



# The Gwangju Communicator

Newsletter of the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter of Korea TESOL

November 2019

## Creating a Space for Students with Disabilities and Neurodiversity in the Classroom

By Crystal Cho Jones

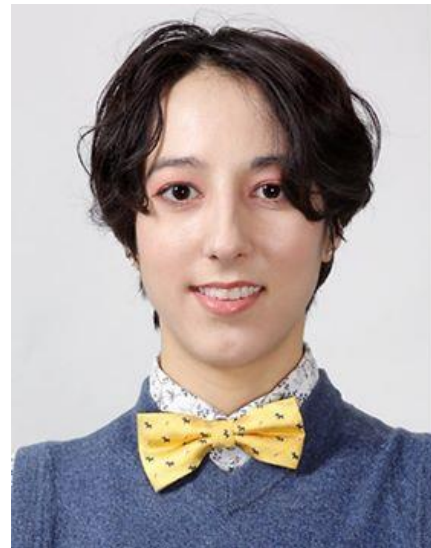
Neurodiversity includes ADHD, dyslexia, autism spectrum, mental health, and personality disorders. Teachers may not always know how to best meet the needs of their students, but that shouldn't stop us from learning how to best assist our neurodiverse and disabled students. Cultural and social stigmas hinder these individuals from succeeding and thriving within society and the education system, especially in Asia. Is there a lack of early childhood intervention in South Korea, with the resulting impact on students going undiagnosed? We need to dismantle stigmas and provide an understanding of neurodiversity and disability.

The best practices for ELT are visual and hands-on learning that engage students with their peers while creating a space that allows them the freedom to move around easily within the classroom and provide a learning experience that meets their needs. Moreover, providing a space for the student to be themselves without shame, discrimination, and constant demand to conform or pressure to "mask." Research based on teachers' classroom experiences and studies in special education will be shared. We will discuss the resulting negative impact on disabled and neurodiverse children within the education system and society. What can we do to create a space in the classroom for these students? As teachers, we should be able to understand students' needs, and assist our students in ways that can help them

succeed. This presentation aims to contribute to such an understanding and to assisting our students.

### THE PRESENTER

Crystal Soo-Jung Cho Jones is a graduate student at Indiana University pursuing a Master of Science in



Education, specializing in special education. Crystal has lived and worked in South Korea as an EFL teacher for over five years, teaching K-12 and adults. Crystal's interests include neuroscience, sociology, philosophy, religions, and anthropology.

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*(Crystal Jones will be presenting on students with disabilities and neurodiversity on November 14 at the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter KOTESOL meeting at Gwangju National University of Education).*

## ■ Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter Officers: 2018-19

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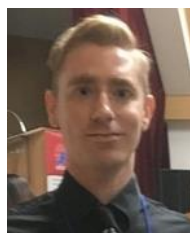
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## ■ Joining Korea TESOL

**Who May Join:** English teachers of any level or nationality are eligible to join. KOTESOL welcomes native and non-native speakers teaching at public schools, language institutes, colleges and universities, and other organizations, as well as tutors. Undergraduate students may join as student members.

### What Memberships Types Are Available?

- **Regular 1-Year Membership:** 50,000 won.
- **Lifetime Membership:** 500,000 won. Student and International Membership options are also available.

**How to Join:** Apply by using the online membership form at <http://www.koreatesol.org/>. On the front page, click on "Join KOTESOL" in the menu, and follow the directions. Help available at a Chapter meeting.

Alternately, paper membership application and renewal forms are available at Chapter meetings for those who prefer making a hard-copy application with Chapter assistance.

**Membership payment** may be made by either of these two methods:

- Bank transfer to: **KOTESOL**. KEB-Hana bank account number: 299-890069-83204.
- Payment in cash to the Chapter Membership Officer at a Chapter meeting.

# Technology: A Crucial Tool in the EFL Classroom

By Peter Lucarotti

Whether it's PowerPoint, translation tools, or games like Kahoot!, technology has become a crucial tool in the EFL classroom. While it can provide students with novel experiences, it can also be overwhelming and create confusion for students and teachers alike. In this presentation, we will discuss the challenges we face when using technology in our own classrooms and pitfalls to avoid when trying to implement technology into our lessons. We'll look at some programs, websites, and apps that may help you in your lesson planning. Teachers will also be encouraged to share what has worked for them in the past by adding suggestions to an idea bank that will be accessible online for future reference.

