

A woman is shown from the chest up, holding an open book. She is wearing a blue and white patterned headscarf. The image is overlaid with a complex digital network of blue and white lines and nodes, suggesting technology and connectivity. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light blue and white.

LTSIG
IATEFL Learning Technologies
Special Interest Group

Research book Conference

#LTSIGcon

6 FEB
10.30 -15.00 UK

DIGITAL INNOVATIONS
AND RESEARCH IN
LANGUAGE LEARNING

IATEFL LTSIG would like to invite you to our online conference to explore the studies published in our recent book *Digital Innovations and Research in Language Learning (2020)*. The authors will present their studies, which explore the pedagogical potential and realities of learning technologies in a wide range of language education contexts, and they will address the developments or applications brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic and the shift to remote teaching and learning.


Featuring presentations on topics such as virtual schooling, game-based learning, autonomy, inclusion, academic reading, student empowerment, CPD, and digital responsibility and ethics, this event will provide useful insights into the impact of digital learning in language education.



Programme




Saturday, 6 Feb 2021




All times mentioned are GMT/ UK time

- [10.00](#) Networking
- [10.30](#) Welcome
- [10.35](#) Sophia Mavridi: Fostering Students' Digital Responsibility, Ethics and Safety Skills
- [11.00](#) Henno Kotze & Ceara McManus: Chasing engagement
- [11.25](#) Susana Galante: Virtual Schooling for EFL
- [11.50](#) Angelos Konstantinidis, Bryan Kilvinski & Ivan Lombardi: Gamified Twitter
- [12.15](#) Graham Stanley & Alicia Artusi: Remote Teaching
- [12.40](#) Sandra Morales & Gabriela Silva: Video journals
- 13.00 *Break*
- [13.30](#) Pete Sharma: Virtual reality
- [13.55](#) Eleni Nikiforou: Motivational videos
- [14.20](#) Celia Antoniou: Academic reading skills online
- 14.45 Wrap Up
- 15.00 Close

UK time	Programme
10.00 am World times	Networking
10.30 am	Welcome from the SIG coordinator
10.35 am  Sophia Mavridi	<p>Sophia Mavridi FOSTERING STUDENTS' DIGITAL RESPONSIBILITY, ETHICS AND SAFETY SKILLS (DRESS)</p> <p>This talk refers to the first phase of a larger research project on Digital Responsibility, Ethics and Safety Skills (DRESS) in digital language learning. The findings show that DRESS should be an integral part of technology integration as it does not only help students to understand and deal with online risk; it also empowers them to make better use of the opportunities provided online through informed decisions about the content they consume, create or share. The talk will discuss these findings in relation to language education and also look at the relevance of DRESS during COVID-19 teaching and the transition to the post-pandemic era.</p> <p>Sophia Mavridi is a lecturer in learning technologies and English language learning. She is currently working at De Montfort University</p>

	<p>(UK) as well as providing consultation and training for language institutions around the world. Her research focuses on online learning and the increasingly important role of digital literacies in language education. Her latest publications are 'English for 21st Century Skills' (Express Publishing, 2020) and 'Digital Innovations and Research in Language Learning' (IATEFL, 2020), both of which reflect her keen interest in innovative pedagogies in language education. Check out her website for more information.</p>
<p>11.00 am</p>  <p>Henno Kotze & Ceara McManus</p>	<p>Henno Kotze and Ceara McManus Chasing engagement: Where goal-setting meets gamification</p> <p>Many English students are not effectively engaging with the world of English outside their classroom; and, therefore, missing opportunities to build skills in collaboration and creativity which universities and 21st century workplaces value. To meet this challenge, we designed a gamified activity aimed at harnessing these skills and digitally connecting students with the world outside the classroom.</p> <p>We will share ways in which our project impacted positively on students' motivation. The audience will learn how they can facilitate a digitised "scavenger hunt", incorporating student-negotiated goals, to maximise engagement.</p> <p>Ceara McManus is the founder of educational company, The CHALK Crew. She has been a language and drama teacher and teacher trainer for over 25 years. Teaching across Europe, in Hong Kong and Australia, Ceara developed a passion for students setting goals and communicating their expectations. She enjoys applying technology in the classroom to enhance the learning experience and motivation of her students.</p> <p>Henno Kotzé is a Language Teacher and digital learning specialist at the University of Queensland's Institute of Continuing and TESOL Education (ICTE) in Australia. Having previously taught in Vietnam and South Africa, his key interests lie in using educational technology to enhance the student experience and supporting teachers in embracing, and thoughtfully implementing, technology in their teaching.</p>
<p>11.25 am</p>  <p>Susana Galante</p>	<p>Susana Galante Uncovering the Possibilities of Virtual Schooling for EFL</p> <p>Distance learning, which lies at the core of the exploratory journey in this chapter, became a topical issue overnight with the outbreak of the current pandemic. The driving force behind the research were the challenges faced in an innovative learning environment for high school students preparing for the EFL matriculation exam. What type of design could allow for active learning and collaboration? How could</p>

