

February e-Newsletter 2016

Dear «M_1st_NAME»



ETAS e-Newsletter

AGM follow-up!

Congratulations to the six newly elected members who join the others on the ETAS **Executive Committee**:

Anel Aubert, Membership Chair
Neil Bullock, Public Relations Chair
Julie Mangold, Publications Chair
Kelly Sovilla, Secretary
Florian Gantenbein, Treasurer
Martina Lazaro, Web Chair

ETAS 2016 National Survey

All ETAS members are encouraged to take part in the upcoming National Poll. The link and instructions to participate in the survey will be sent by email this spring.

A few comparisons from a sample of members and a similar poll taken ten years ago revealed several interesting shifts in membership, such as:

In ten years the percentage of members with a BA increased from 12% to 46%, an MA from 28% to 57%, and the CELTA from 51% to 78%. Answers to the question about most pressing professional challenges showed many need more training in using technology in the classroom, others want more hours and higher pay.

Take part in the survey and see how your profile fits in with other ETAS members. We want to hear from you!

Auditor's Report

As agreed at the AGM, the 2014-2015 Auditor's Report is now available on the ETAS website (member log-in required) here: <https://www.e-tas.ch/about/legal/annual-reports>

The Minutes of the 32nd AGM, and Executive Committee Reports, will be published in the Spring Journal.

ETAS Administration

As mentioned in a December news email and announced at the AGM, Pamela Betschen, our current Administrator, is leaving the position for family reasons. ETAS welcomes her successor, **Annegret Richmond**, who is presently being trained by Pamela and will take over the duties as **Administrator from 1 March**.

ETAS is especially thankful to Pamela, who among other things, has played an instrumental role in transitioning the ETAS database from a manual to a digital (online) system. We wish her every success and owe her an eternal debt of gratitude.

We also warmly welcome Annegret, who has extensive experience in administration work as well as database systems. She is wife of long-standing ETAS member Peach Richmond, who recently served three years on the Executive Committee. The office will be moving to Sursee this spring, where they live. Further details can be found below under the rubric ETAS Office.

Current ETAS Vacancies

ETAS Needs You!

We're looking for creative and innovative people to help take ETAS forward. Join us on this exciting journey and learn some new skills along the way!

Check out what's on offer:

Library Sub-Committee Member: Contact [Urs Kalberer](#).

Regional Coordinators for Graubunden and St Gallen: Contact [Annette Leimer](#).

Co-Regional Coordinator for Baden: Contact [Caroline Rickli](#).

Facebook Co-administrator: Contact [JoAnn Salvisberg](#).

SIG Coordinator Testing, Exams and Assessment: Contact [Neil Bullock](#).

ETAS Journal Online Content Coordinator: Please note that this position does not involve coding. Contact [Ceres Pioquinto](#).

These positions are only open to ETAS members. This [link](#) will lead you to the vacancies online. Come and join us!

Events



20 February Bellinzona: OUP Digital Tour. Learn how to effectively integrate digital tools into your learning environments. This is a tour through Switzerland so this workshop will also be held on 26 February Genève and on 4 March Lausanne. Check out the [link](#) for full details.

25 February Geneva: YLs/ Teens Workshop. Margaret Horrigan will be presenting a workshop in two parts. The first, **Personalising Course books**, will help you to take a more critical look at course books and provide you with practical tips and activities to be used in your classrooms. The second, **Classroom Management**, aims to raise awareness of the features of good and bad classroom management and assist you with honing your skills in this area. You'll have time to network while enjoying refreshments after the workshop. Only thirty places are available so please [register as soon as possible](#) to avoid disappointment. Contact the [Geneva Regional Coordinators](#) if you have any queries. Karen Greaney and Rachael Harris will be more than pleased to help you.

5 March Solothurn: Dictation... a relic from a bygone era or a versatile activity?

Jayne Herzog will look at diverse activities linked to dictation. This workshop might be just what you need to spice up your dictation sessions. [Click here](#) and find out more.

[Sue Nikles](#), the Regional Coordinator from Solothurn / Olten can also be contacted if assistance is required.

External Links

21 February St. Gallen: ELT Academic Reading Group. The ETAS ELT Academic Reading Group in St.Gallen has already had its first meeting. This group will meet on the third Sunday of every month at 14:15 p.m. in Seegar Café, Restaurant, Oberer Graben 2, 9000 St.Gallen. Everyone is welcome to attend and to take a critical look at ELT research. [Gemma Lunn](#) can be contacted for further information.

23 April Sierre: Language Symposium. This symposium, which is held every two years in Wallis, is directed at all language teachers. It will be held at the University of Applied Sciences in Sierre. The program looks fantastic and covers a broad range of topics. [Drop in](#) and browse through the workshops.

Cultural exchange project with South Korean primary school children!

This is a fantastic opportunity for any of you who have Grade 3 through to Grade 6 students to learn more about South Korean culture as perceived through the eyes of children. Hyojin Jang a female primary school teacher in South Korea is looking for teachers who are willing to embark on this intercultural exchange project.

Don't miss out on this exceptional chance. If you're interested please contact [Lee Shutler](#) who is a new member of ETAS Publications Team. You can also take contact Hyojin Jang via ETAS Facebook page.

Here are a couple of dates to bookmark for later ...