## THE PRESENTER

Originally from the East Coast of Canada, Peter studied journalism and worked as a sportswriter in



his home country before coming to South Korea in 2010. He spent seven years teaching at Boseong Girls Middle School and recently began work as a teacher trainer at the recently established Jeollanamdo International Education

Institute in Yeosu. In this new position, he has developed a writing curriculum for both elementary and secondary teachers and has also taught in a variety of other programs, including the JLP summer and fall orientations.

*(Peter will be presenting on technology for the EFL classroom on November 14 at the Gwangju-Jeonnang Chapter KOTESOL meeting at Gwangju National University of Education.)*



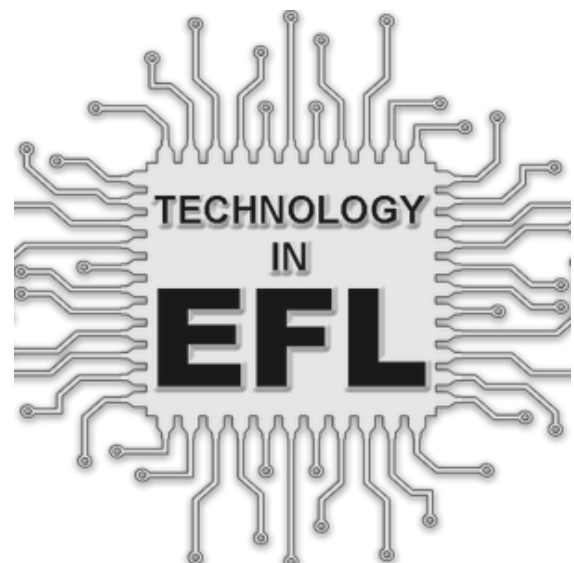
**Play It  
Again, 쌤!**

Revisitation, Reprise, Memory, Time

**Gwangju-Jeonnang KOTESOL  
Regional Conference 2020**

 Saturday, March 14, 2020  
Gwangju National University of Education

More information, including Call for Proposals:  
[koreatesol.org/gwangju](http://koreatesol.org/gwangju)



## Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL November Chapter Meeting

- Time: Saturday, November 16, 2019, 1:45–5:00 p.m.
- Place: Gwangju Natl. University of Ed., Teacher Training Bldg., Room 811 (1st Floor)

### ■ Schedule: Chapter Meeting, Main Session

**1:45 pm:** Sign-in and Meet-and-Greet (Admission free for newcomers. Future membership always welcomed.)

**2:00 – 3:20 pm: SESSION 1 (PRESENTATION)**

*Creating a Space for Students with Disabilities and Neurodiversity in the Classroom*  
Crystal Cho Jones (Indiana University)

**3:20 – 3:40 pm:** Refreshment & Networking Break

**3:40 – 4:30 pm: SESSION 2 (PRESENTATION)**

*Technology: A Crucial Tool in the EFL Classroom*  
Peter Lucarotti (Jeollanamdo International Education Institute, Yeosu)

**4:35 – 4:45 pm: CHAPTER ELECTIONS**

President, Vice President, Treasurer

**4:45 – 5:00 pm:** SwapShop (time permitting) / Announcements / Door Prizes / Closing

After-Meeting Dinner at **Angelo** pasta and pizza restaurant, across from GNUE main gate.

## Upcoming Chapter Events

**December 14, 2019. Chapter Meeting.**

*Representation and Racism: Focusing on English Textbooks in Korea.* (Travis Frank)  
Second Session: To be announced.

**January 11, 2020. Chapter Meeting.**

Teacher Training Center, GNUE, Gwangju.

## Upcoming KOTESOL Events

**November 23, 2019.**

**Daejeon-Chungcheong Chapter November Symposium & Thanksgiving Dinner**  
Woosong University, Daejeon

**November 24, 2019.**

**Team-Building and Connections Day**  
Woosong University, Daejeon

**November 30, 2019.**

**Daegu-Gyeongbuk Chapter Conference**  
Kyungpook National University, Daegu

### Reflective Practice SIG

*Reflection on Teacher Identity  
at the End of 2019*

Kristy Dolson Facilitating  
11:00–12:30, before the Chapter Meeting.

*At Coffee Lab Mujji (near GNUE)*

**December 1 2019.**

**KOTESOL National Council**  
Annual Budget Meeting  
Ecology Oriental Wellness Experience Center  
Daegu