

## BIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENTS

**Amal Aamer Mohammed Albadi** holds a Master of Education degree in TESOL from the University of Southern Queensland, Australia and a CELTA. Since 2014 she has been actively involved in research. She has published and presented papers on the integration of information and communication technologies in language teaching and learning.

**Anne Gilhooly** is currently teaching at Sultan Qaboos University Language Centre, Oman. She has an MA in English Linguistics from Birmingham City University, UK, and has over twenty years teaching experience in EFL and ESL in Sudan, Canada and Oman. Her professional areas of interest are learner autonomy, experiential learning, learning styles and learning strategies.

**Dr. Bati Al Shekaili** holds a Ph.D. in English Language Education/TESOL from the University Science Malaysia in Penang, Malaysia. Prior to his joining the Language Center of Sultan Qaboos University in 2012, he taught in various English language programs at Ibri and Al Musanna Colleges of Technology. He has a special interest in student-centered educational philosophy research, especially in the classroom application of student-active learning strategies.

**Béla Tóth** is TEFL specialized in blended learning, the implementation of technology in the classroom and quality management. He is professionally interested in teacher training and various ESP-related topics such as legal English and English for engineering. Mr. Toth has earned his Master's degree at the ELTE University of Budapest.

**Dr. Christine Coombe** has a Ph.D. in Foreign/Second Language Education from The Ohio State University. She is currently on the English faculty of Dubai Men's College. She is the former Testing and Measurements Supervisor at UAE University and Assessment Coordinator of Zayed University. Christine is co-editor of *Assessment Practices* (2003, TESOL Publications); co-author, *A Practical Guide to Assessing English Language Learners* (2007, University of Michigan Press); co-editor, *Evaluating Teacher Effectiveness in EF/SL Contexts* (2007, UMP); co-editor, *Language Teacher Research in the Middle East* (2007, TESOL Publications), *Leadership in English Language Teaching and Learning* (2008, UMP), *Applications of Task-based Learning in TESOL* (2010, TESOL Publications), *The Cambridge Guide to Second Language Assessment* (2012, Cambridge University Press) and *Reigniting, Retooling and Retiring in English Language Teaching* (2012, University of Michigan Press). Christine's most recent publication is *The Cambridge Guide to Research in Language Teaching and Learning* (2015, Cambridge University Press).

**Edward Stallard** has spent over a decade teaching English in the Middle East. During his MA TESOL he developed a passion for CALL, this led to his conviction that modern technology is integral in the modern class room. His other research areas include SLA and the endangered languages of the southern Arabian Peninsula. He is currently an English lecturer at the College of Technology in Salalah, Oman.

**Farah Bahrouni** is a senior language instructor at the Language Centre of Sultan Qaboos University. He has been teaching English for more than thirty years and most of them in Oman. At present, he is a PhD candidate at the University of Mannouba, Tunisia. His research interests are in language testing, particularly in writing assessment.

**Galina Bugon** is an assistant language lecturer at Sultan Qaboos University Language Centre, Oman. She holds an MA in Teaching English and German as Foreign Languages from Saratov State Pedagogical Institute, Russia. Her research areas of interest are EFL educational technology, blending learning and professional communication.

**Dr. Gayane Hovhannisyan** has taught ESL in different regions. She taught English and conducted her doctoral research in Psycholinguistics in Moscow. Then she got her DSc in Cultural Linguistics in Yerevan. Blending research with teaching, she writes handbooks, teaches English for Academic and Specific Purposes, and supervises research in General and Applied Linguistics.

**Dr. Gennady Medvedev** holds a Ph.D. in Germanic Languages from Minsk State Linguistic University in Belarus. Prior to joining the Language Centre at Sultan Qaboos University in 2009, he taught in various ELT programs at the College of English at Minsk State Linguistic University and provided a number of top-ranking translation services.

**Hranush Ginosyan** is an assistant language lecturer at the Language Centre at Sultan Qaboos University. Before joining Sultan Qaboos University, she taught English at the American University of Armenia and trained English teachers at the British Council, Armenia. Her research interests focus on learning styles and strategies, teaching language skills and e-learning. She is an author of several publications on English language teaching.

**Jokha Al Hosni** is a language instructor in the Language Center at Sultan Qaboos University. She holds an MSc in Curriculum Studies from Purdue University, USA. Her research interests include teaching reading to young EFL learners, curriculum design and blended learning.

