


Hello, Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter KOTESOL!

I'm running for president of our chapter again. 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 served in 2024. Here is my report card:

2024 Goals - Evaluating Success



❌ Double attendees at each event

Regular Workshop	NA	14	12	11	7	8	11	NA	10	
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❌ Get a new member monthly (No but we did increase from 38 to 40 since Jan)

Lifetime Members: 27	Annual Members: 13
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Host 1-2 events each month (Yes: except Sept & Oct)

Visit more parts of Gwangju (Yes: Wolgokdong, Sangmu)

Do some social outreach across the region (Yes: Naju twice)

Clean up KOTESOL website for Gwangju (Yes: a little bit)

Make spreadsheet aggregating annual numbers for our chap (Yes: started)

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? I participated and helped coordinate for them.

We are still here! We made it through 2024 with modest success in numbers but big support and interest by members and presenters. How shall we mix it up for 2025? Shall we continue our regular monthly workshops, or take a break in winter and summer (Jan, Feb, Jul, Aug)? Should we plan more or less coffee, cocktail, lunch or dinner events? 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. What ideas do you have? How can I help support you to implement them?

If these things sound interesting to you, then I hope you'll vote for me for president for 2025. I'm happy to answer any questions.

Thanks for thinking of supporting me for this opportunity.

Best Regards,
Maria Lisak
Lifetime member of KOTESOL

13 November 2024

To: Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter members c/o Chapter Elections Officer

Re: Endorsement of Maria Lisak for the Office of President, Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL Chapter

Dear Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter members,

Maria Lisak, a long-time, active, lifetime member of KOTESOL, is a well-known figure in Gwangju and KOTESOL, having consistently and committedly served both the community and organization over many years in various roles. Her credentials and achievements, which can be verified, are unquestioned. Moreover, she has exceeded expectations serving the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter as President in the past year, and she has the will and passion to continue this work. Given her past record and current ambition to further strengthen the chapter, I nominate Maria Lisak for the same role in 2025.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jocelyn Wright', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jocelyn Wright
Mokpo National University
Lifetime Member of KOTESOL
Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter Member

To respected Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL members,

I have known prof. Maria Lisak since 2003 when we worked as EFL instructors at LEC, Chonnam National University. I am delighted to endorse her for president of Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL. I have had the pleasure of actively engaging with prof. Lisak during her presidency in 2024.

Despite the demands of her doctoral work, Maria demonstrated phenomenal dedication and leadership this year. Under her guidance, each workshop showcased a diverse and thoughtful theme from technology, poetry, history, cooking and calligraphy and etc. She meticulously planned each meeting, from posting schedules on our Facebook group to reporting meeting outcomes. Her approach fostered academic and educational growth as well as warm social engagement.

Her efforts encompass a broader scope beyond our chapter. She helped ensure the 2024 ESBB International TESOL conference & KOTESOL National Conference was successfully held in Gwang-ju. She also actively participated in KOTESOL's small groups, encouraging members to get involved SIG KOTESOL. I am confident that Dr. Lisak's leadership will bring continued success to our chapter in 2025, helping it flourish further.

Sincerely,

Yeon-seong Park, Ph. D

English scholar