

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

5th CCK

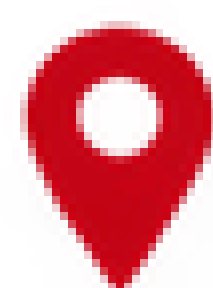
# TEFL KUWAIT

## FALL CONFERENCE 2026

***AI-Driven Innovation in ELT:***  
*Bridging Diverse Pedagogies  
for Digital Classrooms*



SUNDAY 18 OCTOBER 2026  
8:00 AM



CANADIAN COLLEGE OF KUWAIT  
Alnaseem, Block 3, South Jahra



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*CCK TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026*



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## مؤسسة الكويت للتقدم العلمي

Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences

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We gratefully acknowledge the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS) for its valued support of the CCK TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026.





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# **Board Members, SIG Chairs & Organizing Committee**

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# TEFL Kuwait Board Members

CCK TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026

| Board Members             |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| President                 | Ms. Rana Khan             |
| President-Elect           | Ms. Jinan Ghossainy       |
| Founding Director         | Ms. Alison Larkin Koushki |
| Founding Director         | Ms. Sandra Stein          |
| Membership Chair          | Ms. Shannon Parks         |
| Membership Chair-Elect    | Ms. Hafsa Omer            |
| Membership Co-Chair-Elect | Dr. Navodita Bhatt        |
| Conference Chair          | Ms. Oshin Danish          |
| Conference Chair-Elect    | Ms. Tasneem Dalal         |
| Conference Co-Chair-Elect | Dr. Reem Y. Alhajji       |
| Secretary                 | Ms. Iman Hamdan           |
| Newsletter Editor         | Ms. Tasneem Dalal         |
| Member At Large           | Ms. Laya Moghadam         |
| Member At Large           | Dr. Mansoor Ali Darazi    |
| Member At Large           | Ms. Selma AlQasri         |
| Member At Large           | Ms. Shoboo Maktoobi       |

| SIG Chairs                               |                        |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| ESP SIG                                  | Dr. Anastasia Khawaja  |
| NNEST SIG                                | Ms. Rana Khan          |
| REALL SIG                                | Ms. Tasneem Dalal      |
| Special Education SIG                    | Mr. Thomas Santo       |
| Neurolinguistics SIG                     | Ms. Anna Machura       |
| Language Learning with Generative AI SIG | Ms. Laya Moghadam      |
| ELT Through Films SIG                    | Mr. Fayyaz Malik       |
| Research in ELT SIG                      | Dr. Mansour Ali Darazi |

# Conference Organizing Committee

CCK TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026

|                              |                             |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Head of Organizing Committee | Dr. Amani Haji Hassan       |
| Head of Organizing Committee | Ms. Rana Khan (TEFL Kuwait) |
| Membership Chair             | Ms. Shannon Parks           |
| Membership Chair-Elect       | Ms. Hafsa Omer              |
| Conference Chair             | Ms. Oshin Danish            |
| Conference Co-Chair          | Ms. Reem Alenezi            |
| Conference Co-Chair          | Dr. Fahad Alenezi           |
| Conference Co-Chair          | Dr. Seyed Saatchi           |
| Conference Chair-Elect       | Ms. Tasneem Dalal           |
| Conference Co-Chair-Elect    | Dr. Reem Y. Alhajji         |
| Program Chair                | Mr. Roshdi Debeki           |
| Secretary                    | Ms. Iman Hamdan             |
| Volunteer Chair              | Ms. Selma AlQasri           |
| Facilities & Volunteer Chair | Ms. Anusha Shalwani         |
| IT & Facilities Chair        | Mr. Mohammed Rabee Obaid    |

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# **Welcome Messages**

# Message from the Guest of Honor

*CCK TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026*

## HE Sheikh Mohammed Ahmed Al-Sabah

*President, Artificial Intelligence of Things Association (AAIOT) – Kuwait*



“Artificial intelligence is transforming not only the way we work, but also the way we learn, teach and prepare future generations. Education must remain at the heart of this transformation. Technology should empower teachers, strengthen human potential and expand access to knowledge, while always being guided by responsibility, ethics and purpose.

The TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference is an important platform for educators, researchers and innovators to exchange ideas and explore how artificial intelligence can contribute to stronger, more inclusive and future-ready learning environments. I am pleased to support this dialogue and wish all participants a successful and inspiring conference.”

**Sheikh Mohammed Ahmed Al-Sabah**

**President**

**Artificial Intelligence of Things Association (AAIOT) – Kuwait**

# Message from the Chairman

*CCK TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026*



**Mr. Othman Ayman Boodai**

*Chairman, Canadian College of Kuwait*

It is my distinct pleasure to welcome you to the **CCK TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026**. Education is a cornerstone of national progress, and institutions have a responsibility to contribute to the advancement of knowledge and the development of future generations. At the Canadian College of Kuwait, we take pride in supporting initiatives that reflect our commitment to educational excellence and Kuwait's aspirations for a prosperous future. This conference highlights the important role of language education in connecting cultures, broadening opportunities, and strengthening understanding across communities. I extend my sincere appreciation to everyone who has contributed to this occasion. May this conference mark another meaningful achievement in CCK's continued journey of growth and distinction.

**Mr. Othman Ayman Boodai**  
**Chairman**  
**Canadian College of Kuwait**

# Message from the General Manager

*CCK TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026*

**Mr. Abdulrahman Alajeel**

*General Manager, Canadian College of Kuwait*



It is a pleasure to welcome all distinguished guests, speakers, and participants to the **CCK TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026**.

At the Canadian College of Kuwait, we believe that hosting distinguished academic events reflects our institutional values of professionalism, quality, and excellence. We are proud to provide an environment that supports meaningful educational gatherings while demonstrating our commitment to exceptional organizational standards.

I extend my sincere gratitude to our academic and administrative teams for their dedication and efforts in organizing this event, and to our guests for honoring us with their presence.

We look forward to providing a welcoming and memorable experience that reflects the spirit and values of CCK.

**Mr. Abdulrahman Alajeel**

**General Manager**

**Canadian College of Kuwait**

# Message from the Vice President for Academic Affairs

*CCK TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026*

## Dr. Amani Hasan

*Vice President for Academic Affairs, Canadian College of Kuwait*



It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the CCK TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026. This conference provides a valuable platform for educators, researchers, and professionals to come together, exchange knowledge, and explore innovative approaches that are shaping the future of English language teaching and learning.

As artificial intelligence continues to transform education, it is increasingly important that we embrace innovation while remaining focused on meaningful, inclusive, and student-centered learning. Through collaboration, professional dialogue, and the sharing of best practices, we can create learning environments that respond effectively to the evolving needs of our students and prepare them for an increasingly digital world.

I hope this conference inspires new ideas, strengthens professional connections, and encourages continued innovation in teaching and learning. I wish all our speakers, participants, and guests an engaging, enriching, and successful conference.

**Dr. Amani Ahmad Hajji Hasan, BSc, MBA, MOAR, DBA**

**Vice President for Academic Affairs**

**Canadian College of Kuwait**

# Message from a Special Guest

*CCK TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026*



## Prof. Khalid Al-Begain

*President, Kuwait College of Science and Technology*

Education transforms lives when knowledge is matched by inspiration. TEFL Kuwait celebrates the educators who tackle the challenges and make that transformation possible.

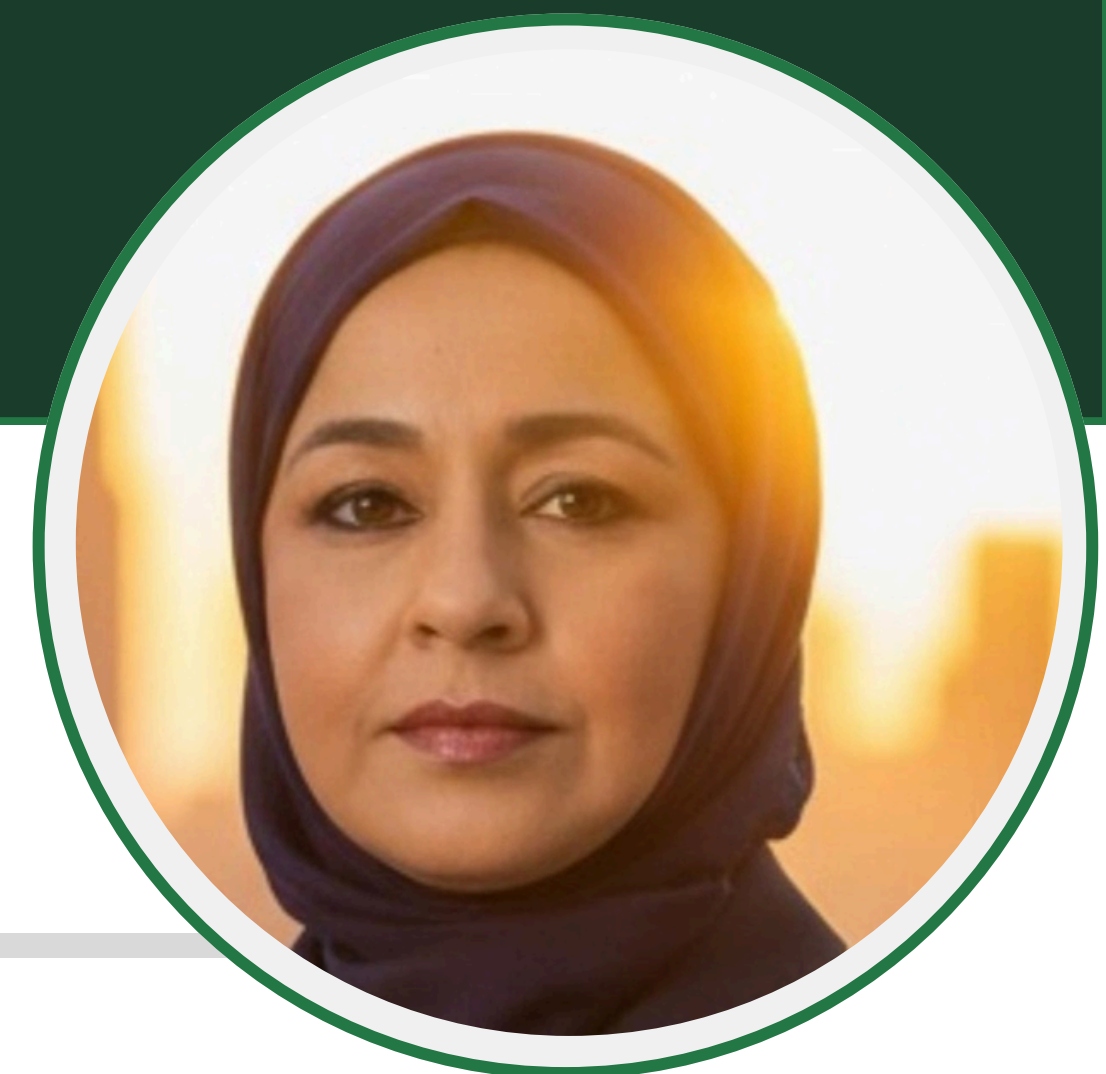
I am proud to patron the “Best Educator Award,” which honors those whose dedication, innovation, and leadership set new standards for learning. With CCK TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026, we will continue the tradition of building a community committed not simply to teaching, but to shaping confident learners and a better future.”

