

Jocelyn Wright

Candidate for Nominations and Elections Committee Chair

KOTESOL MEMBERSHIP

Lifetime Member, Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL (2007-2010/2012-present)

KOTESOL SERVICE

Treasurer, KOTESOL National (2024-2025)

Guest Services Manager, KOTESOL International Conference Committee (2024)

Moderator, KOTESOL International Conference Committee (2016, 2019, 2024)

Vetter, KOTESOL International Conference Committee (2015, 2022-2025)

Representative, International Outreach Committee (2022)

Assistant Editor, *The English Connection*, (2019-2020)

Founder and (Co-)Facilitator, Social Justice (Critical Educators in Korea) Special Interest Group (2015-present)

Founder and (Co-)Facilitator, Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL Reflective Practice Special Interest Group, (2014-2021)

Officer-at-Large, Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL (2014-present)

Outreach Venue Coordinator, Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL (2013-2016)

Regional Conference Venue Coordinator, Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL (2014)

Membership Coordinator, Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL (2010; 2012-2014)

Co-Webmaster, Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL (2007-2008)

POSITIONS IN CLOSELY RELATED ASSOCIATIONS

Director of Research, AsiaTEFL Korea (2022-2026)

Conference Program Book Committee Member, AsiaTEFL Korea (2019-2020/2022-2023)

KOREAN WORK EXPERIENCE

Department Chair, Department of English Language and Literature, Mokpo National University (2025-2026)

Vice Director of Foreign Language Education, Institute of International Exchange and Education, Mokpo National University (2019-2024)

Language Program Coordinator, ACE, Mokpo National University (2012-2015)

Professor, Department of English Language and Literature, Mokpo National University (2012-present)

Coordinator, English Zone, Institute of International Exchange and Education, Mokpo National University (2009-2010)

Instructor, Institute of International Exchange and Education, Mokpo National University (2007-2010)

EDUCATIONAL AND RESEARCH AREAS

Education: TESOL/CELTA, Linguistics, Education

Research: Peace (language) education, peace linguistics, peace literature, nonviolent communication, nonkilling intersections, social justice education, applied linguistics, World Englishes, reflective practice

Jocelyn Wright

Candidate for Nominations and Elections Committee Chair

CANDIDATE'S STATEMENT

25 September 2026

Esteemed KOTESOL Members,

According to the KOTESOL Bylaws, Nominations and Elections Committee Chair duties include acting as Chief Returning Officer of KOTESOL and chairing the Nominations and Elections Committee. As Chair, one is responsible for managing all aspects of the election, including submitting a complete slate of candidates to fill the respective positions of KOTESOL (from president to committee chairs). Most of this work is concentrated in the June to October period. Additionally, the Chair should participate in National Council meetings and submit reports throughout the year, including to the KOTESOL *Happenings and News (HAN)*. The main qualification to serve in this position is that the candidate be a member in good standing.

As a lifetime member of KOTESOL, who has served the organization in various positions since coming to Korea in 2007 (see above) in addition to participating in functions at all levels as an active attendee and presenter as well as a contributor to all major KOTESOL publications, who is equipped with the aforementioned knowledge of the post and has related experience, and who has carefully evaluated her workload for the 2026-2027 operating year, I am confident that I can faithfully and professionally perform the duties of Nominations and Elections Committee Chair if elected.

Between annual business meetings, I would attempt to liaise with current and potential leaders, share information about different positions, promote leadership events, communicate clearly about the timeline and process for nominations and elections well in advance, and remain open to feedback about my role, responsibilities, and performance in this post.

As is required of this application, I declare that I have familiarized myself with the KOTESOL Code of Conduct and pledge to respect it while carrying out my assigned responsibilities carefully, transparently, and committedly throughout my term of appointment. My two distinguished KOTESOL referees attest to my character and ethics in their respective endorsements.

Sincerely,



Jocelyn Wright

Professor, English Language and Literature, Mokpo National University

jocelynmnu@yahoo.com

September 27, 2026

For: the position of Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee

To: the Nominations and Elections Committee

I am writing to endorse Jocelyn Wright for the position of Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee. Having known Jocelyn since 2007, I have had many opportunities for nearly two decades to work with her and witness her steadfast commitment to KOTESOL. When I served as chapter president, Jocelyn served as our secretary, where I came to appreciate her sense of responsibility, reliability, and dedication to the organization.

Our professional relationship continued through Gwangju-Jeonnam Reflective Practice SIG, which Jocelyn co-founded in 2013. Jocelyn has also demonstrated her leadership as coordinator of the Social Justice SIG since 2014. Her recent work in Nonviolent Communication and Peace Linguistics—facilitating an international network of peace linguists and language educators—reflects her core values of open communication, cooperation, and bridge-building across communities.

These qualities are essential for the Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee, a role that demands fairness, active listening, and the skill to engage diverse perspectives. Based on these experiences, I strongly support Jocelyn Wright for Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee.

Sincerely,

Yeon-seong Park, Ph. D

KOTESOL Membership: 1999~present (currently lifetime member)

Gwangju-Jeonnam chapter, Advisor

Gwangju-Jeonnam chapter President, 2006~2008

Email: pyspark@yahoo.com

I am pleased to endorse Jocelyn Wright for the position of Nominations and Elections Committee Chair.

Jocelyn brings extensive experience as a long-term and active member of KOTESOL. At the chapter level, she has served as Membership Coordinator and Member-at-Large. At the national level, she has served with TEC and as Treasurer. She has also contributed substantially to KOTESOL's SIG community through her work with the Research and Practice and Social Justice SIGs. Taken together, these roles represent a sustained record of service across multiple parts of the organization. They have also given Jocelyn a particularly broad understanding of KOTESOL, its members, and the many different ways people contribute to the organization.

Jocelyn's professional and research interests have consistently informed the way she participates in professional organizations. She is attentive to questions of participation, representation, and whose voices are included in professional communities. Her work has included research specifically examining diversity and representativeness in KOTESOL membership, as well as scholarship addressing language education and professional practice. Her research interests are not separate from her service: they have helped shape the thoughtful and inclusive approach she brings to her volunteer and professional roles.

I believe this approach would serve KOTESOL particularly well in the Nominations and Elections Committee Chair position. The Chair has an important responsibility not only for conducting the election process fairly and according to KOTESOL's procedures, but also for helping create a culture in which members can participate in leadership with confidence. A healthy nominations and elections process should encourage participation, provide appropriate accountability, and give members confidence that leadership selection is being handled with integrity.

Jocelyn's long experience with KOTESOL, her knowledge of the organization at several levels, and her commitment to inclusive participation make her well suited to this responsibility. She understands the organization from multiple perspectives, and I trust her to approach the nominations and elections process with fairness, discretion, and respect for both candidates and members.

I am therefore very pleased to endorse Jocelyn Wright for Nominations and Elections Committee Chair. I believe she would bring what is needed to serve effectively as chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee.

Sincerely,
Maria Lisak
Chosun University
Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter KOTESOL President
Lifetime KOTESOL Member