

Bryan Hale

Candidate for the position of 1st Vice-President

Education

- ❖ Master of Applied Linguistics (TESOL) - University of New England (Australia), 2019
- ❖ Bachelor of Arts in English Literature - University of New England (Australia), 2004
- ❖ CELTA, 2010

Experience

- ❖ Yeongam High School, Jeollanam-do, 2017 - present
- ❖ Sunkyung Foreign Language Institute, Gwangju, 2014 - 2016
- ❖ Shinan Middle School, Gyeonggi-do, 2012 - 2014

KOTESOL Service

- ❖ Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter President, 2019
- ❖ Reflective Practice SIG Co-facilitator, 2016 - present
- ❖ Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter Treasurer, 2018
- ❖ Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter Membership Coordinator, 2015-2016
- ❖ Planning and organizing experience: Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL Regional Conference 2019; Day of Reflection 2017; Day of Reflection 2019
- ❖ Meritorious Service Award, 2018

Candidate Statement

Ever since I first attended the International Conference in 2012, KOTESOL has been a vital part of my teaching practice, my professional development, and my community and belonging in Korea. Over the past several years I have become steadily more involved at various levels of the organization, and it has been very rewarding to be able to give back to an organization at the dynamic heart of Korean ELT. I am excited to be running as a candidate for First Vice-President.

The First Vice-President has a special responsibility to KOTESOL's chapters. As president of Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter, and in various chapter roles before that, I have developed a strong sense of the importance of chapter-level community building, and of the challenges and exciting possibilities facing our chapters. In my earlier days I was involved with the Seoul and Yongin chapters, and, more recently, collaborating with my fellow chapter presidents on National Council has further developed my understanding of the diversity and differences across chapters, as well as the needs they share. I have been an advocate for chapters at the National Council level, and I believe we should always be seeking ways to improve communication and collaboration among chapters, as well as across organizational levels of KOTESOL.

It is also important that First Vice-President have a very productive relationship with the rest of National Council. I have learned so much, and still have so much to learn, from established KOTESOL leaders. I think I have been conscientious and pragmatic in my dealings with established leaders and National Council, and when necessary I have also been assertive and willing to advocate for positions I believe are important to the members and communities which make up KOTESOL. As First Vice-President I would strive to have very constructive and collaborative relationships with all members of National Council.

It has been wonderful to see KOTESOL moving towards greater diversity. I think KOTESOL is increasing its understanding of and value to all kinds of teachers, including public school and hagwon teachers, and diverse native and non-native English speaking teachers. I am passionate about seeing these trends continue, and working through the issues involved in these processes. Our KOTESOL community of practice gives us opportunities to be better teachers together, and if I am lucky enough to serve as First Vice-President, I will be dedicated to promoting the interests of our KOTESOL community, our chapters, our membership, and our learners.