# Message from the President

*CCK TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026*

## Ms. Rana Khan

*President, TEFL Kuwait · Assistant Professor, Canadian College of Kuwait*



Dear Delegates, Colleagues, and Friends,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the CCK TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026 — a premier gathering of educators, researchers, teacher trainers, academics, and ELT professionals from Kuwait, the MENA region, and across the globe. This year's conference celebrates the power of collaboration, innovation, and professional learning within our ever-evolving profession.

We are especially honored to host an outstanding lineup of world-class keynote and featured speakers whose expertise, insights, and leadership continue to shape the future of our field. In addition to our plenary sessions, the conference offers a rich and diverse program of concurrent presentations, workshops, panel discussions, and interactive sessions showcasing innovative pedagogies, evidence-based practices, and research-informed approaches.

The TEFL Kuwait Annual Conference is more than a professional event. It is a vibrant platform where ideas are exchanged, partnerships are formed, and lasting connections are built. Whether you are a classroom teacher, researcher, administrator, or teacher educator, you will find valuable learning opportunities designed to inform, inspire, and empower your professional journey.

I encourage you to engage actively, participate in discussions, network with colleagues, and take full advantage of the enriching experiences this conference has to offer. On behalf of TEFL Kuwait, I extend my sincere appreciation to our conference partners, sponsors, presenters, volunteers, and organizing committee whose dedication and hard work have made this event possible.

**With warm regards,**

**Rana Khan**

**President, TEFL Kuwait**

# Welcome Messages

*CCK TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026*

## Ms. Sandra Stein

*Founding Director, TEFL Kuwait*



Welcome to the TEFL Kuwait 2026 Conference

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the TEFL Kuwait 2026 Conference!

Since its founding, TEFL Kuwait has grown into a vibrant professional community of 2,646 members, supported by nine Special Interest Groups (SIGs) that provide opportunities for educators to connect, share expertise, and explore areas of professional interest. While our roots are in English language teaching, our community and this conference extend beyond TEFL/TESOL, welcoming educators, researchers, trainers, academic leaders, and other professionals from across education.

I encourage you to make the most of the conference by engaging fully with the sessions, presentations, discussions, and activities. Ask questions, exchange ideas, meet new colleagues, and share your own knowledge and experiences. The greatest value of a professional conference often comes from what we learn both with and from one another.

I am truly excited about the opportunities TEFL Kuwait 2026 offers for professional learning, networking, and collaboration. May you leave the conference with new ideas, meaningful connections, and renewed inspiration to make a difference in education.

Sandra Stein  
Founding Director, TEFL Kuwait

## Ms. Alison Larkin Koushki

*Founding Director, TEFL Kuwait*



Dear colleagues,

It was January 2020. At American University of Kuwait, we were instructed to pick up masks at the nurses' office. The first few Covid cases had been reported. We thought nothing of it.

Rana, Sandy, and I called ourselves "The Three Musketeers" and we had an idea: TEFL Kuwait, a professional organization for educators in the small Gulf country we called home. We three envisioned a local membership of 50-100, planning our launch to take place early in 2020. I went to AUK Room Reservations in person to reserve a venue on campus for 50 attendees. Breakfast would be served: we put We were thrilled to announce the breakfast event launch of TEFL Kuwait to local educators.

Next thing we knew came a puzzling message from Room Reservations: "Your room reservation has been canceled due to the campus wide closure."

Well, we would just have to launch online until things went back to normal shortly. Much to our surprise, our invitation to the online launch somehow reached hundreds of educators, and requests to join TEFL Kuwait poured in from the four corners of the earth! Rana, Sandy, and I came to two important conclusions as we welcomed educators from Asia, Africa, the Americas, Europe, Australia, and beyond:

- All educators are welcome.
- All events will remain free of charge.

Now 2026, TEFL Kuwait is six years out from those earliest inklings, and 2,500 members strong, fifty times beyond our wildest dreams!

Thank you, everyone. May the best be yet to be!

Peace and light,  
Alison Larkin Koushki  
Founding Director, TEFL Kuwait

# Welcome Messages

*CCK TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026*

## Ms. Jinan Ghossainy

*President-Elect, TEFL Kuwait*



Welcome to the TEFL Conference Program. It is a privilege to bring together a dynamic community of educators, researchers, and practitioners united by a shared commitment to advancing the field of English language teaching and to shaping meaningful learning experiences in an ever-changing global context, particularly in the age of artificial intelligence.

This conference offers a space for dialogue, reflection, and innovation, and its theme reflects the transformative potential of AI to enhance pedagogy, personalize learning, and create more inclusive and responsive digital classrooms. As we navigate the intersection of technology and education, your contributions play a vital role in shaping how innovation can meaningfully support diverse teaching practices and learner needs across different contexts.

We warmly welcome all presenters and attendees whose insights, research, and experiences enrich this conference. Through your sessions and discussions, you are not only sharing knowledge but also building bridges between traditional and emerging approaches to ELT. This exchange of ideas is essential in fostering critical reflection, intellectual exchange, and forward-thinking solutions.

We warmly welcome all presenters and participants and encourage you to engage fully, connect with fellow participants, and explore new perspectives that will inspire your practice. Together, let us shape the future of English language teaching through innovation, collaboration, and a shared vision.

Warm regards,  
Jinan Ghossainy  
President-Elect, TEFL Kuwait

## Ms. Oshin Danish

*Conference Chair, TEFL Kuwait*



Dear all, greetings from Saudi Arabia!

On behalf of TEFL Kuwait, I am honored and delighted to welcome you to TEFL Kuwait's Spring Conference 2026 – "AI-Driven Innovation in ELT: Bridging Diverse Pedagogies for Digital Classrooms"

We are delighted to have you with us, yet again enlightening us with your presence.

At this year's conference, we look forward to hearing your views on AI-driven innovation and your perspective on digital classrooms and ELT. We are glad that our annual in-person conference is here to provide us with a plethora of knowledge, encouraging us to think outside the box. Addressing challenges and finding solutions – as educators and lifelong learners. Your interests, presence, and participation mean we're one step closer. It has been a pleasure to be given the opportunity by Madam President – Ms. Rana- to be a part of the TEFL Kuwait Committee and serve as the Conference Chair.

As proud partners of IATEFL, we at TEFL Kuwait welcome you.

Best wishes,  
Oshin Danish  
Conference Chair, TEFL Kuwait

# Welcome Messages

*CCK TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026*

## Ms. Reem Talab Alenezi

*Conference Chair, TEFL Kuwait · English Teacher, Ministry of Education, Kuwait*



On behalf of TEFL Kuwait, I am honored and delighted to welcome you to TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026 – “AI-Driven Innovation in ELT: Bridging Diverse Pedagogies for Digital Classrooms.”

We are delighted to have you with us and to share this special experience together. At this year’s conference, we look forward to exploring the role of AI in English Language Teaching and discussing the opportunities and challenges it brings to our digital classrooms. We are glad that our annual conference gives us the opportunity to learn from one another, share ideas, and think outside the box. As educators and lifelong learners, we continue to learn, grow, and find new ways to improve teaching and learning. Your presence, interest, and participation make this conference even more meaningful.

It has been an honor to be part of the TEFL Kuwait Committee and to serve as the Conference Chair. I am truly grateful to Ms. Rana and the TEFL Kuwait Board for their trust and support.

Best wishes,  
Reem Talab Alenezi  
Conference Chair, TEFL Kuwait

## Ms. Tasneem Dalal

*Conference Chair-Elect, TEFL Kuwait*



Dear TEFL Kuwait Community,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the TEFL Kuwait Fall International Conference 2026, “AI-Driven Innovation in ELT: Bridging Diverse Pedagogies for Digital Classrooms.”

As the newly elected Conference Chair Elect, I am honored to serve TEFL Kuwait and support another year of professional growth and collaboration. I also thank Oshin Danish, our previous Conference Chair, for her dedication and leadership.

This year’s theme encourages us to examine both the opportunities and challenges Artificial Intelligence presents in ELT, and to consider how technology can enhance our varied teaching methods. I hope the conference inspires meaningful discussions, practical solutions, and valuable connections among educators.

Thank you for being part of the TEFL Kuwait community. Your engagement and shared experiences make our conferences valuable and rewarding.

I look forward to welcoming you and sharing a memorable day of learning and collaboration.

Warm regards,  
Tasneem Dalal  
Conference Chair-Elect, TEFL Kuwait

# Welcome Messages

*CCK TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026*

## Dr. Reem Hajji

*Secretary, TEFL Kuwait*



It is a great pleasure to welcome you to the TEFL Kuwait Conference. We are delighted to have educators, researchers, teachers, and professionals from different backgrounds come together to share ideas, experiences, and perspectives on English language teaching and learning.

We hope this conference will provide you with an inspiring and enriching experience, offering opportunities to explore innovative practices, engage with current research, and reflect on the challenges and possibilities within our field. We encourage you to take an active part in the sessions, presentations, workshops, and other activities, and to make the most of the conversations and discussions that take place throughout the conference.

Beyond the academic program, we hope you will enjoy the opportunity to connect with fellow professionals, exchange experiences, and build new networks and collaborations. Conferences are not only about sharing knowledge but also about creating lasting connections and inspiring one another.

