

ESOL Connections

Leeds Beckett University, 29 November 2014

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9.45 – 10.15	Registration and coffee
10.15 – 10.45	<p>Keynote session: Introducing MESH, Claire Jackson Clare Jackson, Sunflower ESOL and Migrant English Support Hub (MESH) development worker, tells the story of how ESOL provision in Leeds is moving from being uncoordinated to being centralised, with information about classes available to everyone. Clare is an experienced ESOL teacher who has worked in mainstream and voluntary provision for the last ten years. She has been working on the MESH project for the last year and teaches an ESOL class at Leeds Refugee Forum.</p>
10.45 – 12.00 Choice of Workshops	<p>A new beginning for ESOL Nexus, Catrin Ashton The workshop will include: a brief update on the ESOL Nexus project; an introduction to the main features of the rebuilt website; a look how the resources on the site might be integrated into the curriculum; and an invitation to discuss how the site could better involve both ESOL teachers and students.</p>
	<p>16-18 ESOL: Practical classroom strategies for teaching 16-18 ESOL classes, Caroleen La Pierre Caroleen is a Literacy and ESOL specialist and teacher trainer working at Kirklees College and Wakefield College. Experience of working with a variety of age groups in community, work place and college.</p>
	<p>Get involved in volunteering, Matthew Henderson (St Vincent Support Centre) Matthew will discuss the benefits and reasons for volunteering at St Vincent as well as the recruitment process and policies and procedures which should be in place. The workshop will include a short presentation followed by a role play and interactive group discussion.</p>
	<p>Working in a digital world, Claire Collins This online workshop will explore issues facing ESOL learners and teachers languaging (Becker 1988, 1991) in an ever more digital world. We will consider how this impacts on approaches to learning and we will draw on action research undertaken by ESOL practitioners in recent years linked to technology and on line communication.</p>
12.00 – 12.45	Lunch, networking & exhibition
12.45 – 14.00 Choice of Workshops	<p>English spelling is not crazy!, Mary Osmaston Many students struggle with spelling, and sometimes we as teachers struggle to help them. Should we provide plenty of practice and teach memory strategies, or do they really need to understand how English spelling works? In this workshop you will stretch your own awareness of spelling patterns by trying out some classroom activities, and then look at how you can use these 'discovery' methods with your own students.</p>
	<p>Expert in their own lives: Collaborative community research, Kath Swinney This workshop challenges assumptions about the nature of community ESOL provision as 'peripheral'. New research initiated and designed within the super-diverse community of Burngreave has found that as adult students progress in the classroom, their ability to communicate independently increases substantially, supported by English language provision which is linked to services and embedded in the community. The research surveys a range of functions from shopping to supporting children in school to using an interpreter and has involved adult students at every level from design to analysis.</p>
	<p>Developing teacher training Ideas Will Nash Struggling to think of ways to keep in-house teacher development fresh and relevant? Sometimes. Hard to get people to attend training sessions? Can be. Like to reflect on and share training ideas that have worked for you? I would. This facilitated workshop will explore some practical examples of in-house teacher development strategies for us to try in our own institutions. Open to all in a participatory workshop format - we can reflect on what worked for us as a 'trainer' OR as a 'trainee'</p>
14.00 – 14.30	<p>Plenary session: Global coursebooks: helpful scaffold or debilitating crutch?, Heather Buchanan, Leeds Beckett University How do different teachers view global coursebooks? How do they exploit them? This talk will present the results of a small-scale research project on this topic and offer practical tips on how to bring your coursebook to life.</p>
14.30 – 14.45	Conference evaluation and Ruth Hayman raffle prize draw
There will be an exhibition of publishers, examination boards, and books for purchase.	
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