

September e-Newsletter 2016

Dear «M_1st_NAME»



ETAS e-Newsletter

***** ETAS Administration will be closed for autumn break from 25th September to 25th October. *****

A busy day in Zug: ETAS Professional Development Day



Nearly 200 English teachers and teacher trainers, 34 exciting high-quality workshops, an excellent plenary, a vast book exhibition, a raffle with attractive prizes — there was a lively bustle at the Kantonsschule Zug where ETAS welcomed members, colleagues and guests to the PD Day 2016 on Saturday, 17th September. All participants had plenty of opportunities to foster their professional development, network, engage in discussions, celebrate 400 years of Shakespeare and his work ... and last but not least, simply have some fun.



In her inspiring plenary Geneviève White explored the relevance Shakespeare's work has for twenty-first century English teaching. Does Shakespeare have anything to offer to teaching in a global, high-speed communication society? Geneviève's answer is that the works of Shakespeare are still a great asset to teachers and learners today. To watch a video of her thought-provoking yet amusing plenary on the ETAS Youtube channel, click [here](#).

The evening event on Friday took place in the cosy ambience of Restaurant Bären, not far from Zug train station. Jon Wright presented conversation activities the participants could try out on the spot, which was as useful as it was entertaining. All activities were ready to be taken right to the classroom without much preparation. Afterwards many of the participants stayed to have dinner and spend an enjoyable evening together — a wonderful opportunity to exchange teaching and other anecdotes.

Our thanks go to the organising team, the presenters, our sponsors, and of course to the many, many participants of the PD Day!



Launching of the new Teacher-to-Teacher project

The new Teacher-to-Teacher project got off to a fantastic start and thanks to the generous ETAS members present at the PD day in Zug, we were able to raise more than 900 francs. Many thanks to the raffle prize sponsors and all of you who bought raffle tickets or donated generously to the T2T project through the very popular book exchange organised by the publications team!



Two of the lucky raffle winners

The new project is to support a primary school in Yangon, Myanmar that educates children who would otherwise not have access to education. Besides monetary support, we will also be supporting the teachers with on-site visits, curriculum development and much more. We look forward to ETAS members getting involved. For more information, please visit the [website](#).

Looking to "spice up" your Life and your CV?

As a **non-profit association** we are always looking for a variety of members who are willing to **volunteer** their time and energy, with their own special skills and unique personality, to support our efforts to link, develop and support English Language Teaching professionals in Switzerland.

As you will see from the Volunteer page on the website (see link below), there are several positions open around Switzerland. We have one more position awaiting just the right nominee on the Executive Committee. Neil Bullock recently informed us that due to professional opportunities which just opened up, he would be stepping down in January. If Public Relations — meeting people and representing ETAS at publishers' events and other conferences, writing press releases, etc. — is your passion, then we would welcome your nomination to the 'team'!

We are sorry to announce that Sue Nikles, Regional Coordinator (RC) Solothurn/Olten, and Alessia Pratka and Annina Sutter-Ochsenbein, Co-RCs Bern-Neuchâtel are stepping down, and would like to thank them for their service and dedication to ETAS over the years. A bit remiss, we would also like to belatedly thank Liudmila Viaroukina for her prior efforts as RC St Gallen, and for the fine hand-over to Karen Kerley. We also extend a warm welcome to Caroline Bernard, who joins Caroline Rickli as Co-RC Baden! If you are interested in learning more about what a Regional Coordinator does, please get in touch with [Annette Leimer](#) and she'll fill you in.

ETAS also welcomes Emilia Siravo as the new TEASIG Coordinator.

So if you're interested in joining a fantastic team of volunteers, all it takes to get started is a simple email. Check out the current open positions [here](#) and ask for more information!

Events



ETAS 33rd Annual Conference and AGM

Save the date for the 33rd Annual Conference and AGM: **21th-22th January 2017**. The venue will be the **Kantonsschule Zürich Nord**, where we met last January. The programme will be ready for download and review in the second half of October. Online registration will open shortly thereafter.



Joint IATEFL TEASIG and ETAS Conference on Assessment in Aigle in October

From Theory into Practice – Assessment Literacy in the Classroom is the theme of a conference IATEFL TEASIG and ETAS are organising together. The aim of this conference is to tackle current testing and assessment practices in the classroom and analyse how far the principles of assessment literacy have been incorporated by ELT professionals into their work. Enjoy plenaries with **top-notch speakers** Barry O'Sullivan, Nick Saville, Carolyn Westbrook, and Ian

Wood.

The conference will be held from 28th to 29th October 2016 in Aigle, Switzerland. Check out all the details including how to register [here](#).

Geneva Regional Event – 26th November 2016 - Pronunciation Workshop

In this hands-on session the speaker, Roslyn Young, will take participants through many of the **practical exercises** which help students **to master English pronunciation**. Full details, including venue and how to register can be found [here](#).

External events

St. Gallen: Academic Reading Group

If you live in or near St. Gallen, don't miss out on the Academic Reading Group! The next meeting will be on Friday, 7th October at 9.30. The venue is L'Ultimo Bacio, Postrasse 14, in St.Gallen again.