Thank you for being part of TEFL Kuwait. We warmly welcome you and look forward to an engaging, productive, and memorable conference together.

Dr. Reem Haji  
Secretary, TEFL Kuwait

## Dr. Fahad Alenezi

*Conference Co-Chair, TEFL Kuwait · Canadian College of Kuwait*



It is our great pleasure to warmly welcome you to our upcoming TEFL Kuwait conference- fall 2026. We are delighted to bring together educators, researchers, professionals, and distinguished guests to share knowledge, exchange ideas, and explore new perspectives in teaching and learning.

This conference provides a valuable opportunity to connect with colleagues from diverse academic and professional backgrounds, build meaningful networks, and learn from one another's experiences. We believe that such gatherings play an important role in encouraging collaboration, inspiring innovation, and strengthening our professional community.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to our partners, colleagues, speakers, and organizing team for their invaluable support and dedication in making this conference possible. Their commitment and teamwork have been essential to the success of this event.

We hope you find the conference both enriching and inspiring, and we wish you an enjoyable and rewarding experience. We are truly honored to have you with us and look forward to a successful and memorable conference together.

With warm regards,  
Dr. Fahad Alenezi  
Conference Co-Chair, TEFL Kuwait | Canadian College of Kuwait

# Welcome Messages

*CCK TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026*

## Dr. Seyed Ghasem Saatchi

*Conference Co-Chair, TEFL Kuwait*



It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the TEFL Kuwait Conference 2026, taking place on 18 October 2026. As Conference Co-Chair, I am delighted to be part of an event that brings together educators, researchers, and language professionals who share a common passion for English language teaching and learning.

This conference offers a valuable opportunity to explore innovative ideas, exchange experiences, and engage in meaningful discussions about the evolving landscape of English language education. Whether you are presenting your work, attending sessions, or connecting with colleagues, I encourage you to make the most of every opportunity the conference provides.

One of the greatest strengths of the TEFL Kuwait community is its spirit of collaboration. The conversations we have, the insights we share, and the connections we build can inspire new approaches and professional growth long after the conference concludes.

I look forward to welcoming you in person and learning from the diverse perspectives and expertise that each participant brings. Together, let us celebrate our profession, strengthen our network, and contribute to the ongoing development of language education.

Dr. Seyed Ghasem Saatchi  
Conference Co-Chair, TEFL Kuwait

## Ms. Shannon Parks

*Membership Chair, TEFL Kuwait*



It is a real pleasure to welcome you to the TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026. It's wonderful to see educators and professionals coming together once again to learn from one another, exchange ideas, and make new connections.

This year's conference gives us plenty to think about, particularly as AI continues to find its way into our classrooms and change how we approach teaching and learning. I hope you will make the most of the day by joining the sessions and discussions, asking questions, sharing your own experiences, and perhaps picking up an idea or two to take back to your classroom.

For me, one of the best parts of a TEFL Kuwait conference is the opportunity to meet people. I encourage you to introduce yourself to someone new, reconnect with colleagues, and enjoy the conversations that happen between sessions as much as the sessions themselves.

Thank you for joining us and for being part of the TEFL Kuwait community. I hope you have an enjoyable and worthwhile day.

Warmly,  
Shannon Parks  
Membership Chair, TEFL Kuwait

# Welcome Messages

*CCK TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026*

## Ms. Anoosha Juma

*Membership Chair-Elect, TEFL Kuwait*



We extend a warm welcome to all attendees at the TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2026 hosted at CCK. I am Anoosha Juma, the newly appointed Membership Chair Elect, and we are genuinely thrilled to have you with us. The conference sessions focus on AI-Driven Innovation in ELT: Bridging Diverse Pedagogies for Digital Classrooms. I am confident that this conference will enrich your learning experience and provide you with a fresh perspective on in-classroom instruction, ultimately elevating the quality of teaching practice. On behalf of TEFL, I am available to address any inquiries you may have regarding your professional development requirements. We hope you find the sessions valuable and engaging.

Anoosha Juma  
Founding Director, TEFL Kuwait

## Ms. Iman Hamdan

*Secretary, TEFL Kuwait*



"A very warm welcome to everyone joining us at the TEFL Kuwait Conference!

I'm so happy to be part of a gathering that brings educators together to learn, share, and connect. Conferences like this remind us how much we can gain from simply being in the same space, exchanging classroom experiences, listening to different perspectives, and learning from one another.

As you take part in the sessions, presentations, and activities, I encourage you to ask questions, join the conversations, and get to know the educators around you.

I'm especially looking forward to meeting fellow educators, hearing what is happening in different classrooms, and sharing the experiences that make our profession so meaningful.  
I hope you enjoy every moment, make new connections, and leave with ideas you are excited to try.

Welcome, and have a wonderful conference!

Iman Hamdan  
Secretary, TEFL Kuwait



# About TEFL KUWAIT



# About TEFL Kuwait

*An IATEFL Associate Organization*

TEFL Kuwait, an IATEFL associate, is a non-profit organization of teachers of English as a foreign language. TEFL Kuwait continuously strives to improve the teaching and learning of English in Kuwait and the region. In addition to providing expertise, resources, and a voice on issues related to English language teaching, it is a professional community committed to advancing the profession through collaboration, cutting-edge research, and peer-to-peer knowledge exchange.

## Mission Statement & Objectives

- Work cooperatively towards improving instruction in all programs seeking to provide learners with English language skills and proficiency
- Provide opportunities for study and research
- Encourage professional development, participation, and leadership at local, national, and international levels
- Promote intercultural understanding and effective cross-cultural communication
- Cooperate with other groups having similar concerns

## Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

- |                                                                 |                                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| ● ELT Through Films                                             | ● English for Specific Purposes (ESP)  |
| ● NNEST — Non-Native English Speakers in TESOL                  | ● Special Education                    |
| ● REALL — Reading English Actively for Language and Life Skills | ● Neurolinguistics                     |
| ● Research and Publishing in ELT                                | ● Language Learning with Generative AI |

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# Keynote Speakers

# Keynote Speaker

10:00 AM – 10:45 AM | Reception Lobby



## Dr. Stavros P. Hadjisolomou

Associate Professor of Psychology · Accreditation Liaison Officer  
American University of Kuwait, Kuwait

Email: [shadjisolomou@auk.edu.kw](mailto:shadjisolomou@auk.edu.kw)

10:00 AM – 10:45 AM | Reception Lobby

## “Teaching Language in the Age of Agentic AI”

### Abstract

In any course where homework and tests are online, whether the class meets in person or not, an emerging AI tool can sign in, read the materials, write the assignments, and submit them for grading, without a student touching the keyboard. This is agentic AI, already at work on the reading and writing tasks language teachers rely on. Every assignment an agent completes tests the test itself: if a tool with no language learner behind it can pass, what was the task measuring? The answer is uncomfortable, and it is older than generative AI: many of our assessments measure task completion rather than the communicative competence we claim to assess. Language teachers across Kuwait and the Gulf still have to uphold the academic standards set by Ministries and accreditors. The familiar fix, detection software, cannot do that job. This keynote answers with design principles that reach from everyday classroom tasks to formal assessment. Most of all, it argues that the future classroom belongs to teachers who design for learning. Design, do not detect.

### Speaker Biography

Dr. Stavros Hadjisolomou is an Associate Professor of Psychology at American University of Kuwait, where his research on AI browser agents that autonomously complete learning management system tasks has been featured in Forbes (October 2025) and The Verge (November 2025). His work examines how agentic AI is reshaping the validity of academic assessment. He has presented this research at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Delaware State University's 2026 Virtual Assessment Summit, and the AALHE 2026 Conference. Dr. Hadjisolomou founded AUK's AI Community of Practice in 2024 and is an OpenAI Faculty Champion and Perplexity AI Business Fellow. In 2026 he was elected to the leadership team of the AI in Education Special Interest Group of the POD Network, the professional association for educational developers. He serves on the AMICAL-UNESCO AI Charters Project working group and co-designed one of the region's few mandatory undergraduate courses integrating AI with information literacy; his training frameworks have been adopted by multiple institutions. He also builds AI tools for accreditation work as AUK's Accreditation Liaison Officer to the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

# Keynote Speaker

2:00 PM – 2:45 PM | Reception Lobby



## Dr. Zainab AlMeraj

Associate Professor & Director of Graduate Programs  
Information Science Department, Kuwait University

Email: [z.almeraj@ku.edu.kw](mailto:z.almeraj@ku.edu.kw)

2:00 PM – 2:45 PM | Reception Lobby

## “ Ethics and Digital Assessments in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: Challenges and Solutions”

### Abstract

Digital tools can give English language learners more practice and faster feedback, yet they can also misread what a learner knows. In this keynote, Dr. Zainab AlMeraj examines digital language assessment through fairness, transparency, privacy, and accessibility. An illustrative speaking task shows how automated transcription and feedback can support learning while overlooking intelligibility, interaction, or learner context. The talk offers five questions teachers and assessment teams can use to align tools with language outcomes, protect learner data, and keep human judgment central.

### Speaker Biography

Dr. Zainab AlMeraj is an associate professor at Kuwait University, an internationally certified usability and accessibility professional, researcher, and tech community lead working on building knowledge and skills for a more inclusive world. Much of her research and work involves gathering data in the MENA region to support spreading awareness, knowledge, and policy adoption to make tech more usable and accessible for all as well as enhance mindsets. She received her M.Sc. & Ph.D. from the University of Victoria, BC & University of Waterloo, ON, Canada, consecutively.

# Keynote Speaker

4:15 PM – 5:00 PM | Reception Lobby



## Dr. Okon Effiong

Assistant Professor (Adjunct) · Lusail University, Qatar  
President, TESOL International Association, USA

Email: prinze40@hotmail.com

4:15 PM – 5:00 PM | Reception Lobby

### “TESOL Research: Professional Learning, Technology, Ethics, and Context”

#### Abstract

This session explores evolving research directions in TESOL, highlighting educators’ innovative engagement with inquiry. It examines how transformative and disruptive technologies intersect with language education, while addressing ethical and contextual challenges. Participants will gain insights into balancing innovation with responsibility in shaping the future of language teaching and research.