The Association of Adult Education Centres in Switzerland (VHS-AUPS) will offer two workshops for English teachers this year. **Developing Speaking Skills** is scheduled for 28 May in Lausanne and **Teaching and Recycling Vocabulary** for 24 September in Zürich. Details can be found [here](#). While you're visiting ETAS website click on [External Events](#), or use the hyperlink, and see what else is on offer for you and your students.

Journal News



Time to Celebrate!

Hats off to Ceres Pioquinto, Editor-in-Chief of the ETAS Journal, to the Editorial Board and all the Publications Team! Last December ETAS Members Jillaine Farrar and JoAnn Salvisberg applied to the Accreditation Commission of the Luzern University of Applied Sciences and Arts for official recognition of the Journal. The proposal has been accepted and the Journal will be added to the school's official list of **recognized publications for educators**. Kudos to Ceres for her valiant efforts and drawing on her experience in this field, and to the whole Publications Team for setting a standard of excellence in the ETAS Publications. This is an important milestone and certainly worth celebrating. Cheers!

New Editorial Team members

We'd like you to join us in welcoming Markus Jürgen Dietz, Eva Göksel, Caroline Grünig-Manton, Susie Oswald, and Lee Shutler to the Publications Team. We're thrilled to have these members join us and are looking forward to making the most of their experience and know-how to further improve the quality of ETAS publications. We've already got a few exciting projects brewing. More later!

Creativity in the language classroom

Monday 7 March is the **submission deadline** for this Summer Special Supplement, so get those proposals in the mail. The [Geneva Regional Coordinators](#) will be happy to assist with any details.

Testing, Examination and Assessment – a Tool for language learning

As the title suggests, [Dave Kaufher](#) and [Neil Bullock](#) the Special Supplement Editors for the Winter Journal, are interested in article submissions that relate to assessment in any form. Proposed articles should be relevant to teachers and testers alike. Full details will be published in the Spring Journal. However, the Editors can be contacted if you have any

queries.

E-Books! Looking for reviewers

[The Round](#) is an independent collective of creative individuals in English language teaching and they have offered ETAS e-Newsletter readers these e-books for review:

'Brainstorming' by Hall Houston and Gerhard Erasmus (tips and activities)

'At Work' by Paul Walsh (Business English speaking activities)

'Moral Dilemmas' by Lindsay Clandfield (for small groups or 121)

'100 Activities for Fast Finishers' by Rachael Harris (yes, that Rachael H!)

There are plenty more books and materials to review if your ELT interests lay elsewhere.

Detailed lists are available [online](#). This is a members' only area so please log in to view the relevant pages.

Interested? Contact [Helena](#)

Practical Teacher Tips and ELT Links



Create online canvases with Linoit

[Linoit](#) is a great place to do collaborative work with your students. Used effectively, it can also save you an enormous amount of time. You can upload videos, images and text to create any kind of canvas imaginable. Linoit can be used to curate material, to gather ideas from students, to design polls, to schedule assignments, to prepare boards for extra activities and so much more. You have the option of working web-based or going mobile with their apps, which are compatible with the iPhone, iPad and Android devices. Check out [Russell Stannard's teacher training video](#) to gain an impression of how useful this tool can be for language teaching and learning. Why not create or share canvases with fellow teachers and their students? Give it a go and let your creativity run free!

What's hot on Twitter?

This month's **top five** are:

1. Podcast: lesson plans, observations and PD programs – an [interview with Anthony Ash](#) via @TheTEFLShow

You might also be interested in the other podcasts that [The TEFL Show](#) has on soundcloud such as Flipping your Classroom, or Apps for teaching and learning languages.

2. [50 ideas for student blogging](#) and writing online via @edublogs
3. Thirteen common [misconceptions about language learning](#) via [@gianfrancocont9](#)
4. Tips on using [literature with teens](#) via @TeachingEnglish
5. Big Bucks, No Whammies: [Classroom Management via TV Game Shows?](#) via @edutopia

Follow ETAS (@ETAS_CH) to keep up-to-date with all the latest ETAS news and events as well as finding useful teaching material and interesting articles and blogs.

ETAS Office

Phone hours: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 8:30-11:30

[Pamela](#), ETAS Administrator, can also be contacted via mail.

Please note the changes as of 1 March:

The ETAS office will be relocating to Central Switzerland.
New 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

Phone hours:
Monday, 8:30 – 11:30
Wednesday, 8:30 – 11:30 and 13:30 – 16:30

Mail Addresses



Mail addresses included in this eNews are also repeated below.

If you're experiencing any **problems accessing links** then please mail cafe@e-tas.ch and direct your enquiries to Patricia.

Mail addresses

Lee Shutler: lees@hilderstone.ac.uk

Urs Kalberer: tede@e-tas.ch

Annette Leimer: natco@e-tas.ch

Caroline Rickli: baden@e-tas.ch

JoAnn Salvisberg: pres@e-tas.ch

Neil Bullock: neilbullock@englishplus.ch

Ceres Pioquinto: journal@e-tas.ch

Karen Greaney and Rachael Harris: geneva@e-tas.ch

Sue Nikles: solothurn@e-tas.ch

Gemma Lunn: gemma_lunn@hotmail.com

David Kaufher: davidkaufher@gmail.com

Helena Lustenberger: bookreview@e-tas.ch

Patricia Daniels: cafe@e-tas.ch

Pamela Betschen: office@e-tas.ch

e-Newsletter Editor: Patricia Daniels

Proofreader: Rachael Harris

Reviewers: JoAnn Salvisberg and Pamela Betschen

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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 cafe@e-tas.ch with your enquiry.

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