



Federación Argentina de Asociaciones de Profesores de Inglés

Newsletter #1 - June 2017

Dear FAAPI members,

This term FAAPI has been extremely active and this first newsletter intends to share a brief summary of all things done and projected with all of you.



News

The FAAPI Committee is constantly developing a new project or other. We feel that the more we work, the more new undertakings turn up, either of our own initiative or the brainchild of a-member of the sister Associations, all of which we heartedly welcome! We feel there is so much to be done toward the professional development of all members and also to strengthen bonds with colleagues both from our country and abroad.



Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting was held in Córdoba on April 22nd, 2016. The usual procedures were carried out, after which the representatives from the TAs shared their news. It is highly motivating to see the dedication members of TAs put to this endeavour, understanding the value of collaboration in professional practices and the effort invested to become better teachers. The new fees were approved (see Reminder).

During the Annual General Meeting, the sister Associations voted for members to cover different posts in the Executive Committee. Below is the new constitution of the Executive Committee; members elected appear in bold:

Executive Committee

Presidente: Cristina Mayol (APIM)

Vicepresidente: Aurelia García (APPI)

Secretaria: Claudia Mestre (APRIR)

Tesorera: Marisel Girardi (ACPI)

Vocal 1º Titular: Graciela Castelli (APRIR)

Vocal 1º Suplente: Eugenia Carrión (AFPI -Río Grande)

Vocal 2º Titular: Ricardo J. Palma (APIT)

Vocal 2º Suplente: Claudia Naom (APIBA)

Revisora de Cuentas 1º: Ana Agüero de Renner (APISE)

Revisora de Cuentas 2º: Silvia Pérez de Mentz (APIT)



FAAPI 2017 Conference

The 2017 ANNUAL FAAPI CONFERENCE is being organised by APIM (Asociación de Profesores de Inglés de Misiones). The theme is: REVITALISING ELT THROUGH AUTHENTICITY: PRACTICES, CONTENTS & MATERIALS. It will be held on August 31st, September 1st-2nd at Parque del Conocimiento SAPEM - Av. Ulises López (Acceso Oeste) y RN 12 – Posadas, Misiones. The CALL FOR PAPERS took place from February 13th to April 8th. It is worth mentioning that many colleagues have submitted their proposal of Papers, Workshops and What Worked for my Class. Likewise, sponsors from the country and abroad have actively participated offering Plenaries and Semiplenaries with top-notch speakers from Argentina, Latin America and the UK. Preparations are in full swing, and the Organising Committee is working hard to put together the schedule of lectures and social activities. Those interested in more info can visit: www.apim.com.ar or www.faapi.org.ar, and also follow both FAAPI (see page 8) and APIM on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/apimisiones/?fref=ts>).



XLII FAAPI Conference 2017

apim FAAPI 2017 FOSADAS - MISIONES

Plenaries | Semi-plenaries | Workshops | Seminars | Expo

**Revitalising ELT through Authenticity:
Practices, Contents & Materials**

DATE August 31st, September 1st and 2nd

VENUE Parque del Conocimiento SAPEM Av. Ulises López (Acceso Oeste) y RN 12 - Posadas

www.apim.com.ar



FAAPI 2018 Conference:

At the Annual General Meeting APISC (Asociación de Profesores de Inglés de Santa Cruz) announced their wish to organise FAAPI 2018. This decision was warmly welcomed by the reps present then.



Daniel Fernández Scholarship

As to the Daniel Fernández Scholarship, this year two candidates submitted valuable academic work. Finally, our internal academic committee chose the winner, who will be delivering a session on “What Worked With My Class session” at our 43rd FAAPI Conference in Posadas. We are very pleased to announce that this Scholarship was awarded to Paula Mercedes Tejeda, from Victorica - La Pampa, member of APPI (La Pampa). Congratulations to our colleague! We hope in coming years more colleagues will apply for this scholarship. For more info about this Scholarship, visit: <http://www.faapi.org.ar/>

After FAAPI Conference 2016 the manager of the theatre group The Performers offered FAAPI to carry out a one-day conference dedicated to its members concerning the importance of theatre in education in general and in teaching English specifically, to which renowned speakers would be invited. FAAPI EC signed an agreement for the purpose.