#### Speaker Biography

Dr Okon Effiong is an English lecturer in the Foundation Program, Qatar University. He is the President of TESOL International Association (2026-2027), and the Founder of Africa English Language Teachers Association. He is also the winner of British Council ELTons Outstanding Achievement Award (2024). Okon has held several leadership positions in different Language Teachers Associations and given numerous international presentations.

His publications Cultivating positive reading attitudes with Grade 8 (Routledge, 2024), Global Efforts in Advocacy for English Language Teaching and Learning: Conclusions and Futures(Michigan Publishing, 2024), When visible minorities lead visible majorities (Macmillan, 2023), Continuing professional development in the Foundation Program at a national university in the State of Qatar (Springer, 2023). He is the lead editor of Hybrid Learning in English Language Teaching: Motivation, Challenges and Opportunities (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2024), and co-editor of Decentering Advocacy in ELT: Emic perspectives and local practices (Michigan Publishing, 2024), and The role of language teacher associations in professional development(Springer, 2018).

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# **Featured Speakers**

# Featured Session

12:45 PM – 1:15 PM | Room C-003



Dr. Rita W. El-Haddad

Assistant Professor of Psychology  
American University of Kuwait

Email: relhaddad@auk.edu.kw



Dr. Stavros P. Hadjisolomou

Associate Professor of Psychology  
American University of Kuwait

Email: shadjisolomou@auk.edu.kw

## “A Proven Pedagogy-First Framework for Building GenAI Faculty Capacity”

### Abstract

How can institutions systematically build faculty GenAI capacity without sacrificing pedagogical principles? This presentation shares a six-step framework developed and refined through eight professional development workshops at the American University of Kuwait, demonstrating how a “pedagogy first, technology second” approach transforms fragmented AI adoption into coordinated institutional capacity building.

The framework addresses a common challenge: faculty interest in GenAI often outpaces structured support, leading to isolated experiments rather than sustainable integration. Our approach, informed by pre-workshop needs assessments and post-workshop evaluation data collected across all eight sessions, begins with cultivating collective will through voluntary participation, then establishes a clear guiding principle: that teaching challenges should drive technology choices, not the reverse, before any tool introduction. Baseline assessments identify specific faculty needs, informing workshop design that prioritizes hands-on practice over passive instruction. Results from our workshop evaluations demonstrate the framework’s effectiveness. When we shifted our workshop delivery from lecture format to hands-on computer lab sessions, the percentage of faculty who subsequently applied what they learned in their own courses increased from 20% to 72%. Across all workshops, 94-100% of participants reported positive experiences, with 97.5% confirming learning objectives were met and planning to implement what they learned.

Attendees will learn how each framework step addresses specific professional development challenges, and will receive access to accompanying Creative Commons-licensed materials including workshop booklets, surveys, and evaluation instruments.

This initiative aligns with AMICAL’s focus on campus-level AI programs by offering a transferable model that respects institutional contexts while providing concrete implementation pathways. Whether launching new GenAI professional development or strengthening existing efforts, attendees will leave with strategic understanding and ready-to-adapt resources for their own campuses.

### Speaker Biographies

**Dr. Rita El-Haddad** is an Associate Professor of Psychology at the American University of Kuwait. She earned her B.S. in Biology from the American University of Beirut, her M.A in Experimental Psychology from Brooklyn College, and her M.Phil., and Ph.D. in Psychology from the Graduate Center, City University of New York. She conducts research on social psychology, learning in university students, and neurodevelopmental disabilities."

**Dr. Stavros Hadjisolomou** is an Associate Professor of Psychology at American University of Kuwait, where his research on AI browser agents that autonomously complete learning management system tasks has been featured in Forbes (October 2025) and The Verge (November 2025). His work examines how agentic AI is reshaping the validity of academic assessment. He has presented this research at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Delaware State University's 2026 Virtual Assessment Summit, and the AALHE 2026 Conference. Dr. Hadjisolomou founded AUK's AI Community of Practice in 2024 and is an OpenAI Faculty Champion and Perplexity AI Business Fellow. In 2026 he was elected to the leadership team of the AI in Education Special Interest Group of the POD Network, the professional association for educational developers. He serves on the AMICAL-UNESCO AI Charters Project working group and co-designed one of the region's few mandatory undergraduate courses integrating AI with information literacy; his training frameworks have been adopted by multiple institutions. He also builds AI tools for accreditation work as AUK's Accreditation Liaison Officer to the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

# Featured Speaker

12:45 PM – 1:15 PM | Room C-002



## Dr. Plamen Kushkiev

EdD Professor, EAP and Adult Education Centennial College Seneca Polytechnic  
Toronto, Canada

Email: [pkushkiev@gmail.com](mailto:pkushkiev@gmail.com)

12:45 PM – 1:15 PM | Room C-002

## Teaching with Heart, Planning with AI: Humanizing ELT Practices

### Abstract

In an era where generative AI (GenAI) increasingly shapes language teaching and learning, fostering human-centred ELT is both a challenge and an opportunity. This session explores how purposefully nurturing critical AI literacy and ethically integrating GenAI technologies can enhance teaching without compromising the empathy, creativity, and relational skills that define human-centred pedagogies. Participants will engage with practical strategies for integrating ChatGPT into lesson planning, assessment, and classroom interactions in ways that promote ethical, inclusive, and engaging learning experiences. Through reflective practice and examples from AI-enhanced teaching and research data, this session highlights how educators can harness technology to amplify—not replace—the human qualities at the heart of language education today.

### Speaker Biography

Plamen Kushkiev, EdD, is a Canadian college professor, researcher, and SoTL Scholar Award recipient (2024). Plamen has a doctorate in higher education from the University of Sheffield, UK, and is currently a professor of English for academic purposes and adult education in Toronto, Canada. Dr. Kushkiev’s research has explored the affordances of GenAI chatbots to enhance teaching performance and learner engagement through critical AI literacy lenses. He regularly presents at international ELT conferences and has been invited as a featured speaker in Canada, Kuwait, Peru, Taiwan, and the USA on topics around ELT teacher identity, Gen AI in education, and professional development.

# Featured Speaker

12:45 PM – 1:15 PM | Room C-001



## Dr. Christopher Hastings

Assistant Professor of English  
AlFaisal University, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Email: christopherhastings@gmail.com

12:45 PM – 1:15 PM | Room C-001

### Beyond the Expert Role: Embracing AI as Co-Learners in Multilingual Contexts

#### Abstract

This session explores how teachers who embrace their role as learners in multilingual contexts, such as the Gulf, can use AI meaningfully in language classrooms. Technology can support reciprocal learning, allowing teachers and students to share strategies, negotiate identities, and increase motivation through authentic multilingual practice.

In rededicating myself to Arabic language learning and returning to the Arabian Peninsula, I have been reminded of the challenges, frustrations, and triumphs that make up the language learning process. This experience has changed how I see myself as a teacher. Instead of seeing myself only as an English language teacher, I am a learner alongside my students, which has reshaped my view of technology in the classroom.

This session is about what happens when we stop pretending to have the answers and start admitting we are learners too. I want to share how AI can actually make our teaching more human, not less. When I share my latest Arabic mistake or issues with my students, or when we edit an AI-generated text together and figure out what works and what does not, AI becomes a tool for exploration we are navigating together, rather than another piece of technology I am supposed to have mastered before showing them.

We will look at practical examples, such as co-writing with AI, where students teach me about Arabic rhetorical patterns, reflective journals, and pronunciation. I will also ask you to think about your own language learning—whether you are studying Arabic, maintaining a heritage language, or developing your English—and how that experience might change what you do in class. When we approach AI as learners alongside our students and allow ourselves to be vulnerable and curious in front of our learners, technology can deepen the human connections that make language teaching meaningful.

#### Speaker Biography

Dr. Christopher Hastings is Assistant Professor of English at AlFaisal University in Riyadh. He has spent over two decades teaching and training English teachers across the globe, with posts in Colombia, Brazil, South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Russia, and China. A former U.S. State Department Regional English Language Officer, he brings extensive experience in intercultural education and curriculum development. His research explores the intersection of multilingual education, motivation in language learning, and the integration of technology in language instruction, contributing to AlFaisal University’s mission and supporting Saudi Vision 2030’s goals of educational excellence and technological innovation.

# Featured Speaker

3:45 PM – 4:15 PM | Room C-001



## Dr. Wafa Zoghbor

Associate Professor, Center for Educational Innovation  
Zayed University, Abu Dhabi, UAE

Email: [Wafa.Zoghbor@zu.ac.ae](mailto:Wafa.Zoghbor@zu.ac.ae)

3:45 PM – 4:15 PM | Room C-001

### “Bridging Cultures: Supporting International Faculty Teaching Writing in the UAE”

#### Abstract

This presentation is based on a research project that explores the cultural challenges faced by international faculty members teaching academic writing to Gulf learners at a higher education institution in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Through semi-structured interviews with six faculty members from diverse backgrounds, the study focused on their lived experiences, adaptation strategies, and support needs as they navigate the complexities of teaching in a culturally rich and unique context. The findings highlight the importance of cultural awareness and sensitivity when engaging Gulf students in academic writing. Faculty members noted the frequent use of Arabic words and translanguaging practices, emphasizing the need to embrace students’ linguistic backgrounds as a resource rather than a barrier. Experiential approaches emerged as valuable, enabling students to connect new knowledge with their personal and cultural experiences.

Interviewees identified several challenges, including differences in classroom behavior, varying degrees of student engagement, and the need to address culturally sensitive topics such as family values, religion, and country history. Understanding student identity and the influence of family and societal norms was seen as crucial to fostering meaningful learning experiences. While some faculty found it difficult to fully accommodate cultural differences, most viewed these challenges as opportunities for professional and personal growth. The study concludes with recommendations for institutions to provide ongoing cultural orientation, practical classroom support, and resources to help international educators thrive in the Gulf context.

By addressing these needs, higher education institutions can better support international faculty and, in turn, enhance the academic writing skills and overall educational experience of Gulf students. This research was developed and conducted by the orientation committee of a language studies department with the aim of enhancing orientation practices and addressing the cultural challenges that new international hires might encounter.

