

David E. Shaffer

Candidate for Nominations and Elections Committee Chair



AFFILIATIONS

Gwangju International Center (2016–present).

Korea TESOL: Cholla Chapter (1993–2003), Gwangju-Jeonnang Chapter (2004–present).

KOTESOL MEMBERSHIP PERIOD: 1993–present (Currently: Lifetime member).

WORK EXPERIENCE

1. Gwangju International Center, TESOL Training Program (2020–2021),
Gwangju News magazine discussion program (2026).
2. Chosun University, professor in graduate and undergraduate English depts. (1976–2016).
3. Chosun University, TESOL Program Director (2008–2010).
4. Chosun University, Foreign Language Programs Director, LEI (2008–2010).
5. Gwangju & Jeollanam-do In-Service Teacher Training Programs (1980s–2000s).
6. U.S. Peace Corps/Korea; Vocational Training Program, Gwangju (1971–1975).

EDUCATION

1. PhD in Linguistics, Chosun University (1990).
2. TESOL Adv. Grad. Certificate, Chosun U. (2009).
3. MA in Linguistics (English & Korean), Chosun U. (1980).
4. BS The Pennsylvania State University, USA (1971).

KOTESOL SERVICE

NATIONAL

1. Publications Committee Chair (2013–2017, 2019–present).
2. National President (2017–2019).
3. Immediate Past President (2019–2020).
4. National First Vice-President (2015–2017).
5. National Conference Co-Chair (2017).
6. National Treasurer (2001–2009).
7. International Conference Committee, director-level positions (2001–present).
8. Research Committee Chair (2006–2009).
9. Nominations and Elections Committee Chair (2020–2022, 2024–present).
10. *The English Connection* (TEC): Deputy/Associate Editor (2004–2011), Advisor (2011–2012),
Production Editor (2018–present), and other positions.

11. *KOTESOL Proceedings*: Supervising Editor / Editor-in-Chief (1999, 2001, 2003–present), Assoc. Editor (2002), and other roles.
12. *Korea TESOL Journal*: Assoc. Editor (2013–present), Board Member & Editor (2000–2010), and other roles.
13. KOTESOL Committee Memberships: National Conference Comm. (2006, 2009–2010, 2012–2016), Membership (2009–10, 2012–13, 2017–present), Financial Affairs (2011–2013, 2018, 2022–present), Publicity (2013, 2026), Research (2009–2011, 2017–present), International Outreach (2011, 2014–2018). Nominations and Elections (2022–present).
14. KOTESOL Calendar of Events Webeditor (2013–present).
15. Presenter: Natl. & Intl. Conferences, KTT, Chapter-level (1998–present; 100+ presentations).
16. TESOL International Association member (2001–2020, 2025–present).

CHAPTER

1. Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter President (2009–2016)
2. Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter Vice-President (2016–present).
3. Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter Conference Comm. (Chair, 2011–2016; Member 2005–2009, 2017–2019; Jeolla Chair, 2004; Jeolla Site Coordinator, 2002–2003).
4. Program Coordinator (2009–2017)
5. Newsletter Editor (2009–2020)
6. Webeditor (2009–2021)
7. Chapter Advisor (2005–2009).

AWARDS

1. Republic of Korea Order of Merit (Service) – conferred by ROK President (2015).
2. Asia TEFL Outstanding Service Award [for 2003–2017] (2017).
3. ROK Minister of Home Affairs Commendation (1984).
4. Korea TESOL President's Plaque (2019).
5. Korea TESOL President's Award (2002–2025: multiple awards).
6. Korea TESOL 30@30 List (2023).
7. Korea TESOL International Conference Committee Outstanding Service Award (2013).
8. KOTESOL Outstanding Service Award (2004, 2012); Meritorious Service (2002, 2010).
9. KOTESOL Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter Service Award (2017–2025).
10. Gwangju International Center (GIC) Plaque of Appreciation (2021, board chair)
11. Chosun University Meritorious Service Plaque (2015, CU Foundation).
12. Chosun University Distinguished Service Plaque (2015, CU President).
13. Chosun University Service Awards: 20 yrs. (1996), 30 yrs. (2006), 40th yr. (2015).
14. *Korea Times* Modern Korean Literature Translation Award (1994).
15. Pennsylvania Certificate of Citizen Service (1991).
16. ETS (Educational Testing Service) Certificate of Appreciation (1990, site director).

