

PLACES OF INTEREST

- A Personal View

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Information and content are declaratively available to everyone and everywhere nowadays. There are internet browsers that allow for those to be accessed. In that sea of everything said and written on just about any topic, there is a need for digital literacy, which in turn, is finely interwoven with the issue of filtering the information available. This is a question all the more pressing amidst our era's constant influx of information of increasingly questionable quality, delivered with increasingly uncompromising ploys for our attention. A huge and complex issue as it is, yet it comes down to sorting facts and information against a trustworthy source. One kind of such sources are certainly and foremostly the established institutions and renowned experts. However, this plentitude of information makes it all the more challenging for new names to arise as authorities that can be relied upon for the choice, quality and possibly the interpretation of the information selected.

Hereby, I would like to draw your attention to my personal choice. Online repositories of information of two men, Achilleas Kostoulas and Tyson Seburn. Scholars of a Renaissance scope of erudition and of magnificent enthusiasm for disseminating what they discover.

At a beautifully designed and clearly organized site <http://achilleaskostoulas.com/> the visitor is first introduced to Achilleas Kostoulas by an appropriate selection of personal details all related solely to his academic career and achievements. The site is primarily dedicated to presenting the latest information in the vast area of English Language and Literature. There one may find up to date call for papers for conferences and publications, blogs, links to relevant research or critical, engaged texts. The selection of material presented is telling of an unusually wide scope of expertise. This site is therefore useful and of interest to practitioners of various orientations, fields and subfields within, or related to this very broad area of ELT and Literature.

At <http://fourc.ca/tyson-seburn/>, the site of a minimalistic but imaginative design, proving the famous motto – less is more, another incredible well of information is available. This site is focused on ELT. It is in itself a pearl tree whose branches lead to an abundance of other relevant sources. The synergy of Tyson's own work, his presentation of himself, and his site, is telling of the dedication, passion, fascination and enthusiasm which he invests in all his work. For me, this very human touch is what preserves the exceptional dignity and nobleness of this profession. Among many, highly useful sections to be explored, my favourite one is the ELT calendar. Of course, there are sites like that. Yet, this one is run by an enthusiast, the one who believes in what he does. There are no advertisements, there is no other gain for Tyson except for the noble act of sharing!

Besides useful information and resources for immediate use, both sites present thought provoking issues clearly delineating the present and the prospective trends of teaching and research.