learning process.

*Topic Area(s):* Continuing Professional Development; English for Specific Purposes; Intercultural Communication; Writing, Composition; Teaching Grammar; Vocabulary, Lexicon; Materials Creation/Adaptation; Test Preparation

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Eileen Kramer, Tim Doyle, *English for STEM, CELOP, Boston University*

The term “critical thinking” frequently appears in EAP course objectives, assessment rubrics, curriculum development, and lesson plans. It is a crucial skill that helps prepare students for academic success. The presenters will explain and demonstrate how to support the development of higher-level (critical) thinking using authentic text in student-led seminars.

*Topic Area(s):* English for Specific Purposes; Test Preparation

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Successful Listening Skills Instruction in the Communicative Classroom: New Views, Proven Strategies

Marnie Reed, *Boston University*

Learner surveys identify two listening challenges: successfully identifying words in continuous speech and understanding a speaker’s intended meaning. Instructors need practical tips to help learners parse continuous speech and discern speaker intent. This session shares two 3-part strategies to facilitate processing utterance content and interpreting message meaning.

*Topic Area(s):* Continuing Professional Development; English for Specific Purposes; Speech, Pronunciation & Listening; Materials Creation/Adaptation