

Heidi Vande Voort Nam

Candidate for National Secretary

Work Affiliation

Chongshin University

KOTESOL Membership

2003-present (lifetime member)



Education

2007	MA TESL/TEFL	University of Birmingham
1996	BA English Literature	Calvin University

Work Experience

2023-present	Global Teachers University Gyeongin National University of Education	Instructor
1999-present	Chongshin University	Assistant Professor
1997-1999	Oedae Language Institute	English Teacher

KOTESOL Service

- Secretary, National Council (2022-present)
- National Facebook Page Administrator (2019-present)
- Co-facilitator, KOTESOL Christian Teachers SIG (2005-present)
- Presenter, Korea Teacher Training (2008-present)
- Human Resources Director, 2021 KOTESOL Film Festival and National Conference
- Conference Chair, 2016 Christians in ELT International Conference (KOTESOL Christian Teachers SIG)
- SIG Liaison, 2008 KOTESOL International Conference

KOTESOL Awards

- The Reflective Language Teacher Award (2023)
- Meritorious Service Award (2021, 2023, 2024, 2025)
- KOTESOL Performance Award (Non-Student Made) Reel to Real KOTESOL Filmmaking Festival and National Conference 2021

Candidate Statement of Interest

I would like to be considered as a candidate for the position of Secretary of the National Council for the 2026-2027 year.

I have been serving as National Council Secretary since 2022, and I'd be pleased to support KOTESOL by continuing in that role. The national secretary is responsible for creating a public record of national council meetings, noting the decisions made and the rationale behind those decisions. The secretary should make the minutes available to the National Council for review and post the approved minutes on the KOTESOL Website. I feel well-prepared by my experience to carry out these tasks effectively.

Along with my work as National Council Secretary this past year, I participated in a featured panel discussion at 2026 International Conference. I have also continued leading monthly book club meetings for the Christian Teachers SIG and moderating the KOTESOL Facebook page. In addition, I assisted with the 2025 elections for the Seoul and the BDG Chapters. I am truly grateful for the opportunities, friendships, and insights that my participation in KOTESOL has given me over the years, and I am delighted to be able to give back to the organization.

I have read the KOTESOL Code of Conduct, and I promise to abide by its rules.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heidi Vande Voort Nam". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Heidi Vande Voort Nam

September 26, 2027

September 26, 2026

Dear Nominations and Elections Committee:

I am delighted to endorse the nomination of Heidi Nam for the position of national secretary. She has spent multiple years in the role, and KOTESOL is very fortunate to have her. Her notes on the National Council meetings are thorough and reliable, and she shares her completed minutes promptly with the National Council for review. She is unfailingly positive and trustworthy and approaches her role—and our Council meetings—with an open, responsive, inviting attitude.

I first became familiar with Heidi years ago when I attended one of her outstanding workshops, and I have thoroughly enjoyed working with her as a fellow presenter ever since. The quality of Heidi's workshops, alone, speak to her organization and social skills. The workshops' careful structure, meticulous organization, and thoughtful content all reveal how reflective, detail-oriented, and perceptive she is. The innovative and useful activities she provides during the workshops further speak to her creativity, criticality, conscientiousness, and consideration for her audience. When I'm asked to recommend responsible, engaging presenters for workshops, Heidi is one of the first people that comes to mind; she is highly professional, and I would trust her with any task.

I have also been extremely impressed with the many ways Heidi has stepped up to serve in our organization over the years. She has volunteered for manifold conferences in a variety of positions, and with her fellow co-facilitator of the Christian Teachers special interest group (CT SIG) has made the SIG one of the most active in KOTESOL.

I am thrilled that Heidi is willing to continue to serve as secretary for the organization. She is positive, perspicacious, thoughtful, and insightful, a combination perfect for the position—or, indeed, for any position that interests her. I truly look forward to her continued involvement as a leader in KOTESOL.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lindsay Herron". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid, with a large 'L' and a long, sweeping 'H'.

Lindsay Herron
Gwangju National University of Education
Member, 2012-present (Lifetime Member)
Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter

KOTESOL Nominations & Elections 2026-2027

Heidi Nam - National Secretary

My name is Gabriela Villafradez, and it is an absolute pleasure to endorse Heidi Nam for KOTESOL National Secretary.

I have had the privilege of working alongside Heidi in multiple capacities - first during my time as 2VP while she served as the Christian Teachers SIG Facilitator, and later in my role as Busan-Gyeongsang-Daegu Chapter President while she served as National Secretary. In each of these roles, Heidi has consistently demonstrated deep dedication to KOTESOL, exceptional professionalism on the National Council, and a genuine passion for helping fellow educators thrive within our community.

Throughout her tenure, Heidi has proven to be an invaluable leader and colleague. First, during our chapter elections, Heidi spearheaded the process twice with utmost professionalism, tact, and fairness, ensuring a seamless and transparent experience for everyone involved. Second, her reliability and efficiency are evident. A prime example of her diligence is how she consistently delivers immaculate, thorough National Council meeting minutes the very next day - helping maintain KOTESOL's high standards of transparency and organisation. Finally, Heidi always stays true to her word, follows through on her commitments, and approaches every responsibility with care and promptness.

Heidi has proven time and again that she possesses the exact qualities needed to excel on the National Council. I have complete confidence that she will continue to be a vital teammate in KOTESOL at the national level, and I wholeheartedly encourage her post as National Secretary.



Gabriela Villafradez

University of Ulsan

KOTESOL membership, January 2024 - present

2026.09.28