**Dr. Joseph Decena Dayag** holds a Ph.D. in Language Education. He has presented papers and facilitated workshops in national and international conferences. His interests include language education, curriculum development, indigenous language preservation, and technology in education. Dr. Dayag is currently an EFL lecturer at Shinas College of Technology, Sultanate of Oman.

**Katherine Usha Prabhukanth** is an English language teacher at Sultan Qaboos University. Her career as an ELT practitioner spans nearly thirty years teaching and training students in India and Oman. She has an MA in English Literature with a Post Graduate Certificate in Teaching English. Her main interests are creating online materials to promote learner autonomy and co-operative learning.

**Dr. Khalfan Hamed Al-Harrasi** is the director of The Foundation Institute of the University of Nizwa, Oman, and Educational Consultant for the Midwest Educational Group in Chicago, USA. He earned his PhD in Education at the University of Northern Iowa. Dr. Khalfan has extensive managerial experience both in the public and private sectors in Oman and internationally.

**Khulud Said Rashid Al Bilushi** is an EFL supervisor in the Ministry of Education in the Sultanate of Oman. She has an experience 25 years of experience as a teacher, a senior teacher, and a supervisor in government schools.

**Kirankumar Ramachandran** is a senior lecturer at Caledonian College of Engineering. He has completed the Cambridge CELTA and holds Masters' degrees in English and Comparative Education from the Universities of Madras and Oxford. He has been a teacher, curriculum developer and educational researcher in India, Bhutan, Qatar, and Oman.

**Kristina Bayburtsyan** holds a MA in TEFL from American University in Armenia. She has taught various English courses at tertiary level in Armenia and Oman. She is currently teaching at the Language Centre of Sultan Qaboos University. She is interested in mobile learning, material design, and professional development.

**Muneer Nasser Alhadhrami** is a senior language instructor at the Language Centre at Sultan Qaboos University. He is also a member of the Curriculum Unit. He holds an MA in TESOL from Monash University, Australia. His research interests include language, culture and identity, m-learning and translation.

**Navaneeth Kolady Mootheri** has taught English in the Sultanate for sixteen years. He holds an MA in English, the Trinity CertTESOL and a post graduate diploma in ELT. He is currently a Senior Lecturer in the Language & Learning department at Caledonian College of Engineering where he also co-ordinates the Diagnostic Clinic.

**Reeja Riyaz**, a senior lecturer at Caledonian College of Engineering, has been teaching at the tertiary level for seventeen years. She holds a Masters in TESOL and Education from the University of Leicester, UK and the Cambridge CELTA. Her key areas of research are language, education, technology and ESP.

**Dr. Saleh Al-Busaidi** is an associate professor of English as a foreign language at the College of Education, Sultan Qaboos University, Oman. He is currently the Director of the Language Centre. He received his BA in TEFL at Sultan Qaboos University in 1995, his MA in TEFL at the University of Exeter, UK in 1997, and his PhD in Curriculum Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA in 2003. Dr Al-Busaidi has also participated in many national and international conferences and symposia. He has also published journal articles and book chapters on areas related to English language teaching and learning. His main research interests are: learner autonomy, curriculum and material development, study/academic skills, academic readiness and language acquisition.

**Dr. K. Thomas Baby** is currently an associate professor of English at Bharata Mata College in Cochin, India. Previously, he worked in Oman's Ministry of Health as an English lecturer for 17 years. He received his MA in 1985 and PhD in 1998. He is an author of several publications that include books, articles and poems. His main research interest is English language teaching.

**Dr. Umamaheswara Rao Bontha** is currently working in the English Language Unit of Dhofar University's Foundation Program. He has 15 years of experience in teaching ESL and EFL in India and Oman. He holds an MA in English, PGDTE, and a Certificate in TESOL. He earned his doctorate in English Language Teaching (ELT) from India's Acharya Nagarjuna University. With special interests in ELT and action research, he has co-authored English language textbooks, has presented at national and international conferences, published journal articles, and authored or co-authored book chapters.

**Dr. Victoria Tuzlukova** obtained a Ph.D. in Applied Linguistics from Pyatigorsk Linguistic University in Russia in 1991. She has also held a Ph.D. in Comparative Linguistics from Moscow State University since 2002. She joined the Language Centre at Sultan Qaboos University in 2006. She is currently the Head of the Language Centre's Professional Development and Research Unit. During her time at the Language Centre she has been involved in a number of research projects and initiatives. Her research interests focus on sociolinguistics, intercultural communication, foreign language acquisition and the role of culture in foreign language teaching and learning.