	<p>communication be fostered? The findings will also be seen through the lens of the Coronavirus times.</p> <p>Digital Pedagogy teacher trainer and counselor with 30 years of experience in EFLT; has designed and conducted numerous multicultural and international virtual exchanges in the last decade and taught remotely. MA in Educational Technologies; Google Certified Innovator</p>
<p>11.50</p>  <p>Angelos Konstantinidis</p>  <p>Ivan Lombardi</p>  <p>Bryan Kilvinski</p>	<p>Angelos Konstantinidis, Bryan Kilvinski and Ivan Lombardi</p> <p>Design of a gamified Twitter environment: Investigation of how students' personality and attitude in language learning affect their participation</p> <p>How learners' attitudes and personality traits influence the language learning process has received significant attention among the educational community for over half a century. This study discusses the design of a Twitter game based on the principles of gamification, and explores how students' personality and attitudes affected their participation in the game. Thirty-six Thai university students, enrolled in a blended learning English program, took part in the study. The gamified Twitter intervention lasted six weeks and all students demonstrated active participation throughout its duration. Students' personality traits were measured through the Big-Five Inventory and their attitudes through the Attitude/Motivation Test Battery. It was shown that both personality and attitudes influenced students' participation in the game, though the relationships were found to be of medium impact at best. Based on students' participation, the game design was deemed quite effective, yet it failed to generate interaction among students.</p> <p>Angelos Konstantinidis is PhD researcher at the Open University of Catalonia and associate teacher at the Master's programme Digital Technologies for Language Teaching, University of Nottingham. He is a core member of the ICT4ALL (http://ict4all.gr/) initiative that aims to support teachers in developing digital competences and promote openness of educational practices.</p> <p>Bryan Kilvinski completed the distance learning Master's Degree in Digital Technologies for Language Teaching at the University of Nottingham. He is also a Computer-Assisted Language Learning practitioner who designs and develops online English language courses at Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University that are accessible for distance learners throughout Thailand.</p> <p>Ivan Lombardi is Lecturer at the School of Global and Community Studies, University of Fukui (Japan). He earned his PhD in Language Teaching Methodology at the Catholic University of Milan (Italy). His areas of expertise are game-based language learning, gamification in</p>