#### Speaker Biography

Dr. Zoghbor is an Associate Professor of Applied Linguistics with expertise in faculty mentoring, academic development, and research innovation. She is an accredited international trainer in strategic planning, a Senior Fellow, and a certified facilitator of Quality Matters in higher education. She is currently based at the Center for Educational Innovation at Zayed University. She supports faculty members on topics such as qualitative research analysis, the use of artificial intelligence in research and scholarship, interactive teaching, accreditation, and quality assurance. She is the Editor-in-Chief of Learning and Teaching in Higher Education: Gulf Perspectives. She has also held administrative positions, including Assistant Dean for Research and Outreach at Zayed University’s University College, and Advisor to the Provost for Faculty Professional Development and Special Initiatives, where she promoted professional growth among academic staff.

# Featured Speaker

3:45 PM – 4:15 PM | Room C-002



## Dr. Fajer Bin Rashed

Assistant Professor  
Australian University, Kuwait

Email: [f.binrashed@au.edu.kw](mailto:f.binrashed@au.edu.kw)

3:45 PM – 4:15 PM | Room C-002

### Incorporating Social and Emotional Learning in Higher Education Classes

#### Abstract

Ever since the first seed was planted by the Collaborative for Academic and Social Emotional Learning (CASEL) in 1994, the Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) framework has been widely cultivated in select regions, while remaining largely absent in tertiary education contexts and in many countries (CASEL, 2016). The SEL framework consists of five competencies: self-awareness, self-regulation, social awareness, relationship management, and responsible decision-making. As thus, the framework has attracted international attention, supporting both children and adults in developing healthy identities, managing emotions, cultivating empathy, maintaining interpersonal connections, and making responsible decisions (CASEL, 2016; also see Bin Rashed & Mahmoud, 2023; Herrera, 2024; Williams & Jagers, 2022). In my view, the framework’s growth is fundamentally ascribed to its dual role in fostering positive learning environments and promoting academic achievement. In fact, the need for SEL in education continues beyond high school. This is because higher education is typically demanding, with new roles and greater pressure, adding to students’ stress-related challenges (see Chen, 2024; Elmi, 2020; Pérez-Jorge et al., 2025; Zhang et al., 2025b). Yet, while proven socially, emotionally and academically effective, there is a notable regional and international gap in research examining the role of SEL in supporting learners within the context of higher education. Grounded in CASEL’s three SEL signature practices: inclusive welcome, interactive strategies, and intentional close, this talk will illustrate how SEL can be effectively implemented in higher education classes and will offer a curated set of activities to encourage attendees to integrate them into their teaching.

#### Speaker Biography

Dr. Fajer Bin Rashed is an Assistant Professor at the Australian University in Kuwait. She holds a PhD in Language and Literacy Studies and has teaching experience at the tertiary level in the GCC region since 2007. Her previous teaching posts include Gulf University for Science and Technology and Arab Open University in Kuwait and United Arab Emirates University in the UAE. She is a published researcher, an associate editor, and an active reviewer for multi- and interdisciplinary peer-reviewed journals including Review of Education and Springer Nature. Her research interests include (early) literacy education, multilingualism, multiculturalism, and Social Emotional Learning (SEL) in education.

# Featured Speaker

3:45 PM – 4:15 PM | Room C-003



## Dr. Kay Gallagher

Professor and Acting Dean  
Emirates College for Advanced Education, UAE

Email: [Kay.gallagher@ecae.ac.ae](mailto:Kay.gallagher@ecae.ac.ae)

3:45 PM – 4:15 PM | Room C-003

## The Big Tent of World Englishes in the Gulf Arab States

### Abstract

English in the multilingual Gulf Arab states is a foreign language for many, a second language for others, a first language for some, and, increasingly, a common lingua franca for all. Many different varieties of English are used across this region, where Arabic is the official language, influenced by history, politics, and economics. Research into World Englishes in the Gulf today is wide-ranging and encompasses language-focused studies, sociolinguistic studies, and, in particular, English-medium education studies. It is indeed a big tent with plenty of space for all. This presentation provides an overview of this rapidly growing body of research and suggests ways in which awareness of World Englishes and Global English can enhance your classroom teaching.

### Speaker Biography

Kay Gallagher is a Professor in Language Teacher Education in the Division of Language, Cognition, and Growth at Emirates College for Advanced Education in Abu Dhabi, where she teaches and conducts research in teacher education and language-in-education, with a focus on English-medium education, bilingual and multilingual education, and translanguaging. Kay has led and taught undergraduate and graduate teacher education programs in the UAE, Hong Kong, and Ireland, where she was a teacher and school principal. Previously, she led the English language-intensive Academic Bridge program at Zayed University in Abu Dhabi, and she has been Chair, Head, Associate Dean, and Acting Dean in Colleges of Education across the UAE. Her latest edited book, *World Englishes in the Arab Gulf States* (Routledge, 2025), explores the diversity of English used across the Lower Gulf and examines its multiple roles, facets, and relationships to other languages, especially Arabic.

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# **Featured Pannel Discussion**

# Featured Panel Discussion

10:45 AM – 11:30 AM | Reception Lobby

## Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Academic Research: Opportunities, Challenges and Beyond

### Abstract

This panel explores the transformative role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in reshaping academic research. As AI continues to influence all stages of the research process, from idea generation and proposal development to data analysis and publication, it presents both significant opportunities and critical challenges.

The session will examine how AI can support researchers at different stages of their journey, enhance qualitative and quantitative research methods, and improve academic productivity. At the same time, it will address important considerations related to ethics, originality, and the role of human judgment in research.

Structured around four key themes, the panel brings together experts from diverse fields, including management, data science, artificial intelligence, and digital learning. The discussion aims to provide practical insights, critical reflections, and future perspectives on the responsible and effective use of AI in academic research.

### Moderator



**Dr. Shaikha Alainati**  
Head, Management Department  
College of Business Studies, PAAET, Kuwait  
Email: sj.alainati@paaet.edu.kw

### PANELIST



**Dr. Ahmad Al-Hunaiyyan**  
Asst. Director General for Digital  
Transformation & Governance  
PAAET, Kuwait  
Email: aalsaber@auk.edu.kw

### PANELIST



**Dr. Ahmad AlSaber**  
Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness  
American University of Kuwait  
Email: aa.alhunaiyyan@paaet.edu.kw

### PANELIST



**Dr. Ali Alfayly**  
Asst. Professor, Dept. of Computing | Board Member,  
ARIOT  
PAAET, Kuwait  
Email: ali.alfayly@paaet.edu.kw

### PANELIST



**Dr. Anwar AlKandari**  
Head of Business Management School  
Kuwait Technical College, Kuwait  
Email: a.alkandari@ktech.edu.kw

# Featured Panel Speaker Bios

10:45 AM – 11:30 AM | Reception Lobby

## Moderator



**Dr. Shaikha Alainati**

Head, Management Department  
College of Business Studies, PAAET, Kuwait

**Bio**

Associate Professor and Head of the Management Department at the College of Business Studies, Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (PAAET), holds a PhD in Human Resource Management from Brunel University, UK. With over 20 years of academic and professional experience, she has published more than 25 journal articles in HRM, management, AI applications, education, training, and SMEs, and has presented at numerous conferences, earning multiple awards. Her current focus includes curriculum development, departmental leadership, research, publications, and teaching, with a strong advocacy for outcome-based education.

## Panelist



**Dr. Ahmad Al-Hunaiyyan**

Asst. Director General for Digital Transformation & Governance  
PAAET, Kuwait

**Bio**

The Deputy Director for Applied Education and Research at the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (PAAET), Kuwait, with a Ph.D. in Multimedia Interface Design from the University of Hertfordshire, UK. With over two decades of experience in higher education, research, and academic leadership, he has held roles including Dean of the College of Business Studies and faculty positions at institutions in Kuwait, the UAE, the USA, Bahrain, and the UK. In addition, Dr. Al-Hunaiyyan is one of the establishers of Abdullah Al Salem University in Kuwait. His research focuses on human-computer interaction, user experience design, e-learning systems, and the ethical and cultural dimensions of technology adoption. Widely published in peer-reviewed journals and conference proceedings, Dr. Al-Hunaiyyan has made significant contributions to digital learning environments and interface design in the region and is an active collaborator with academic and governmental bodies to advance applied education and digital innovation.

# Featured Panel Speaker Bios

10:45 AM – 11:30 AM | Reception Lobby

## Panelist



**Dr. Ahmad AlSaber**  
Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness  
American University of Kuwait

**Bio**  
Self-motivated Statistician with exceptional quantitative analysis skills. Known for strengths in assessing data reliability and creating meaningful reports. Highly skilled in technical writing and documentation. Knowledgeable Statistician with 15 years of progressive experience analyzing data in my organization settings. Adept in conducting sampling and validation using Good Clinical Practices. Offering broad understanding of statistical concepts and models with expertise in SPSS, R, STATA and Python. Organized and dependable candidate successful at managing multiple priorities with a positive attitude. Willingness to take on added responsibilities to meet team goals.

## Panelist



**Dr. Ali Alfayly**  
Asst. Professor, Dept. of Computing | Board Member, ARIOT  
PAAET, Kuwait

**Bio**  
An Assistant Professor at PAAET, Kuwait, specializing in AI, cybersecurity, and explainable AI. He is an active IEEE leader and researcher focusing on human-centered AI, AI governance, and intelligent systems, with contributions to international conferences, workshops, and community initiatives.

## Panelist



**Dr. Anwar AlKandari**  
Head of Business Management School  
Kuwait Technical College, Kuwait

**Bio**  
is an Assistant Professor of Management and head of the Business and Management Department at Kuwait Technical College. Holding a Ph.D. in Management, she also leads the Scientific and Research Committee, significantly advancing research in management and education. Her work underscores a commitment to academic excellence and innovation.