MEMBERSHIPS IN OTHER ELT AND RELATED ASSOCIATIONS

1. Asia TEFL Executive Director for Internal Affairs (2002–present).
2. ALAK Vice President and Conference Chair (2016).
3. GETA Executive Director for International Affairs (2006–2010).
4. KATE Executive Director for Publications (2000–2002).
5. *Gwangju News* Editor-in-Chief (2017–present).
6. Gwangju International Center, Board of Directors (2016–present), Board Chair (2018–2021).
7. Professional Association Memberships (past and/or present)
 - 14 Korean ELT associations
 - 9 International ELT associations
 - 6 Linguistics associations
 - 3 English language & literature associations

OTHER ELT-RELATED EXPERIENCE

PUBLICATIONS – BOOKS & COLUMNS

1. High School English (2010). [e-Textbook/CD; co-authored.] Seoul: Darakwon.
2. High School English: Practice (2009). [Co-authored.] Seoul: Darakwon.
3. High School English (2009). [Co-authored.] Seoul: Darakwon.
4. 영어! 100 일만 따라하면 셰퍼 만큼 한다 [English! If You Follow for 100 Days, You'll Be Like Shaffer] (2005). Seoul: Hanse Publishing.
5. Writing First. (2003). (David E. Shaffer, Paul Y. Choe). Seoul: Compass Media.
6. 영어 쿵쿵따 [English: Ready, Set, Go!] (2003). Seoul: Vision Korea.
7. 외국인 간 떨어지는 영어 [Jaw-Dropping English to a Native Speaker] (2001). Seoul: NeungYule English
8. New Mode English: For the Laboratory (1999). (David E. Shaffer, 이윤주). Seoul: Hakmun.
9. Interactive English: For the Classroom (1998). Kwangju: Chosun University Press.
10. Elementary English: An Interactive Approach (1998). Kwangju: Chosun University Press.
11. Column in *Gwangju News* magazine: “Language Teaching” (2011–2025).
12. Column in *Time Plus* magazine: “Shaffer’s Native English” (1998–2004).
13. Columns in *The Korea Herald’s Herald Week*: “Going Native” (1995–1998), “English Hotline” (1997).
14. Column in *The Korea Herald*: “On the Road to Better English” (1998–2001).
15. Column in Chosun University’s *Chosun World*: “On Target” (2002–2016).

(Additional Information at: <https://kr.linkedin.com/in/davideshaffer>)

(Research papers and articles at: <https://chosun.academia.edu/DavidShaffer>)

CANDIDATE'S STATEMENT

Nominations & Elections Committee Chair

Leadership is crucial to shaping the direction and effectiveness of any organization, and Korea TESOL is no exception. I am deeply committed to seeing Korea TESOL thrive through strong leadership and an engaged, active membership. As chair of the Nominations and Elections (N&E) Committee, I believe I can continue to play an important role in ensuring that our leadership positions are filled by capable, committed individuals. Recognizing the importance of collective leadership to the success of an organization, and having received a nomination, I have decided to run for the position of N&E Committee chair.

In this role, I intend to work diligently to identify and encourage highly qualified members to run for office, with the goal of ensuring that all National Council positions have strong candidates well before the voting period begins.

Through my many years of service to Korea TESOL, at both the national and chapter levels (as detailed in "KOTESOL Service" above), I have developed a clear understanding of the skills, experience, and qualities needed for effective leadership within the organization. Moreover, my familiarity with a broad cross-section of our membership puts me in a strong position to fulfill the responsibilities of N&E Committee chair effectively.

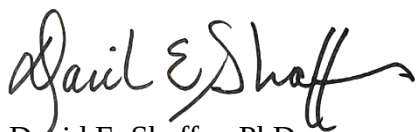
For those who may not be familiar with my background, I first came to Korea as a young U.S. Peace Corps volunteer. I subsequently joined the English Education Department at Chosun University in Gwangju, where I earned tenure and built my career teaching TESOL, linguistics, and English language skills at both the graduate and undergraduate levels.

Throughout my career in ELT, I have also been actively involved in research, publishing, presenting, and editing. I have delivered more than a hundred presentations and workshops through Korea TESOL, as well as many more at other ELT conferences in Korea and internationally. My written contributions include hundreds of articles on language teaching and learning for a variety of publications, along with several books on English teaching, Korean culture, and even Korean poetry. Some of my work is available on my Academia.edu page. As noted above, I have also contributed extensively to Korea TESOL's three major publications over the years: *The English Connection*, *KOTESOL Proceedings*, and *Korea TESOL Journal*.

I believe I still have much to contribute to Korea TESOL, and I am eager to continue doing so. If elected to serve as N&E Committee chair, I pledge to carry out the responsibilities of the position with dedication, diligence, and to the fullest extent of my ability.

