

Hello, Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter KOTESOL!

I'm running for president of our chapter. I served in 2004-2006. I also served as our regional conference chair from 2004-2007. Since then I've become a lifetime member and regular supporter of all things Gwangju-Jeonnam.

I have been teaching at Chosun University here in Gwangju since 2012 and have helped out with some of the special interest groups (SIGs) over the years. Do you remember the Gwangju-Jeonnam Reflective Practice group? How about the Social Justice (Critical Educators) group?

Our group has survived Covid! Congrats! And in late 2022 and all of 2023, our face-to-face gathering returned. How shall we mix it up for 2024? Our face-to-face workshops plus some more socializing opportunities? Gwangju art scene is always a great field trip for our professional development. Should we put the Gwangju Biennale back on the calendar? Shall we host some Zooms to gather more people from around the province who can't get into Gwangju for a workshop? With my limited mobility, I am happy to host some online events in addition to our face-to-face gatherings. And I would secretly love to meet for coffee in a different cafe every month!

If these things sound interesting to you, then I hope you'll vote for me for president for 2024. I'm happy to answer any questions.

Thanks for thinking of supporting me for this opportunity.

Best Regards,
Maria Lisak
Lifetime member of KOTESOL

Endorsement for Maria Lisak

For the Office of President, Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL Chapter

November 15, 2023

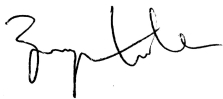
I am writing to wholeheartedly endorse Maria Lisak for the position of Chapter President in the upcoming Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL Chapter election, scheduled for December 9. Having known and worked with Maria for several years, I am confident in her passion for and dedication to our chapter.

Maria's exceptional energy, insight, and kindness set her apart as one of the most vibrant individuals in our community. Her capacity to connect people and ideas transcends mere networking; she fosters meaningful relationships that encourage and nurture personal and professional growth. This talent of hers has been a significant asset to our chapter and will undoubtedly continue to be so.

Maria's familiarity and history with our chapter, having served as Chapter President from 2004 to 2006 and contributing actively to our chapter and throughout KOTESOL in many ways for a considerable period, are testaments to her commitment and deep understanding of our goals and challenges. She is a figure widely known and trusted, not only within KOTESOL but also across various communities in Gwangju-Jeonnam. Her ability to bridge different groups and perspectives is a crucial skill that will serve her well in leading our chapter.

I am confident that under Maria's guidance, the Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL Chapter will find new ways to flourish while also honoring its established legacy. I hope Maria will be elected, and feel excited about our year ahead if she is.

Sincerely,



Bryan Hale
Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter President, 2023
Lifetime member of Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL Chapter

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

November 21, 2023

Dear Chapter Elections Committee:

I am pleased to be writing today to endorse the nomination of Maria Lisak for Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter president. I have known Maria since I first attended one of her workshops about a decade ago; since then, I have worked with her in many KOTESOL roles at both the local and national level, and I have observed her to be an active, energetic, decisive leader.

Maria's national-level leadership experience makes clear both her ability to organize events and her dedication to the principles of equity, access, and diversity in our association. As the national Nominations & Elections Committee chair, for example, she strived to recruit candidates from a wide variety of backgrounds to run for national office. Her involvement in the Social Justice SIG and our chapter's Reflective Practice SIG, meanwhile, demonstrated her innovative methods of sharing her insights and empowering practitioners to enact these principles in the classroom.

Maria has also held a variety of positions in the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter, most recently as an officer-at-large. She always contributes her enthusiasm, positivity, and perceptive commentary to every discussion among the officers, and she has described to me some innovative ideas for making our chapter more visible in the Gwangju community while meeting participants' needs in novel ways. I have no doubt the coming year will bring some intriguing alternative workshop/meeting formats with Maria at helm!

Maria routinely dedicates her time, energy, and ideas to our organization, and I am pleased to endorse her for chapter president.

Sincerely,



Lindsay Herron
Lifetime Member
Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter