

New Directions Series

English Language Assessment Conference

Agenda

Day 1, Monday 15 November
From policy to implementation

Start time UK UZB	End time UK UZB	Duration	Activity
09.00 14.00	09.30 14.30	30 mins	Opening Speeches from <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Denise Waddingham, Country Director- British Council Uzbekistan - Sherzod Shermatov, Minister- Ministry of Public Education (TBC) - Komiljon Karimov, First Deputy Minister- Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialised Education - Sanjar Obidov, Acting Director- Agency for Promoting foreign language learning - Ayubxon Rajiev, Director- Scientific Research Institute named after R. Avloni - Odil Kuysinov, Deputy Chairman- State Inspectorate for Supervision of quality in Education Moderator – Dr Victoria Clark
09.30 14.30	10.00 15.00	30 mins	Plenary session #1 The Comprehensive Learning System and Language Policy Professor Barry O'Sullivan British Council
10.00 15.00	10.15 15.15	15 mins	Question and Answer session with plenary speaker Policy and the Comprehensive Learning Session Professor Barry O'Sullivan Moderator – Dr Victoria Clark
10.15 15.15	10.30 15.30	15 mins	Break
10.30 15.30	11.00 16.00	30 mins	Plenary session #2 Topic: Washback / Consequences and Policy Implementation Professor Anthony Green, University of Bedfordshire

11.00 16.00	11.15 16.15	15 mins	Question and Answer session with plenary speaker Washback / Consequences and Policy Implementation Professor Anthony Green, University of Bedfordshire Moderator – Dr Victoria Clark
11.15 16.15	11.45 16.45	30 mins	Presentation and Discussion / Q&A: National Preservice Teacher Education and Training: The role of Assessment Yayra Abduraimova, University of World Languages
11.45 16.45	12.45 17.45	60 mins	Panel – From Policy to Implementation in Uzbekistan 1. Azimjon Khusanov (APFLL) 2. Svetlana Khan (APFLL, Hornby Scholar) 3. Sardor Radjabov (State Test Center) 4. Yayra Abduraimova (University of World Languages) Discussant/Moderator: Professor Barry O’Sullivan (British Council) / Dr Victoria Clark
12.45 17.45	13.00 18.00	15 mins	Summary Moderator – Dr Victoria Clark

Day 2, Tuesday 16 November

Preparing teachers to implement policy

Start time UK UZB	End time UK UZB	Duration	Activity
9.00 14.00	9.10 14.10	10 mins	Opening Recap from yesterday and looking forward Moderator – Keshav Sreedharan
9.10 14.10	09.45 14.45	35 mins	Plenary session The Importance of Language Assessment Literacy in Teacher Training Associate Professor Christine Coombe, Higher Colleges of Technology, Dubai
09.45 14.45	10.00 15.00	15 mins	Question and Answer session with plenary speaker Language Assessment Literacy and Teacher Training Moderator – Dr Victoria Clark
10.00 15.00	10.20 15.20	20 mins	Tea break
10.20 15.20	11.20 16.20	60 mins	Panel: Improving teaching and learning by improving assessment knowledge and skills 1. Nargiza Kuchkarova, The Agency for Presidential Educational Institutions 2. Steven Murray, Senior Training Consultant, British Council Taiwan 3. Associate Professor Christine Coombe 4. Neenaz Ichaporia, Head Academic English, British Council India

			Discussant/ Moderator – Dr Johanna Motteram / Keshav Sreedharan
11.20 16.20	11.30 16.30	10 mins	Closing session Dr Victoria Clark
11.30 16.30	12.30 17.30	60 mins	Workshop- Cambridge Partnership for Education Topic: Cambridge English Teaching Knowledge Test and its impact (Hugh Moss, Assessment Group Manager, Cambridge Assessment English)