I hereby declare that I have read and am aware of the contents of the Korea TESOL Code of Conduct.

September 3, 2026



David E. Shaffer, PhD

Email Address: ChosunU@yahoo.com

Gwangju National University of Education
Department of English Education
Pilmundae-ro 55, Buk-gu
Gwangju 61204

September 3, 2026

Dear Nominations & Elections Committee:

I would like to nominate Dr. David Shaffer for the position of Nominations & Elections Committee chair.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lindsay Herron". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Lindsay" and last name "Herron" clearly distinguishable.

Dr. Lindsay Herron
Lifetime Member
Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter

Kara Mac Donald
1253 Los Olivos Dr #28
Salinas, CA 93901 USA
kmacd@rocketmail.com
1-831-747-7295

September 3, 2026

RE: Endorsement of Dr. David Shaffer for KOTESOL Nominations and Elections Committee Chair

KOTESOL Nominations and Elections Committee,

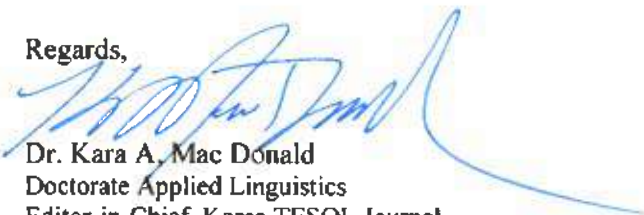
I happily endorse Dr. David Shaffer for the position of KOTESOL Nominations and Elections Committee Chair. I have known Dr. Shaffer since 2006 and have had the opportunity to work closely with him in a variety of roles within Korea TESOL (KOTESOL) over the past twenty years. Through these experiences, I have come to know him as a highly dedicated, knowledgeable, and reputable member of the KOTESOL community with a deep commitment to the organization and its members.

From 2006 to 2010, at various times, I worked closely with Dr. Shaffer while serving KOTESOL in several capacities, including as an editor of *The English Connection*, and Second Vice President and First Vice President on the National Board Committee. Since 2014, I have worked with him through the *Korea TESOL Journal*, where I serve as Editor-in-Chief. Our years of collegial and academic collaboration have proven his professionalism, association knowledge, and commitment to the effective operation and ongoing development of KOTESOL.

Dr. Shaffer is well suited to serve as Nominations and Elections Committee Chair because of his extensive knowledge of KOTESOL, its organizational structure, its membership, and his understanding of the position from holding the role previously. He understands the importance of established organizational procedures and the need for transparency and consistency. Most important, he has demonstrated a sustained commitment to KOTESOL service and an ability to work collaboratively with colleagues across different roles and areas of the organization. These qualities are essential for overseeing nominations and elections processes.

Based on my nearly two decades of professional association with Dr. Shaffer, I am confident that he would carry out the responsibilities of Nominations and Elections Committee Chair with integrity, diligence, and respect for KOTESOL's policies and membership. I therefore endorse his candidacy without reservation.

Regards,



Dr. Kara A. Mac Donald
Doctorate Applied Linguistics
Editor-in-Chief, Korea TESOL Journal
Founder, Funder and Administrator, KOTESOL LMIC International Conference Travel Grant
Full Professor, Faculty Development Trainer
Defense Language Institute, Foreign Language Center, Presidio of Monterey, Monterey, CA USA
Mobile: 1-831-747-7295
KOTESOL Membership Period:
2006-2009-Annual Consistent Membership
2010-Current: Lifetime Membership

Endorsement for Dr. David E. Shaffer

For the office of Nominations and Elections Committee chair, KOTESOL

September 10, 2026

I am delighted to offer this endorsement of Dr. David E. Shaffer for the position of national KOTESOL Nominations and Elections Committee chair. I have known Dr. Shaffer for over a decade through both the Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL Chapter and various KOTESOL activities at the national level. I have always been impressed with Dr. Shaffer's diligence, attention to detail, and professionalism. I have seen many examples of his great skill at collaborating with thoughtfulness and kindness in diverse contexts. His ability to encourage people to become more involved in our organization is inspiring, and his attention to procedure is impeccable. I do not know anyone else more committed to our organization and its members.

As a lifetime member of the Gwangju-Jeonnam chapter, a past national KOTESOL president, and also as a colleague, I wholeheartedly endorse Dr. Shaffer for the role of Nominations and Elections Committee chair.

Sincere regards,



Bryan Hale

Lifetime member of Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL Chapter

English Language Teacher, Jeonnam Foreign Language High School