

**KOTESOL Annual Business Meeting Minutes**  
**October 13, 2019**  
**Room P204 Sookmyung Women's University, Seoul**

**Present:**

David Shaffer, Rhea Metituk, Jake Kimball, Kimberley Roberts, Mike Peacock, Lindsay Herron, Bryan Hale, Martin Todd, James Tardif, Stewart Gray, Maria Lisak, Wayne Finley, Robert Dickey, Lisa MacIntyre-Park, Elizabeth May, Vanessa Virgiel, Tory Thorkelson, Phillip Schrank, Allison Bill

**1. Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 16:03 by David Shaffer

**Announcements**

Clarification of voting members: All Korea TESOL members with current membership as of October 14, 2019, are eligible to vote on ABM matters.

**2. Adoption of the agenda**

Adopted by consensus

**3. Adoption of 2018 meeting minutes**

No minutes were presented. These should have been printed in the IC book so that everyone could view them.

It was suggested that we put a news item on the website and approve them later. We may have to wait until next year to approve the minutes.

**4. Reports of Officers and Committees**

**President's Report**

In the past year, KOTESOL has accomplished a lot. Among the accomplishments listed:

The International community has become official.

Jeolla Chapter has increased membership.

People have indicated that there is interest in reactivating the Jeju Chapter.

The SIGs have been active.

Three new SIGs – People of Color Teachers, Classroom Management, Women and Gender Equality – were formed.

There were several events, including the National Conference, the Leadership Retreat, the Chapter Presidents' Meeting, four National Council Meetings, several chapter meetings and High School Speech Contest (spring). There were also almost 70 other chapter events.

There were several publications, including 4 TEC issues, three Korea TESOL Journal issues (the last one almost ready to go out), KOTESOL proceedings for 2018, and the KOTESOL News put out monthly issues to about 2000 subscribers!

KOTESOL used Facebook, Twitter, TESOL Affiliate News and three articles in the Gwangju News for publicity. The Korea Herald also had a reporter at the IC.

Partner associations were the same as last year internationally, while nationally, we added GETA (Global English Teachers' Association). We also have a great informal Asia TEFL.

In addition, KOTESOL approved a Korea TESOL Code of Conduct and created a privacy policy. An ad hoc Diversity Committee was also created. The first Teacher of the Year Award was given out in 2019, along with the newly created Thomas Farrel Reflective Language Teacher Award. We began the Pass it on Challenge and "Getting Involved with KOTESOL". KOTESOL Gives Back was created as an initiative for the IC and collected over 1,100,000 won (several people at the ABM indicated strong support for continuing this at the chapter level).

### **Treasurer's Report**

The current treasurer was unable to do what he wants to do due to several family issues. Finances will need to move forward with the new treasurer. Current Total assets are 92,528,953won

### **Grace Wang Arrived**

### **Nominations and Elections Committee Report (2019 Election Results)**

President:	Lindsay Herron
1 <sup>st</sup> VP	Bryan Hale
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP	Rhea Metituk
Secretary:	Many write-ins but no duplicates – a good short list.
Treasurer	Phillip Schrank
Nominations & Elections committee Chair: Mike Peacock	
International Conference Co Chair	27 write ins – some duplicates, seen as a strong short list.

## **International Conference Committee Report**

There were about 780 attendees, including over 200 presenters and there were about 200 presentations.

It was noted by people attending the ABM that there were several compliments from people who attend many large conferences, including Rod Ellis.

Congratulations from the president were offered to the Chair and Co-chair for their great work and accomplishment, followed by a general congratulations from the National Council.

## **5. Unfinished Business**

None

## **6. New Business**

### **MOTION**

*That the following amendment be made to the bylaws*

To be added to Article IV:

Section 8. Online Meetings. The National Council may, at the request of the President, convene a meeting via videoconferencing. Videoconference meetings must be announced to the general membership in advance with instructions provided for how a member may participate in the videoconference.