The first of these conferences took place at Sala Picasso in Complejo La Plaza in BA on May 13th. On this occasion

the speakers were Nick Bilborough from UK, as well as Susan and Sarah Hillyard from Argentina. About 150 colleagues from the whole country enjoyed the interesting presentations and a short appearance of the actors of the company, which served to illustrate how to make the most of the activities designed to prepare students before, during and after a performance. Coffee-breaks and the lunch-break were served, which together with the Conference were offered free of charge. Unfortunately, Nick Bilborough was caught in a flight delay in a stopover and could not make it. The other speakers were successful in replacing him on the occasion.

At the end of the event prizes were shared among the attendants, consisting of books, on-line courses and a trip to London. The audience participated enthusiastically throughout the talks and activities.





Links with other associations

FAAPI in APTIS BA

In 2016 Dr Darío Banegas proposed supporting **“Teachers Research - Buenos Aires 2017 Second Annual Latin American Conference for Teacher-research in ELT”**. This event took place last May 6th at *IES Lenguas Vivas Juan R. Fernández*, preceded by a workshop: Acting for Understanding: Exploratory Practice, by Inés Kayon de Miller and Maria Isabel Azevedo Cunha, organised by APIBA.

Dr. Richard Smith, from Warwick University, was in charge of organising the 'International Festival of Teacher-Research in ELT', to take place April–October 2017 and proposed FAAPI incorporating this Buenos Aires Conference within the Festival as well as supporting it. FAAPI enthusiastically accepted this invitation since this event is considered as a new opportunity to make our institution widely visible overseas.



FAAPI REP IN IATEFL

This year IATEFL Conference was held in Glasgow. FAAPI, as an Associate organization, is invited every year to the Associates' Day (prior to the beginning of the Conference) and also to the Associates' Dinner Party. In this opportunity, we were represented by Viviana Pereyra Carreras, who is a past President of AFPI (Tierra del Fuego). We would like to thank



Viviana for her disposition to help with the poster presented at the Conference. She also transmitted us important information for our Federation, which is one of the objectives of having a rep attending the Conference.

IATEFL's Blog (<https://blog.iatefl.org/>)

IATEFL has offered FAAPI's participation in their blog; the entry has just been submitted to the person responsible for that online publication. Colleagues all over the world will soon be able to read about our professional development action.

As a follow-up, one teacher association will be invited to write a participation in that blog. Teacher associations who are interested in writing a contribution of no more than 1000 (one thousand) words should let us know before August 15th and if more than one TA is interested, there will be a draw. The topic is wide and if necessary we will share the ideas sent by IATEFL. It has been suggested that FAAPI participates every year, thus placing FAAPI and its member associations in the media spotlight of English teaching and professional development worldwide.

Latest Developments



AJAL

We are delighted to welcome **Dr Susana Ibañez** to AJAL as a co-editor. At the same time, we would like to thank **Professor Raquel Lothringer** for her accurate and committed work as a co-editor in the past years. Besides, we would like to encourage all ELT professionals to participate actively by submitting articles for AJAL. This academic journal provides an outstanding linguistic context for sharing research, experiences and concerns of teachers all over the country and from abroad. By reading the Table of Contents, we can appreciate that both authorship and the readership from abroad are noteworthy.



Academic Writing Course

We are glad to inform the latest version of FAAPI's academic writing course, now called **Researching, writing and sharing in academic settings**, delivered by **Dr María Susana Ibañez and Prof. Raquel Lothringer**, is about to come to an end, and once more it has been a successful learning experience. At the moment there are fifteen participants in the course, both from our country and abroad.

According to the report submitted by the tutors, the on-line classes are over, and the participants are completing their assignments and preparing their final work. Out of sixteen colleagues enrolled, one gave up soon after the beginning. The other fifteen continued, although with different levels of achievement. Some of them have already completed the Practical Works and are writing their Final Work, whereas the others are still finishing the previous assignments.