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# Conference Schedule

# Conference Schedule — Morning

Sunday, 18th October 2026

| Time              | Type                | Session / Speaker                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Room                          |
|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 8:00–9:00 AM      | Registration        | Registration & Check-In                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Reception Lobby               |
| 9:00–10:00 AM     | Opening             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>9:00 National Anthem</li><li>9:02 Quran Recitation</li><li>9:03 MC Opening</li><li>9:05 Host Welcome: Mr. Othman Boodai (CCK)</li><li>9:10 Sponsor Address: Dr. Jassem Al-Ali</li><li>9:17 Guest of Honor: H.E. Shaikh Mohammed Ahmed Al-Sabah (AAIoT)</li><li>9:20 Partner Address: Ms. Rana Khan (TEFL Kuwait)</li><li>9:25 Recorded Address: Dr. Khalid AlBegain</li><li>9:27 Best Educator Award · 9:30 Tea Break</li><li>9:45 Conference Chair: Dr. Oshin Danish</li><li>9:50 Membership Chair: Ms. Shannon Parks</li></ul> | Reception Lobby               |
| 10:00–10:45 AM    | KEYNOTE             | Dr. Stavros P. Hadjisolomou<br>Teaching Language in the Age of Agentic AI                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Recep. Lobby                  |
| 10:45–11:30 AM    | PANEL               | Dr. Shaikha Alainati (Moderator), Dr. Al-Hunaiyyan, Dr. AlSaber, Dr. Alfayly & Dr. AlKandari<br>Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Academic Research                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Recep. Lobby                  |
| 11:30–11:45 AM    | Break               | Coffee Break                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Cafeteria                     |
| 11:45 AM–12:05 PM | Concurrent Sessions | Multiple sessions (See Concurrent Sessions Section)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Rooms C                       |
| 12:45–1:15 PM     | Featured Sessions   | Dr. Rita El-Haddad & Dr. Stavros Hadjisolomou<br>Dr. Plamen Kushkiev<br>Dr. Christopher Hastings                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Rooms C-003<br>C-002<br>C-001 |

# Conference Schedule — Afternoon

Sunday, 18th October 2026

| Time            | Type                | Session / Speaker                                                                                                    | Room                          |
|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1:15 - 2:00 PM  | Break               | Lunch & Prayer Break                                                                                                 | Cafeteria                     |
| 2:00–2:45 PM    | KEYNOTE             | Dr. Zainab Almeraj<br>Ethics and Digital Assessments in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: Challenges and Solutions | Reception Lobby               |
| 2:45 AM–3:45 PM | Concurrent Sessions | Multiple sessions (See Concurrent Sessions Section)                                                                  | Rooms C                       |
| 3:45–4:15 PM    | Featured Sessions   | Dr. Wafa Zoghbor<br>Dr. Fajer Bin Rashed<br>Dr. Kay Gallagher                                                        | Rooms C-001<br>C-002<br>C-003 |
| 4:15–5:00 PM    | KEYNOTE             | Dr. Okon Effiong<br>TESOL Research: Professional Learning, Technology, Ethics and Context                            | Recep. Lobby                  |
| 5:00–5:30 PM    | Networking          | Coffee with TEFLers — All Keynote, Featured Speakers and Panelists — Informal Tea & Coffee                           | Cafeteria                     |
| 5:30–5:45 PM    | Closing             | Closing Ceremony & Vote of Thanks                                                                                    | Reception Lobby               |



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# **Conference Schedule in Details**

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# Morning Concurrent Sessions

11:45 AM – 12:45 PM · Sunday, 18th October 2026

## C-001

**11:45 – 12:05 PM**  
**Dr. Seyed Ghasem Saatchi**  
*AI in Kuwait Universities and students*

**12:05 – 12:25 PM**  
**Dr Reem A Y Alhajji**  
*Assessing the Influence of AI on Modern Student Writing Standards: An Educators’ Perspective*

**12:25 – 12:45 PM**  
**Dr. Fares Alshammari**  
*Prompting, Not Copying: ELT in AI*

## C-002

**11:45 – 12:05 PM**  
**Dr. Moza AlMalki, Dr. Wajood Albalushi, Dr. Afrah Alshammakhi & Dr. Khadijah AlHarthi**  
*Challenges Faced by Arab Undergraduate Students in Learning English in HIE*

**12:05 – 12:25 PM**  
**Mr. Samér Elgedawy**  
*Intercultural Grammar Teaching*

**12:25 – 12:45 PM**  
**Mr. Conan Kmiecik**  
*From Creative Thinking to Doing: Integrating Creativity in Language Teaching*

## C-003

**11:45 – 12:05 PM**  
**Ms. Seyda Hidimoglu**  
*Integrating Instagram to Boost Engagement and Participation in EAP Listening*

**12:05 – 12:25 PM**  
**Ms. Zainab Al-Balushi & Ms. Majan Al Yarubi**  
*Educating the Whole Learner; Autonomy, Overload Management, and Neuro Diversity Inclusion*

**12:25 – 12:45 PM**  
**Ms. Mais Alasaad**  
*Enhancing English Self-Efficacy Through Information Literacy and Attitudes*

# Morning Concurrent Sessions

11:45 AM – 12:45 PM · Sunday, 18th October 2026

## C-004

**11:45 – 12:05 PM**  
**Dr. Asmaa Mostafa Elsayed**  
*The Teacher as a Digital Facilitator in Bilingual Classrooms*

**12:05 – 12:25 PM**  
**Ms. Hadeel Almutairi**  
*Designing AI-Ready Classrooms: Digital Literacy Skills for EFL Learners’Needs*

**12:25 – 12:45 PM**  
**Dr. Gabi Kamal**  
*Beyond Tests – Transforming ELT Assessment for The Digital Age*

## C-005

**11:45 – 12:05 PM**  
**Dr. Manal Almahdawi & Dr. Fatima Alyammahi**  
*The Effect of Digital Simulation in Teaching Reaction Mechanisms on Conceptual Achievement Among Emirates High School Students*

**12:05 – 12:25 PM**  
**Mr. Mohammad AlSaffar**  
*The Visible Heart of ELT: Evaluating an English Language Textbook in Kuwait*

**12:25 – 12:45 PM**  
**Ms. Ma. Adoracion Jasol**  
*Implementing Emerging Technologies to Enhance Teaching and Learning Innovation in Higher Education*

## C-006

**11:45 – 12:05 PM**  
**Mr. Hidayat Abu Elhawa**  
*Beyond the Prompt: Humanizing ELT in the AI Age*

**12:05 – 12:25 PM**  
**Dr. Shu-hua Wu & Dr. Sulaiman AlRabah**  
*Enhancing EFL Academic Writing through AI-Integrated Scaffolding and Instructional Support*

**12:25 – 12:45 PM**  
**Dr. Marwa Fathi Hafour**  
*The English Teacher's Survival AI Toolkit*

# Afternoon Concurrent Sessions

2:45 PM – 3:45 PM · Sunday, 18th October 2026

## C-001

**2:45 – 3:05 PM**  
**Dr. Abdullah Miteb Alazmi**  
*Rethinking English-Medium Instruction: Evidence from Kuwait’s Higher Education Institutions*

**3:05 – 3:25 PM**  
**Ms. Seham Merzouk**  
*Using AI tools to Enhance Noticing and Autonomy in Adult Learner.*

**3:25 – 3:45 PM**  
**Ms. Heba Mahmoud Mohammed Ali**  
*AI for Educators: Tools, Tips, and Teaching Applications*

## C-002

**2:45 – 3:05 PM**  
**Ms. Hina. Riaz**  
*The AI Governance Feedback Model in Academic Integrity*

**3:05 – 3:25 PM**  
**Ms. Eman Khaled**  
*Building Communicative Confidence in TESOL Classrooms*

**3:25 – 3:45 PM**  
**Ms. Anoosha Shalwani**  
*Entrepreneurial Success Through Innovation and Digital Business Models*

## C-003

**2:45 – 3:05 PM**  
**Dr. Hashil Mohammed AlSaadi**  
*When Active Learning Becomes Inactive: Problematizing Common Practices & Suggesting a New Model*

**3:05 – 3:25 PM**  
**Mr. Eftychis Kantarakis**  
*The A.I - KEA Effect and Socratic Wisdom*

**3:25 – 3:45 PM**  
**Mr. Oumaya Grati EP Miled**  
*Integrating Jigsaw and ProjectBased Learning to Empower ESP Communication Skills*

# Afternoon Concurrent Sessions

2:45 PM – 3:45 PM · Sunday, 18th October 2026

## C-004

**2:45 – 3:05 PM**  
**Ms. Mehjabeen Yusuf Memon**  
*Beyond the ABCs: Phonics, Differentiation & Active Learning in Kindergarten*

**3:05 – 3:25 PM**  
**Mr. Abderrahim AitBara**  
*Differentiated Instruction! Maximising the Learning of All Students*

**3:25 – 3:45 PM**  
**Dr. Bassem Alkassem**  
*Engagement With Language in Kuwaiti Online Classes: Challenges and Implications*

## C-005

**2:45 – 3:05 PM**  
**Mr. Blerim Mustafë Sherifi**  
*Empowering Educators, Transforming Classrooms!*

**3:05 – 3:25 PM**  
**Ms. Amira Hindey**  
*Intrinsic Motivation and Influencing Factors in Kuwaiti Tertiary ESL Education*

**3:25 – 3:45 PM**  
**Ms. Alison Larkin Koushki**  
*Global Music Videos: Bridging Language and Culture Among Turkish and International Students*

## C-006

**2:45 – 3:05 PM**  
**Dr. Abdullah Essa AlHubail**  
*How to Implement Digital Transformation in an Organization*

**3:05 – 3:25 PM**  
**Ms. Tahani Abdulrahman Al-Mutairi**  
*Discord as an Interactive Platform for Saudi EFL College Students*

**3:25 – 3:45 PM**  
**Mr. Abdullah Alazmi**  
*Unlocking English: Practical Classroom Corpus Strategies*

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# **Concurrent Sessions Abstracts, Morning**

# Concurrent Sessions — Morning

11:45 AM – 12:05 PM

**Dr. Seyed Ghasem Saatchi**

C-001

*Canadian College of Kuwait*

Email: ssaatchi@cck.edu.kw

**AI in Kuwait Universities and Students**

This study looks at how students in Kuwait accept AI in education. Combining the S-O-R and AIDUA frameworks, a survey of 465 university students was analyzed using SEM. Findings show that when AI tools are compatible with students' expectations and needs, they are more likely to see benefits, find them easier to use, and have positive feelings about them.