Murten trail in October

Would you like to get to know the medieval town of Murten in the beautiful Lake District? Maybe you think you know it well, but there are sure to be some corners you haven't noticed before.

We will be following a trail based on one started by Mark Fletcher several years ago and adapted to this ever-changing town. The aim is to give you an idea of how you could do something similar in your village or town with your students, tailoring it for different levels or interests. We will end the trail in a café, so there will be time to exchange ideas that crop up while walking.

Murten is a beautiful town and hopefully the weather will be good to us. In the hour to an hour and a half that we walk around the town, your families could browse around or go down to the lake and then meet up with you later. (And - remember to bring a jacket or umbrella if it rains!)

The event will take place on **Saturday, 29th October 2016, 9.30–11.00 am**. We will meet just **outside the main eastern entrance to the old town of Murten, "Berntor"**. There's a large carpark just outside the entrance and underground parking on the west side of the town (signposted). **No fee** will be charged. Are you joining us? [Caroline Grünig](#) is waiting for your registration.

The Consultants-E: Teaching Live Online Classes – 14th-27th November (online)

Growing numbers of students expect a choice in where and how they learn — full or part time, face-to-face, online or in blended mode (part face-to-face and part online), and so on. Teachers are increasingly expected to know how to effectively facilitate learning online. This Teaching Live Online Classes course gives you the skills and confidence to teach, and the chance to earn a certificate. For full details see [here](#).

For other external events, be sure to check out [this section](#) on our website.

Journal News



Write a Book Review and keep the material!

Writing book reviews is a great way to get to know profoundly the materials you work with. You can of course keep the reviewed materials afterwards. Here are some new books and materials that are on offer this month:

Straight to First by Roy Norris (Macmillan) offers a completely new preparation course.

Tenses on Timelines by Rita Dick. A practical kit that visually illustrates the tenses on a graphically designed timeline via colour-coded shapes.

Get in touch with [Helena](#) if you're interested.

Have you written and published ELT books and/or materials yourself? We can promote them! [Helena](#) is the person to contact.

New articles uploaded on the ETAS website

Don't forget to check out the [Book Reviews](#) and the selected articles from our Journal under [Editors' Choice](#) on our website as well as the section [ETAS Journal Conversations](#). New articles are uploaded here regularly — a source of valuable insights and inspiration for your teaching!

Teacher Tips and ELT Links



ETAS in the social media

Follow ETAS on [Facebook](#) and on Twitter [@ETAS_CH](#) to keep up-to-date with the latest developments and ideas in the world of ELT. It's also a great way to find new lesson ideas. If you don't really know how to use Twitter or why it's such an amazing resource for teachers, [this blog post](#) has some handy tips.

If you'd like more information, please email our Social Media Coordinator [Gemma Lunn](#), who can give you some tips on how to get started either via email or a short Skype session.

Last month's most popular ELT tweets were

[More ice breakers for the ELT classroom](#) via [@teflerinha](#),

[E-tidying up Favourite Writing Sites 2](#) via [@MariaTheo1](#),

[Mini Whiteboards in the Young Learner Classroom](#) via [@MicaelaCarey](#),

[20 Webcam Activities for EFL ESL students](#) via [@NikPeachey](#) and

[Teaching for Success Online Conference](#) via [@BritishCouncil](#).

ETAS Office

ETAS Administration will be closed for autumn break: 25th September—25th October.

Phone hours:

Monday, 8:30 – 11:30

Wednesday, 8:30 – 11:30 and 13:30 – 16:30

ETAS Administrator, Annegret Richmond, can also be contacted via mail.

Office address:

ETAS Office

Im Hubel 3

CH-6210 Sursee

Tel: +41 (0) 24 420 32 54

Fax: +41 (0) 24 420 32 57

Email: office@e-tas.ch

Mail Addresses



Mail addresses included in this e-Newsletter are also repeated below.

If you're experiencing any problems accessing links then please mail newsletter@e-tas.ch.

Mail addresses

Annette Lerner natco@e-tas.ch

Helena Lustenberger bookreview@e-tas.ch

Gemma Lunn gemma_lunn@hotmail.com

Caroline Grünig cargru@bluewin.ch

e-Newsletter Editor: Markus Jürgen Dietz

Proofreader: Rachael Harris

Reviewers: JoAnn Salvisberg and Annegret Richmond

Distribution: Martina Lazaro

Do not reply to this e-mail. This e-mail address is a system e-mail address and e-mails will not be processed. Please consult our website (www.e-tas.ch/about-us) for the relevant e-mail address for your query.

Depending on your e-mail programme and settings, the hyperlinks in this newsletter may not work directly by just clicking on them. In that case, mail newsletter@e-tas.ch with your enquiry.

If you do not wish to receive future updates, please send an e-mail to our Administrator (office@e-tas.ch) with the words "No ETAS e-Newsletter please" in the subject line.

[Copyright English Teachers Association 2016](#)