

Note: As reported by last year’s representative, Maria Lisak, there is no apparent template to follow regarding the structure of this report. As such, I will be organizing it as best I can using the previous report as a guide.

List of Claimed Expenses

Transportation Costs			
Date	Item	Cost	Receipt
2017/1/16	Taxi from home to Jangan-dong bus stop	3600 won	no
2017/1/16	Airport bus from Jangan-dong to Incheon Airport	10,000 won	no
2017/1/16	Winter coat check service at the airport	10,000	yes
2017/1/17~ 2017/1/20	Roundtrip Flight from Incheon (ICN) to Bangkok (DMK)	446,190 won	yes
2017/1/17	Taxi from Don Muang Airport to Ambassador Hotel	300 baht (11,300 won)	yes
2017/1/20	Taxi from Ambassador Hotel to Don Muang Airport	300 baht (11,300 won)	no
2017/1/20	Airport bus from Incheon Airport to Jangan-dong bus stop	10,000 won	yes
2017/1/20	Taxi from Jangan-dong bus stop to home	3600 won	yes
	Total transportation costs	494,790 won	
Additional Costs			
Date	Item	Cost	Receipt
2017/1/17	International Conference flyer printing fee	1000 baht (37,630 won)	yes

Gifts

After corresponding with Allison Bill, I received the gifts and publications to use for tabling at the conference in the mail. Similar to last year, the gifts (stylized pen sets) were given to Witcha Wisuthipranee, my direct contact throughout the conference and the International Affairs Coordinator and Secretary to Thailand TESOL. He gave them to Paneeta Nitayaphorn, president of Thailand TESOL, and she thanked me personally for the gifts.

Costs

ThaiTesol gave me 3 nights at the conference hotel. ThaiTesol gave me free transport to hotel (I had to pay to return.)

Conference Table

Unfortunately, Grace Wang, the representative for JALT2018, was in possession of the table runner and was unable to send it to me. However, I was still able to put together a presentable table and the location made it easy to meet plenty of educators and advertise KOTESOL. The publications included multiple copies of The English Connection from 2018, SIG-themed bookmarks, pamphlets, and a few copies of the Korea TESOL Journal. Additionally, Grace requested I find a place to print color copies of flyers advertising this year's KOTESOL International Conference. As per Allison's instructions, I freely gave away pamphlets, bookmarks, and conference flyers but waited until the last half of the day on the last day of the conference to give out the other publications.



ThaiTESOL 2019 General Report

Conference Information

Title: The 39th Annual Thailand TESOL International Conference

Theme: Changes and Chances in ELT

Date & Location: January 18th to 19th, 2019, The Ambassador Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

Representative Information

Name: Victor Reeser

Email: victorreeser@gmail.com

Current KOTESOL Position: MCALL SIG coordinator; lifetime member

ThaiTESOL Contacts

Two main contacts sent information to me both prior, during, and after the conference: Witcha Wisuthipranee and Dr. Supranit Kulsiri. Witcha was the majority contact during the actual conference and was excellent with helping me get set up at the hotel.

1. Witcha Wisuthipranee
International Affairs Coordinator and Secretary to Thailand TESOL
witcha.thailandtesol@gmail.com
1. Dr. Supanit Kulsiri
Program Chair, ThaiTESOL International Conference 2019
First Vice President, Thailand TESOL Organization
supanit.thaitesol@gmail.com

Conference Representative Events

1. Welcome Dinner
January 17th, 6:30pm
Note: The welcome dinner served as a meet-and-greet event for all invited speakers and representatives at the conference.
2. Opening Ceremony
January 18th, 8:30am
Note: All invited speakers and representatives were asked to take the stage near the end of the ceremony to take a photograph. I would say it was a bit over the top, but the convention hall was packed and the ceremony didn't last too long, fortunately.
3. International Affiliate Meeting (PAC Council)

January 18th, 4pm

Note: The affiliate meeting was a very straightforward event. I have transcribed the minutes of the meeting below.

4. Reception Party

January 18th, 6pm

Note: This was the highlight of the conference for me. It was an excellent time for all the speakers and representatives to unwind and discuss our work and organizations with a bit detail, more or less, and make plans for future collaborations. One item that came up is the representative from CamTESOL offering to potentially work on building a new website for KOTESOL.

Conference Review

Conference registration started at 7:30am on Friday with the keynote speaker, Prof. Werasit Sittitrai giving her opening presentation from 8:40 to 9:40am. She was very passionate and discussed the importance of the teacher's ability to inspire their students. She encouraged embracing education with progressive thinking and discussed the importance of a globalized framework as well as the necessity of digital literacy.