The tutors inform us that their performance is dissimilar as the group is heterogeneous. It is worth mentioning the commitment of those who are working according to the schedule and the interesting proposals presented for the Final Work. They have been encouraged to try and finish with work in arrears during the winter holidays, which emphasizes the commitment and open attitude of the tutors. This speaks highly of their expertise developing this type of course with colleagues who can follow a course like this only out of determination to grow professionally.

The participants will be asked to complete a satisfaction survey at the end of all the activities, which will represent part of the input for the final evaluation of the course.

Webinars

FAAPI was granted the Hornby Scholarship in 2016. It allowed the Federation to hire a webconference environment to carry out webinars. In 2016 **Prof Mariel Amez** and **Master Alicia Artusi** shared two very interesting webinars, both related to the use of ICT in TEFL. FAAPI Executive Committee is planning to continue offering these successful webinars during the second semester in 2017. Stay tuned to get more news as there's always a surprise waiting round the corner, and let us know if you may wish to offer a webinar yourself. The opening webinar of the second semester will be delivered by **Prof Gonzalo Espinoza** (PhD candidate at UBA) with the title: **Disentangling L2 Pronunciation: Are There Achievable Goals?** on August 5th at 10am. For further info, visit: <http://www.faapi.org.ar/>



Federación Argentina de Asociaciones de Profesores de Inglés

FAAPI is proud to announce a webinar by Prof. Gonzalo Eduardo Espinoza

Gonzalo Eduardo Espinoza is a Teacher of English graduated at Universidad Nacional del Comahue (UNCo) in 2009. He is now a teaching assistant in English Phonetics and Phonology at Facultad de Lenguas, UNCo, General Roca, Rio Negro. In 2010 he got a Fulbright scholarship as a foreign language instructor at University of Arkansas in Monticello, USA. At UNCo, he has been a member of research projects where he has done research related to Spanish and English prosody and their relationship to meaning. He has published articles and book chapters related to the acquisition of second languages, the interphase between meaning and prosody, and pluricultural studies. He is currently doing research on the acquisition of phonology in foreign languages thanks to a doctoral grant awarded by CONICET, and he is finishing his PhD at Universidad de Buenos Aires.



Disentangling L2 pronunciation: Are there achievable goals?

Pronunciation in SLA is a really broad area of study and its different domains (from sounds to intonation) need to be clearly identified so as to solve difficulties and take action in different teaching-learning contexts. Once the specific domains are recognized, can we distinguish achievable from non-achievable goals? Does this distinction help us decide on productive courses of action in the classroom? Can we set better assessment criteria? In this webinar we will reflect on the importance of disentangling the all-inclusive term *pronunciation* and see how we can work towards (non)achievable goals. Special emphasis will be given to the notions of interphonology and intelligibility, particularly in relation to word stress and international communication.



About Teacher Associations

FAAPI continues growing. New sister associations are joining our Federation. We welcome the fact that those that were dormant during some time were able to strive their way back to life; FAAPI EC is always willing to give a helping hand for the paperwork needed. We also welcome new associations; we are glad to welcome



NAMPI (Nueva Asociación Mendocina de Profesores de Inglés)

and



AFPI - Sede Río Grande (Asociación Fueguina de Profesores de Inglés - Sede Río Grande-Tierra del Fuego) as new members of FAAPI. We wish them success in everything they endeavour.

Visit NAMPI's facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/925802854195585/>

Visit AFPI Sede Río Grande facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/afpitdf/>



Reminder

We remind the Associations that dues were expected to be paid by November 30th. If you have not yet been able to comply, please pay heed to this reminder.

At the Annual General Meeting this due was established in ARS. 50 if paid by November 30th; later, and up to the next Annual General Meeting, in ARS 60. Together with the dues, all sister associations should send the most updated list of their members, as it will be shared with the Association in charge of the next FAAPI Conference in relation to member fees.



Contact Details

Should you wish to contact FAAPI's EC or any of its members in particular, please see the following means of communication:

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AJAL: <http://www.faapi.org.ar/ajal/home.html>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/FAAPI/197054370457273>

APIs in FAAPI: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/apisinfaapi/>
Only one representative per TA.



Greeting



We wish you happy winter holidays and hope you can take a rest from the certainly profitable work done so far.