**Dr. Moza AlMalki, Dr. Wajood Albalushi, Dr. Afrah Alshammakhi & Dr. Khadijah AlHarthi**

C-002

*Sultan Qaboos University / University of Technology and Applied Sciences / Gulf College, Oman*

Email: Moza.almalki@utas.edu.om | Wojood.albalushi@ochs.edu.om |  
afrah.alshammakhi@gulfcollege.edu.om | Khadija.AlHarthy@utas.edu.om

**Challenges Faced by Arab Undergraduate Students in Learning English in HIE**

This study surveys Omani undergraduate students in higher education to identify specific challenges in EFL acquisition. Focusing on linguistic, socio-cultural, and pedagogical barriers, findings will inform targeted interventions and propose practical solutions to enhance student success and communicative competence.

**Ms. Seyda Hidimoglu**

C-003

*Australian University, Kuwait*

Email: seyda.hidimoglu@gmail.com

**Integrating Instagram to Boost Engagement and Participation in EAP Listening**

This presentation reports on a study examining how task-based use of Instagram in EAP listening classes increased participation and engagement among higher education students. Findings highlight Instagram's potential as a supplementary teaching tool, offering strategies to enhance motivation, listening skills, and classroom interaction.

# Concurrent Sessions — Morning

11:45 AM – 12:05 PM (continued)

**Dr. Asmaa Mostafa Elsayed**

C-004

*Stardom University & Vertex University, Kuwait*

Email: Asmaa.161284@gmail.com

**The Teacher as a Digital Facilitator in Bilingual Classrooms**

This session explores how teachers can act as effective digital facilitators in bilingual classrooms by integrating technology to support language development, active learning, and student autonomy. Participants will discover practical strategies and tools that enhance engagement, scaffold learning, and create inclusive, technology-enhanced bilingual learning environments.

**Dr. Manal Almahdawi & Dr. Fatima Alyammahi**

C-005

*Independent, UAE / United Arab Emirates University*

Email: manal.almahdawi90@gmail.com

**The Effect of Digital Simulation in Teaching Reaction Mechanisms on Conceptual Achievement Among Emirates High School Students**

This study examines the impact of digital simulation on high school students' conceptual understanding of reaction mechanisms in the UAE. Using a quasi-experimental design, students taught with simulations significantly outperformed those taught traditionally, highlighting digital simulation as an effective tool for enhancing chemistry learning.

**Mr. Hidayat Abu Elhawa**

C-006

*Al-Istiqlal University, Palestine*

Email: hidayatabuelhawa@pass.ps

**Beyond the Prompt: Humanizing ELT in the AI Age**

The rapid integration of AI into English Language Teaching risks dehumanizing learning. This paper advocates for a "copilot" model, where AI handles administrative tasks, empowering human educators to focus on fostering empathy, critical thinking, and genuine human connection, thus re-humanizing the language learning experience.

# Concurrent Sessions — Morning

12:05 PM – 12:25 PM

**Dr. Reem A.Y. Alhajji**

C-001

*University of Sharjah, UAE*

Email: [ralhajji@sharjah.ac.ae](mailto:ralhajji@sharjah.ac.ae)

**Assessing the Influence of AI on Modern Student Writing Standards: An Educators' Perspective**

The study examines the impact of AI integration in UAE's education system on student learning as perceived by teachers. AI has significantly transformed learners' experiences by providing real-time feedback and personalized assistance. However, there is a tendency towards uniformity and repetition in students' writing styles, suggesting an equilibrium is needed between AI-generated content and students' ideas to preserve scholarly integrity.

**Mr. Samér Elgedawy**

C-002

*Complutense de Madrid University, Madrid, Spain*

Email: [samahmed@ucm.es](mailto:samahmed@ucm.es)

**Intercultural Grammar Teaching**

This presentation introduces an intercultural approach to grammar teaching tailored for non-native English teachers working with advanced students. It offers practical strategies for adapting textbooks to reflect diverse cultural contexts. By integrating cultural awareness into grammar lessons, educators can foster inclusive classrooms where students connect meaningfully with English as a global language.

**Ms. Zainab Al-Balushi & Ms. Majan Al Yarubi**

C-003

*Sultan Qaboos University, Sultanate of Oman*

Email: [zainabb@squ.edu.om](mailto:zainabb@squ.edu.om) | [M.alyarubi@squ.edu.om](mailto:M.alyarubi@squ.edu.om)

**Educating the Whole Learner: Autonomy, Overload Management, and Neuro Diversity Inclusion**

The presentation explores practical strategies to empower educators through enhanced autonomy, reduced overload, and inclusive, neurodiversity-affirming teaching. Participants will be exposed to evidence-based approaches that promote resilience, equity, and learner-centered practices, and frameworks that help educators create supportive and sustainable learning environments.

# Concurrent Sessions — Morning

12:05 PM – 12:25 PM (continued)

**Ms. Hadeel Almutairi**

C-004

*Kuwait University, Kuwait*

Email: h.almutairi@ku.edu.kw

**Designing AI-Ready Classrooms: Digital Literacy Skills for EFL Learners' Needs**

This session explores how to build AI-ready classrooms through digital literacy, fact-checking, and effective prompting. Drawing on research conducted with Kuwait University students, it highlights gaps in AI awareness, classroom discussion, and ethical guidance. Attendees will receive practical strategies and activities to use in ELT contexts.

**Mr. Mohammad AlSaffar**

C-005

*University of Manitoba, Canada*

Email: alsaffam@myumanitoba.ca

**The Visible Heart of ELT: Evaluating an English Language Textbook in Kuwait**

Discover what happens when teachers finally have a voice in evaluating the materials they use every day. This study examines Kuwait’s Target English textbook through insights from 80 educators, revealing hidden challenges, outdated content, limited writing space, and missing resources—and offering practical, teacher-driven recommendations to enhance English teaching nationwide.

**Dr. Shu-hua Wu & Dr. Sulaiman AlRabah**

C-006

*Language Center, PAAET, Kuwait*

Email: wu104ohio@yahoo.com.tw

**Enhancing EFL Academic Writing through AI-Integrated Scaffolding and Instructional Support**

This presentation explores AI-enhanced scaffolding in EFL writing. By integrating teacher guidance with AI support, students at all levels enhance their writing through modeling, prompts, and real-time feedback. It highlights how AI fosters engagement, confidence, and autonomy, illustrating its potential to develop independent, proficient academic writers.

# Concurrent Sessions — Morning

12:25 PM – 12:45 PM

**Dr. Fares Alshammari**

C-001

*Canadian College of Kuwait*

Email: f.awadh@cck.edu.kw

**Prompting, Not Copying: ELT in AI**

Artificial intelligence is reshaping English language teaching, challenging educators to move beyond concerns about plagiarism toward meaningful AI integration. This session introduces the S.C.R.I.P.T. Model, a practical framework that guides students to use AI as a tool for inquiry, critical thinking, revision, and language development rather than copying.

**Mr. Conan Kmiecik**

C-002

*Qatar University, Qatar*

Email: ckmiecik@qu.edu.qa

**From Creative Thinking to Doing: Integrating Creativity in Language Teaching**

Creativity is widely recognized as an essential 21st-century skill. This presentation shares key research findings on creativity in education and presents a project-based entrepreneurship activity from an ESP business English course that encourages students to think creatively.

**Ms. Mais Alasaad**

C-003

*Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, Kuwait*

Email: mais90mq@gmail.com

**Enhancing English Self-Efficacy Through Information Literacy and Attitudes**

This study, with 316 undergraduate students from Kuwait University and PAAET, examines how information literacy skills (ILS) and language attitudes interact to enhance English self-efficacy. The results reveal that positive language attitudes significantly predict higher self-efficacy in all linguistic domains, with ILS moderating this relationship.

# Concurrent Sessions — Morning

12:25 PM – 12:45 PM (continued)

**Dr. Gabi Kamal**

C-004

*International University of Kuwait*

Email: gabiabdallah12@gmail.com

**Beyond Tests – Transforming ELT Assessment for The Digital Age**

This interactive session demonstrates how digital and low-technologies change ELT assessment beyond traditional testing. Through hands-on activities, participants will create valid, fair, and motivating assessments that enhance listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills and promote 21st-century skills in MENA classrooms.

**Ms. Ma. Adoracion Jasol**

C-005

*International Institute of Computer Science & Administration, Kuwait*

Email: adora.josol123@gmail.com

**Implementing Emerging Technologies to Enhance Teaching and Learning Innovation in Higher Education**

The rapid adoption of eLearning in higher education has transformed course content delivery. This study investigates the effectiveness of eLearning modules for college students, focusing on engagement, learning outcomes, and student satisfaction using a mixed-method approach combining quantitative surveys with qualitative interviews.

**Dr. Marwa Fathi Hafour**

C--06

*Dhofar University, Sultanate of Oman*

Email: mhafour@du.edu.om

**The English Teacher's Survival AI Toolkit**

Discover the must-have digital toolkit for English teachers! This hands-on workshop equips teachers with time-saving and evidence-based apps and strategies to boost teaching, streamline classroom management, and support learner engagement. They will walk away with practical tools they can immediately use in their English teaching practice.

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# **Concurrent Sessions Abstracts, Afternoon**

# Concurrent Sessions — Afternoon

2:45 PM – 3:05 PM

**Dr. Abdullah Miteb Alazmi**

C-001

*Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, Kuwait*

Email: amd.alazmi@paaet.edu.kw

**Rethinking English-Medium Instruction: Evidence from Kuwait’s Higher Education Institutions**

This presentation examines English-medium instruction in Kuwaiti higher education, drawing on recent research involving students, instructors, and institutional language policies. It explores student readiness, classroom language practices, and the relationship between English-medium education and professional communication. The findings highlight the importance of flexible, context-sensitive approaches to EMI implementation and support.

**Ms. Hina Riyaz**

C-002

*Galgotia University, India*

Email: hina.zehra08@gmail.com

**The AI Governance Feedback Model in Academic Integrity**

This paper proposes the AI Governance Feedback Model, arguing that outcome-to-governance feedback strength determines whether AI in academic integrity and assessment stabilizes toward fairness or drifts toward compounding bias. Three propositions, four testable hypotheses, and risk-tiered boundary conditions are derived from higher-education AI literature.

