Post-secondary SIG Meeting/Presentation:
Reaching All Learners at Post-secondary Institutions

Date: Saturday October 27, 2018, 9am-9:45am
Place: Eastern Michigan University
SIG leader: Cynthia Macknish, EMU, cmacknis@emich.edu
Number in attendance: 20

Institutions represented:

> Eastern Michigan University
> ELS Language Center
> Forest Hills Public Schools
> Lansing Community College
> Madonna University
> Michigan Language Center
> Michigan State University
> Oakland Community College
> Oakland University
> University of Detroit Mercy
> University of Michigan (ELI)
> Washtenaw Community College

Summary of the 2018 Meeting/Session:

The meeting was scheduled on Saturday morning and, as SIG leader, I was grateful that it did not compete with any concurrent sessions. We began with a quick overview of selected topics in the field (see below). The number of topics was limited to four based on feedback from members at previous meetings, though much discussion around decreasing enrolment and recruitment emerged as well. It is somewhat helpful to know that other institutions are facing challenges similar to ours. Small groups discussed chosen topics/issues in more depth. Groups then shared discussion highlights. Finally, suggestions were made on ways to stay informed and make voices heard, though no consensus on this was reached.

Current Issues/Topics 2018:

- Diversity, inclusion, social justice in English language teaching (ELT)
- Translanguaging
- Multimodality in ELT
- Service-learning in ELT

Feedback and Follow-up:

- Feedback on the format of the SIG meeting was generally positive, though some first-time members were unsure of their role and the expectations in SIG meetings. *At the next meeting the SIG leader will include more details on this.*
- As in previous meetings, all participants felt the discussion was useful. *Typically, members value the opportunity to discuss issues and share points of view.*
- Generally, members were satisfied with current levels of communication in this SIG, though a few members asked about a Facebook group. *This will be considered.*
- One member suggested inviting topic ideas in advance. *There had been a broad invitation in the newsletter garnering no response, so in 2019 the SIG leader will send a more specific invitation.*
- One member suggested that the topics should be more focused or that the group size should be limited. *This can be an option at the next meeting, though the intention has been to allow the participants to form their groups and direct the discussion according to their needs.*

Suggestions for Staying Informed of Issues Affecting ESL/TESOL at Post-secondary Institutions:

- Read about issues in blogs & publications
- Discuss issues with colleagues - live or on social media
- Join organizations & advocate for your students
- Let SIG leader know of anything you'd like to share with SIG members & she will disseminate