Plenary sessions were 45 minutes long and took place in the large convention hall. The hall was divided into three smaller sections to allow for more presentations throughout the event. The first plenary speaker, Prof. Farzad Sharifian, brought technical language into the mix to discuss the topic of intercultural competency. It was informative to say the least. When he and I spoke, he mentioned coming to Korea to present at one of our conferences but I could not find his information archived anywhere. The next speaker, Marsha Chan, gave an excellent presentation on teaching and studying (American) English pronunciation. She has a radiant personality and takes command of the stage. I think she would be an excellent person to invite to a KOTESOL conference. I was unable to see the third plenary speaker, Roy Cross, but heard he gave an interesting presentation on his 40 years of experience as an ESL/EFL professional in East Asia.

As mentioned, the keynote speaker had an hour timeslot and the plenary speakers were given 45-minute timeslots. There were 8 featured speakers who were given 45-minute time slots right after lunch. Throughout the conference, there were 137 parallel sessions (30-minute time slots), 47 demonstrations and workshops (45-minute time slots), 17 poster presentations, 3 special sessions, 2 colloquia, and 4 graduate student scholarship presentations.

The venue was an excellent choice for an academic conference. The facilities were clean, the area was spacious and allowed for a warm and friendly atmosphere throughout the conference. It is hard to be unhappy when you are well-fed and in such a welcoming environment. This is one area where the conference decidedly outshines any event I have attended in Korea. Additionally, the staff and volunteers organizing the conference were accessible and accommodating and very visible. The conference was very well-organized. Vendors were given

space in the center of the conference and all attendees must walk through as they enter the hotel. Our table was located on the second story of the hotel in a central location between presentation areas meaning a lot of foot traffic and exposure. Signage was posted around the conference area and the map in the conference handbook was very easy to understand and well-labeled. Each presentation room had a dedicated conference volunteer to assist with setting up, and they did an excellent job.

A buffet lunch was provided each day of the conference for free to all attendees. Snacks and coffee were provided once each day during a conference-wide coffee break that allowed for a lot of conversation and networking to happen between attendees. Cool water was provided throughout the conference, as well. Vendors and organizational partners were provided with a box lunch on both days.

During my time tabling, I was able to meet dozens of educators from around the world and many of them seemed eager to visit Korea. With any luck, some of them will hopefully join us this October for the International Conference. The majority of attendees were from local institutions, but I was surprised to note the high number of teachers coming from Japan, as well. Korea was one of the least represented countries among guests. It was a nice shift in perspective discussing how ESL/EFL education is handled in other countries.

International Affiliate Meeting Minutes (PAC Council)

Attendees

- Paneeta Nitayaphorn (President, ThaiTESOL)
- Unchalee Sermsonswad (ThaiTESOL)
- Nopporn Sarobol (ThaiTESOL)
- Supanit Kulsiri (ThaiTESOL)
- Witcha Wisuthipranee (ThaiTESOL)
- Richmond Stroupe (JALT)
- Victor Reeser (KOTESOL)
- Yiu Nam Leung (ETA-ROC)
- Naoko Ozeki (JACET)
- Edna Wellington (MELTA)
- Zaira Abu Hassan Shaari (MELTA)
- Zayda S. Asucion (PALT)
- Itje Chodidjah (TEFLIN)
- Khoon Ee Loke (PELLTA)
- Visal SOU (CamTESOL)
- Seok Hoon Quah (PELLTA)
- Hyoshin Lee (Asia TEFL)
- Alvin Pang (SEAMEO RELC)
- Jaeseok Yang (ALAK)

Items Discussed

1. Regarding the participation of PAC members using special rate registration, some participants could not participate in the Thailand TESOL conference due to some misunderstanding and the limited period of time. One solution to the problem is to publicize and do all the processes much earlier so that everything could be arranged more properly in time.
2. Prof. Naoko (JACET) suggested that there should be a reviewer exchange program among members.
3. Prof. Richmond (JALT) suggested that we should have more time of discussion for further collaboration and to share differences. A session like leadership symposium would be beneficial to all of us as we could share differences and offer assistance to one another.
4. Dr. Itje (TEFLIN) agreed about having a session of discussion that we could also share the problem about language teaching and other concerned matters.
5. Facebook could be one of the best ways to easily communicate and discuss because communication via email had not successfully met the expectation. Prof. Richmond said JALT would be the one who will create a closed group in Facebook for the matter of better communication and collaboration. Emails of organizations are attached herewith.
6. Dr. Paneeta (ThaiTESOL) announced that in 2020 ThaiTESOL will organize and celebrate the 40th International Conference as well as be the host for PAC conference under the theme "Harmony in Diversity: ELT in Transcultural Society". Moreover, in the 40th International Conference, ThaiTESOL will have a subtheme that will focus more on young learners as well.
7. Prof. Richmond (JALT) suggested that we should publicize early so that we could have a successful collaboration to find the way to work together on the topic as there are many organizations having the same key area of young learners.
8. Dr. Paneeta (ThaiTESOL) agreed that we should talk in advance about the direction to mutually meet the successful outcome in PAC Conference. Prof. Nopporn (ThaiTESOL) will contact Prof. Kip Cates for more details about AYF.