**Mr. Hashil Mohammed Al-Saadi**

C-003

*Sultan Qaboos University, Sultanate of Oman*

Email: hashils@squ.edu.om

**When Active Learning Becomes Inactive: Problematizing Common Practices**

Active learning is often reduced to visible classroom behaviours or student participation. The author argues that for learning to be called 'active', it should incorporate deeper and internalised learning processes, learner autonomy, learner engagement, and metacognitive awareness, which form the foundational elements of active learning.

# Concurrent Sessions — Afternoon

2:45 PM – 3:05 PM (continued)

**Ms. Mehjabeen Yusuf Memon**

C-004

*Independent, Kuwait*

Email: jabeenY84@gmail.com

**Beyond the ABCs: Phonics, Differentiation & Active Learning in Kindergarten**

This workshop explores the power of phonics, hands-on learning, and differentiated strategies in the foundational kindergarten year. The presenter shares practical classroom ideas that support all learners, especially those who need extra help, while boosting cognitive growth and confidence, making early literacy meaningful, fun, and inclusive for every child.

**Mr. Blerim Mustafë Sherifi**

C-005

*ASBK, Kosovo*

Email: blerimsherifi99@gmail.com

**Empowering Educators, Transforming Classrooms!**

In the age of globalization, the need for effective professional development for teachers has never been more critical. This session explores innovative strategies that empower educators to enhance their teaching practices, elevate student engagement, and foster a culture of continuous learning.

**Dr. Abdullah Essa AlHubail**

C-006

*Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, Kuwait*

Email: aehubail@gmail.com

**How to Implement Digital Transformation in an Organization**

This study examines how understanding the mechanisms and structured steps of digital transformation in public and private institutions influences user interaction, participation, and engagement. It highlights the role of digital leadership as a central driver enabling institutions to plan, govern, and implement digital transformation effectively.

# Concurrent Sessions — Afternoon

3:05 PM – 3:25 PM

**Ms. Seham Merzouk**

C-001

*British Council, Kuwait*

Email: sihammerzouk2@gmail.com

**Using AI Tools to Enhance Noticing and Autonomy in Adult Learners**

This presentation explores how AI tools can enhance adult learners' autonomy by supporting noticing in listening and speaking skills. Through surveys and classroom tasks using tools like YouGlish and ChatGPT, the research examines how AI promotes reflection, language awareness, and independent learning beyond the classroom.

**Ms. Eman Khaled**

C-002

*Kuwait Technical College, Kuwait*

Email: sihammerzouk2@gmail.com

**Building Communicative Confidence in TESOL Classrooms**

This session explores practical approaches for developing communicative confidence among TESOL learners. It examines common barriers to spoken communication and presents classroom strategies that support meaningful interaction, learner autonomy, and sustained oral participation.

**Mr. Eftychis Kantarakis**

C-003

*Express Publishing, United Kingdom*

Email: eftychis.kantarakis@expresspublishing.co.uk

**The A.I - KEA Effect and Socratic Wisdom**

This presentation introduces the "A.I.-KEA Effect," inspired by research on the IKEA effect — the tendency for people to place higher value on things they help create. Drawing on Socratic ideas about the externalisation of thinking, the session argues for a balanced approach where AI enhances motivation while genuine mastery still depends on retrieval, reflection, and independent use.

# Concurrent Sessions — Afternoon

3:05 PM – 3:25 PM (continued)

**Mr. Abderrahim AitBara**

C-004

*Kuwait American School, Kuwait*

Email: [abderrahim.aitbara@gmail.com](mailto:abderrahim.aitbara@gmail.com)

**Differentiated Instruction! Maximising the Learning of All Students**

This workshop explores practical strategies for Differentiated Instruction to help every student succeed. Teachers will learn how to adjust content, process, and product to meet diverse needs. Participants will reflect, share, and practice simple tools that make learning more engaging, inclusive, and effective for all grade levels.

**Ms. Amira Hindey**

C-005

*Box Hill College, Kuwait*

Email: [amirahindey20@hotmail.com](mailto:amirahindey20@hotmail.com)

**Intrinsic Motivation and Influencing Factors in Kuwaiti Tertiary ESL Education**

Research on intrinsic motivation in ESL learning is largely Western-focused, leaving a gap in non-Western contexts. This study examines how Self-Determination Theory shapes motivation among students and teachers in Kuwaiti tertiary institutions, exploring cultural values, norms, and educational factors that influence learners' motivational attitudes and behavior.

**Ms. Tahani Abdulrahman Al-Mutairi**

C-006

*King Khalid University, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia*

Email: [talmotairi@kku.edu.sa](mailto:talmotairi@kku.edu.sa)

**Discord as an Interactive Platform for Saudi EFL College Students**

This study examines how well Discord helps Saudi college students learn English. Looking at Discord's multimedia integration, peer collaboration, and interactive features, findings imply that Discord improves language practice and proficiency growth while investigating digital literacy and community involvement in second language learning.

# Concurrent Sessions — Afternoon

3:25 PM – 3:45 PM

**Ms. Heba Mahmoud Mohammed Ali**

C-001

*Independent, Kuwait*

Email: heba\_mahmoud92@yahoo.com

**AI for Educators: Tools, Tips, and Teaching Applications**

This workshop offers educators practical ways to use AI in daily teaching. Participants will discover time-saving tools for lesson planning, assessment, and student engagement. With interactive examples, teachers will leave with ready-to-use strategies to integrate AI effectively, making learning more efficient, creative, and student-centered.

**Ms. Anoosha Shalwani**

C-002

*Canadian College of Kuwait*

Email: anooshajuma@gmail.com

**Entrepreneurial Success Through Innovation and Digital Business Models**

This study delves into the complex aspects of entrepreneurship, highlighting the essential function of innovation and digital transformation in attaining business success. The research analyzes the impact of human capital, marketing strategies, and organizational structure on entrepreneurial results, emphasizing the importance of digital technologies and agile methodologies in developing contemporary business models.

**Mr. Oumaya Grati EP Miled**

C-003

*University of Sfax, Tunisia*

Email: gratiomaya@gmail.com

**Integrating Jigsaw and Project-Based Learning to Empower ESP Communication Skills**

This workshop demonstrates how integrating Jigsaw cooperative learning into Project-Based Learning develops 21st-century skills and Willingness to Communicate of ESP students. Participants acquire evidence-based means to enhance collaboration, autonomy, and oral engagement while learning how to design replicable tasks for ESP classrooms.

# Concurrent Sessions — Afternoon

3:25 PM – 3:45 PM (continued)

**Dr. Bassem Alkassem**

C-004

*Box Hill College, Kuwait*

Email: b.alkassem@bhck.edu.kw

**Engagement With Language in Kuwaiti Online Classes: Challenges and Implications**

During the COVID-19 pandemic, teaching grammar online using the audio-only mode was mandated in Kuwait. Despite providing Engagement With Language affordances, it was challenging for teachers and learners. This paper highlights the challenges and literature gaps for online teachers and researchers, and offers practical recommendations.

**Ms. Alison Larkin Koushki**

C-005

*Kadir Haas University, Istanbul, Turkey*

Email: alison.koushki@gmail.com

**Bridging Language and Culture through Music and the Arts**

This workshop highlights how foundation and international learners from five continents share global music videos in language and culture sessions, grounded in a transformative philosophy: music is a universal language and English is the global bridge. When students converse about song lyrics, melodies, and emotional resonance, English serves as a medium for authentic human connection rather than a classroom exercise.

**Dr. Abdullah Alazemi**

C-006

*Ministry of Education, Kuwait*

Email: bnfaa91@gmail.com

**Unlocking English: Practical Classroom Corpus Strategies**

This practical workshop introduces EFL teachers to simple, classroom-ready corpus tools such as COCA and SkELL. Participants will explore authentic language patterns, discover high-frequency collocations, and design quick activities that boost vocabulary and writing skills. The session focuses on hands-on practice and easy strategies for immediate classroom use.

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# **Virtually Recorded Sessions on TEFL Kuwait Youtube Channel**

# Virtually Recorded Sessions on TEFL Kuwait YouTube Channel

TEFL Kuwait YouTube Channel · Sunday, 18th October 2026

**Dr. Oshin Danish**

*When the Scaffold Comes Down: Why Premature Scaffold Withdrawal Leads to Regression in Academic Writing*

**Mr. David Berry**

*AI Whispers, Students Edit: Tracking Emirati Learners’ Writing Revision Journeys*

**Ms. Shamama Fatima**

*The Pedagogy of Possibility: Using AI to Integrate Authentic Literature in ELT*

**Dr. Imanat Ali**

*Digital Distraction and Attention Management of Gen Z EFL learner*

**Ms. Nada Sherif**

*Washback-Driven Assessment Design: Creating Tests That Teach*

**Dr.Mohammad Haseen Ahmed**

*AI-embedded Learning Analytics transforms ESL/EFL education beyond measures*

**Mr. Abdelhak Hammoudi**

*Artificial Intelligence in Academic Writing: Practical Guidelines for the EFL Classroom*

**Javeria Eshaw Rana**

*From Prompting to Presence: AI Tools for Human-Centered ELT Classrooms*

**Dr. Maria Rosanna Ramirez Villla**

*Teachers as Designers of Learning*

**Dr. Rasha Mansour**

*Assessment of and for Language: Pathways to Learner Success*

# Virtually Recorded Sessions on TEFL Kuwait YouTube Channel

TEFL Kuwait YouTube Channel · Sunday, 18th October 2026

**Ms. Hala Desoky Abdelhalim Mohamed**  
*Beyond Grammar: Using Rubrics to Assess 21st-Century Skills*

**Ms. Alaa Ali Aladini**  
*American Sign Language Pathways for Deaf Students Learning English*

**Mr. Salih Mansur**  
*AI-Powered Digital Literacy for Global English Learners*

**Dr. Afra G. Almansoori**  
*Digital Technology Usage in Early Childhood: A Comparative Study of Omani and Emirati Children and Parents*

**Dr. Margaret Bryndal, Dr Malgorzata Bryndal & Prof. Ying Zheng**  
*Rethinking Pronunciation: Intelligibility vs. Accent in Arabic Contexts*

**Dr. Mahwish Farooq**  
*Modern Technology and Globalization*

**Dr. Kashif Ali Sabiri**  
*AI Driven Innovation in ELT: Bridging Diverse Pedagogies for Digital Classrooms*

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