Endorsed by: Lindsay Herron, Bryan Hale, Maria Lisak, Stewart Gray, Rhea Metituk.

### Discussion

Rob Dickey opposed the motion. He said that the technology isn't up to it and that it doesn't support the intent of Robert's Rules of Order. The motion, if passed, also implies/suggests that there will be fewer face to face Council meetings. Side discussions and meetings between

individuals for building relationships will be limited and difficult. Tory Thorkelson agreed with this assessment.

Elizabeth May suggested that the motion does not state that online meetings must happen, only that the option is there. It allows us open up space for people to attend digitally.

Allison Bill said that in theory, she is not opposed. However, in practice, she has been in meetings with only 8 people where the technology didn't work. National Council could be 20 or more people, plus any additional members who wished to attend.

Bryan Hale noted that building relationships and side conversations could be carried on over other channels. James Tardif added that the motion was "at the request of the president" so we are not necessarily changing the meetings.

Lindsay Herron admitted that we will have to develop norms and procedures to address concerns of inclusiveness and the issues discussed. She went on to say that meeting via video conferencing will allow more people to participate and video conferencing will allow visual feedback for participants.

Marie Lisak noted that we are already using email, which is clunky. Video conferencing would be better than email. It would respect people's time better and is more respectful of dialog.

Rhea Metituk noted that travelling can be a burden, especially for further away chapters. She also reminded the council that the Chapter Leaders' meeting had used this.

### **Luis Caballero arrived**

Grace Wang noted that online meetings can be useful in some circumstances but face to face can't be replaced. She suggested that the Council limit the number to ensure that this doesn't happen.

Herron noted that there isn't a mandated number of National Council meetings, so this might actually generate more of them.

Stewart Gray said that if we have to wait a year (until the next ABM) to vote on this again, we should give it a shot. The worst thing would be that it's terrible and we can refrain from doing it again. It was immediately noted that the worst thing would actually be that we continue using it, even though it is terrible.

Metituk suggested that the resolution doesn't mean that we would replace face to face time. She also noted that would save money that could be used for other things.

**Kimberly Roberts left to catch a train**

Allison Bill requested that the minutes reflect that we are concerned about how well it would work.

Jake Kimball suggested that maybe the resolution is a bit premature. We should pilot something first and then pass the resolution later.

Bryan Hale opined that online meetings have their own benefits. He said that technology changes, so we should change too.

Thorkelson said that to do this, we have to first ensure that everyone has the equipment and skills – including training – to make the technology work.

Phillip Schrank suggested that we give it a trial. He noted that in order to try this, we would have to pass the resolution.

Maria Lisak suggested that a town hall type event would enable a test space, if the resolution doesn't pass.

Lisa MacIntyre-Park suggested that only the chapter officers attend by video.

Herron stated that we have used Zoom before and it worked well with over 10 people, but we haven't tried it with 20.

Bill suggested that if we paid a service it might be more be more stable. We could use some of the money we save on travel for this.

Tardif noted that people were leaving meeting due to time and other constraints.

Herron called the question.

**Motion:** Lindsay Herron    **Second:** Bryan Hale                      Yes: 16  
No: 2  
Abstain:

**Motion passed**

**Michael Free arrived**

**7. Other topics briefly discussed**

**Announcements:**

As president, David Shaffer gave service certificates to all chapter presidents and National Council officers, and SIG facilitators, plus service awards. Thank you for all the service you have done for Korea TESOL.

Lindsay Herron gave a plaque of gratitude to outgoing president David Shaffer.

New National Council please stay for a meeting to appoint the committee chairs

Luis Caballero thanked everyone for the fantastic trip of the past year and a half, making him more organized and a better teacher and better human. He noted that he will be back.

Next meeting after the next conference

**Adjournment: Time: approx. 17:17**

**Motion:** Alison Bill      **Second:** Lindsay Herron

Yes: unanimous  
No:  
Abstain:

**Motion Carried**