	<p>language education, and CALL. He published two books and several papers on the topics.</p>
<p>12.15 pm World times</p> <p>9:15am in Buenes Aires</p> <p>6:15am in Mexico</p>  <p>Alicia Artusi</p>  <p>Graham Stanley</p>	<p>Graham Stanley and Alicia Artusi Talk title: Remote Teaching and Continuing Professional Development</p> <p>Since the publication of our book chapter, remote language teaching, the practice of teaching a language interactively via videoconferencing, has become suddenly more important for many teachers. In this session, we will discuss how remote teaching differs from face-to-face classroom teaching and how that affects the approach to CPD. We will also look at what we wrote and how things have changed since the onset of COVID-19 and school closures.</p> <p>Alicia Artusi has been working as materials developer and quality manager for Ceibal en Inglés with the British Council since 2012. She holds an MA in Education and Professional development with NILE and the University of Chichester. She has written several articles for IATEFL Voices, LT, IP&SEN SIGs, and Etp on classroom management, inclusive practices and remote teaching. She delivered training in Chile, Uruguay and Argentina on the use of technology in the classroom together with the British Council and OUP. She is the co-author of several coursebooks for young learners and teenagers with Oxford University Press, UK and Richmond, Hong Kong. She posts in Instagram and FB @creative-teacher-hubs</p> <p>Graham Stanley is English for Educational Systems Lead for the British Council in the Americas, based in Mexico. He has an M.A. in ELT & Educational Technology (Manchester, UK) and is Newsletter Editor of the IATEFL LTSIG. Graham is author of Remote Teaching (British Council, 2019) and Language Learning and Technology (CUP, 2013) and co-author of Digital Play: Computer games and language aims (Delta, 2011). You can find him on Twitter at @ELTGraham</p>
<p>12.40 pm</p>  <p>Gabriela Silva</p>	<p>Sandra Morales and Gabriela Silva Talk title: Evaluating reflection and language proficiency through video journals</p> <p>This talk discusses the use of video journals to support reflection and language skills amongst pre-service teachers. In these videos, the pre-service teachers reflected upon activities, materials and their performance in an English language course. Data from a student survey and interview with an instructor suggest that video journals promote pre-service teachers' language development as they analyse their learning. Surprisingly (or not), video journals became essential during COVID-19 as an effective tool for the learning process and professional development of future language teachers. We will discuss the opportunities video journals have brought in the midst of this sanitary crisis.</p>



Sandra Morales

Dr Sandra Morales earned her PhD in Educational and Applied Linguistics at Newcastle University, UK. She is an experienced language teacher and teacher educator and has worked with undergraduate and postgraduate TESOL students in Chile and the UK. Her area of research is Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL), mainly, teacher education in CALL and the use of online and blended learning for language teaching and learning.

Gabriela Silva has been involved in language teaching and pre-service teacher education in Chile since 2012, working in different Higher Education institutions. Her work has focused on reflective practice and curricular innovation. She is now working at the English Pedagogy Programme at Universidad Diego Portales in Santiago, Chile.

1.00 pm

Break

1.30 pm



Pete Sharma

Pete Sharma
Virtual reality in English language teaching

Abstract: The chapter on VR (Virtual reality) in ELT (English language teaching) in the LTSIG publication ‘Digital Innovations and Research in Language Learning’ concluded with this sentence: “the future for VR in language learning does, at the time of writing, look promising”. The chapter explored relevant research on VR using HMD’s (head mounted displays). This presentation summarises key points from the chapter and provides a reflection on recent developments. Will VR be ‘the next big thing’?

Pete Sharma is a training manager, consultant and ELT author. He also works as a pre-sessional lecturer in EAP (English for Academic Purposes). Pete is a well-known conference presenter, has co-authored several books on using educational technology in language teaching, and has a Masters in Educational Technology and ELT.

1.55 pm



Eleni Nikiforou

Eleni Nikiforou
Creation of motivational videos and student empowerment

This presentation focuses on the use and production of motivational videos in a language course as they afford student empowerment. The use of motivational speech videos in the lesson allows the students to discuss a variety of topics, step outside their comfort zone, consider other cultures, think critically, and eventually discover their own passion and voice through the creation of the artifact. This presentation offers practical suggestions on how language teachers can use motivational speeches in their lessons.

	<p>Eleni Nikiforou is an English language instructor at the Language Centre of the University of Cyprus, where she teaches English for Academic Purposes and English for Specific Purposes courses. She has delivered and facilitated teacher training workshops, Business English workshops, as well as lifelong learning workshops.</p>
<p>2.20 pm</p> <p>Celia Antoniou</p>	<p>Presentation by Celia Antoniou has been cancelled</p> <p>INSTEAD</p> <p>Meet the speakers in breakout groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Sandra Morales and Gabriela Silva (2) Eleni Nikiforou (3) Pete Sharma (4) Angelos Konstantinides (5) Alicia Artusi (6) Susana Galante (7) Meet the SIG (and Sophia) <p>Celia Antoniou An action research intervention on academic reading skills online</p>
2.45 pm	Wrap up
3.00 pm	Close