

Bryan Hale
bryan.english.teacher@gmail.com
Candidate for President



Education

- ❖ Master of Applied Linguistics (TESOL), University of New England (New South Wales, Australia; 2020)
- ❖ Bachelor of Arts in English Literature, University of New England (New South Wales, Australia; 2004)
- ❖ CELTA, International House Sydney (2010)

Teaching Experience

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

KOTESOL Service

National

- ❖ President (2021)
- ❖ First Vice-President (2020)
- ❖ Co-facilitator, Reflective Practice Special Interest Group (2016 - 2020)
 - Co-organizer, Day of Reflection 2019
 - Co-organizer, Day of Reflection 2017

Chapter

- ❖ Immediate Past President, Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter (2021)
- ❖ President, Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter (2019 - 2020)
- ❖ Treasurer, Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter (2018)
- ❖ Membership Coordinator, Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter (2015 - 2016)
- ❖ Lifetime Member, Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter

Awards

- ❖ Outstanding Service Award 2020
- ❖ Meritorious Service Award 2019
- ❖ Meritorious Service Award 2018

Candidate Statement

Hello! I am seeking a second term as national president of Korea TESOL. Although we are coming to the end of quite an unusual term of National Council due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with much uncertainty about the upcoming term, I believe there are some goals it is feasible to aim for if I am fortunate enough to be re-elected. I would like to share those goals here.

COVID-19: Effective decision-making about our evolving needs

While safety and caution remain paramount, our organizational needs and responsibilities are evolving, and clear communication and decision-making will be key in the coming term. Of course, some of the most vital decisions will be made by the International Conference Committee (with our next IC due for spring 2022), but there will be very important choices to be made by National Council, too, and these will require clear, considered, patient but efficient communication and negotiation. In the past year I believe I have gained valuable experience in liaising between different parts of our organization, and also in facilitating decision-making in a thorough, fair, productive way, balancing various needs and responsibilities. I will endeavor to continue in this manner.

Many people – from office holders and volunteers to members participating in events – have told me that, despite the high quality of our online activities, they do not get the same energy and emotional reward when everything KOTESOL happens online. I understand and feel the same way. Responding to our volunteers' and members' social and emotional needs (as well as professional development needs!) in a way that maintains safety should be front-of-mind for National Council and its executive officers. Executive officers, in particular, might begin by considering how best to adapt 'regular' events such as the Chapter Presidents' Meeting and Team-Building and Connections Day (AKA Leadership Retreat) for the coming term.

Diversity: Support establishment of active Diversity Committee

In the past few years, we have laid some fantastic groundwork for improvements on diversity, equity, and inclusion. This includes our Code of Conduct, our Policies & Procedures Manual, and of course our Diversity Chair position. One thing that has not happened so far, however, is the establishment of a Diversity Committee with a range of members. By the end of the upcoming cycle I hope to see an active Diversity Committee made up of members with expertise and experience on various aspects of diversity. The Committee should be advising National Council, its committees, and others on issues of accessibility and inclusion. This could relate to events and other activities, publications, our online presence, and the organization of our volunteering opportunities. If re-elected I hope to take an active role in the Diversity Committee, helping with finding and supporting a new Chair, and getting the Committee up and running in a productive and positive manner.

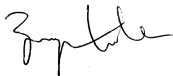
Technologies: Establish timeline for necessary changes; Re-assess internal communication at national levels of KOTESOL

By the end of the upcoming cycle, I want to see KOTESOL with a clearer understanding of where it stands in relation to its technological resources and needs. I would like to work with the Technologies Committee to establish a timeline for some important upcoming changes, including a website transition.

Not only the Technologies Committee, but I believe National Council itself could benefit from re-assessing the ways in which it uses technology. I would like to suggest Council revisit and reconsider its internal communication setups. While I would not push any particular outcome, I believe Council would benefit from a clearer rationale for its technological choices when it comes to internal communication, and there are opportunities to improve on some issues such as siloing of organizational memory and expertise, redundancies, and clarity and transparency. To be clear, I am not talking about chapter internal communication, or public communication, but opportunities to ensure our internal organizational communication at a national level is working well.

In all KOTESOL affairs I do my best to find a course of action that balances the needs of all involved, seeking the most beneficial outcomes for various parts of KOTESOL and our membership widely. I aim to be solicitous about established expertise and experience, while being an advocate for positive change. Despite the challenges of the past couple of years, KOTESOL has made some great strides in many areas, including our relationships with other organizations, and the many innovative ideas and approaches apparent across our committees, chapters, Special Interest Groups, and more. If I am lucky enough to continue as president, I am excited about collaborating with you on the opportunities and challenges promised in the year ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bryan Hale". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B" and a long, sweeping tail.

Bryan Hale
August 23, 2021