Day 3, Wednesday 17 November

Teachers: the bridge between policy and student outcomes

Start time UK UZB	End time UK UZB	Duration	Activity
09.00 14.00	09.10 14.10	10 mins	Opening Recap from yesterday – the main takeaways Moderator – Keshav Sreedharan
09.10 14.10	09.45 14.45	35 mins	Plenary Session What do we want teachers to know about, and be able to do, with language assessment. Thom Kiddle, Director NILE
09.45 14.45	10.00 15.00	15 mins	Q&A with plenary speaker Thom Kiddle, Director NILE Moderator – Dr Victoria Clark
10.00 15.00	10.20 15.20	20 mins	Tea break
10.20 15.20	11.20 16.20	60 mins	Panel: Embedding theory into practice, a teacher's perspective <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Erkin Mukhammedov, (Westminster International University in Tashkent) 2. Mukhammadkhon Soliev (APFLL) 3. British Council (Mina Patel ARG) 4. Thom Kiddle (NILE) Discussant/Moderator – Dr Victoria Clark / Keshav Sreedharan
11.20 16.20	11.30 16.30	10 min	Closing of event and summing up Moderator – Dr Victoria Clark
11.30 16.30	12.30 17.30	60 mins	Workshop – British Council Teacher Assessment Workshop Aptis for Teachers – an English Proficiency Test developed for Teachers (Dr Victoria Clark and Mark O'Sullivan, British Council)

Speakers

The key speakers for New Directions 2021 include key thought leaders, policy makers, educational experts and tertiary education specialists in the field of English Language Assessment.

Plenary Speakers:



Professor Barry O'Sullivan O.B.E.

Professor Barry O'Sullivan OBE is the Head of Assessment Research & Development at the British Council where he was responsible for the design and development of the Aptis test service. He has undertaken research across many areas on language testing and assessment and its history and has worked on the development and refinement of the socio-cognitive model of test development and validation since 2000. He is particularly interested in the communication of test validation and in test localisation. He has presented his work at many conferences around the world, while almost 100 of his publications have appeared in a range of international journals, books and technical reports. He has worked on many test development and validation projects over the past 25 years and advises ministries and institutions on assessment policy and practice.

He is the founding president of the UK Association of Language Testing and Assessment (UKALTA) and holds honorary and visiting chairs at a number of universities globally. In 2016 he was awarded fellowship of the Academy of Social Science in the UK, and was elected to Fellowship of the Asian Association for Language Assessment in 2017.



Professor Anthony Green

Anthony is Professor in Language Assessment and has been the Director of the Centre for English Language Learning and Assessment (CRELLA) at the University of Bedfordshire, UK since 2015. Prof. Green has advised, trained and presented on language assessment issues all over the world. He is a former President of the International Language Testing Association, and an expert member of both major European language assessment associations, EALTA and ALTE. He is the author of *Exploring Language Assessment and Testing* (Routledge), *Language Functions Revisited* and *IELTS Washback in Context* (both Cambridge University Press) as well as many research papers. His main research interests lie in the relationships between assessment, learning and teaching, and in the assessment of written language.



Christine Coombe

Christine has a Ph.D in Foreign/Second Language Education from The Ohio State University and is an Associate Professor of General Studies at Dubai Men's College, Higher Colleges of Technology in the UAE. Christine has co-authored/edited 54 volumes on assessment/testing, research, teacher effectiveness, leadership and task-based teaching and learning. Her most recent volumes are Professionalizing Your English Language Teaching (2020), Policy Development in TESOL and Multilingualism (2021), Challenges in English Language Testing Worldwide (2021) and The Assessment of L2 Written English across the MENA Region (2021).

Dr Coombe served as TESOL International Association President (2011-2012) and as a member of the Board of Directors (2005-2007; 2010-2013). Christine received the British Council's International Assessment Award for 2013. Her most recent honors were being named to TESOL's 50@50 which "recognizes professionals who have made significant contributions to the TESOL profession within the past 50 years." In 2018 she received the Alatis Award for exemplary service to TESOL. Most recently she was named to the US Department of State's 30@30 list which recognizes the top 30 English Language Specialists over the past 30 years.



Thom Kiddle

Thom has been a language teacher, language tester and teacher trainer since 1997. He holds the Cambridge Delta, and was awarded the IELTS Caroline Clapham award in 2011 for his Master's dissertation on Language Testing. He is currently Director of Norwich Institute for Language Education (NILE), involved in language assessment, CEFR, teacher training, organisational management and strategic development projects worldwide, including the NILE Online teacher development programmes. He is also Chair of Eaqals board of trustees, webmaster for the IATEFL Testing, Evaluation and Assessment SIG, and a founding director of AQUEDUTO (the Association for Quality Education and Training Online).

Panel and Invited Speakers:



Yayra Abdullaeva

Yayra Abduraimova is self-directed, action-oriented EFL teacher with over 21 year's experience in education. She is a co-author of number of books on English Language teaching. She is a head of department at Uzbek State World Languages University. She has been involved in the projects of British Council. Experienced in developing curriculum as well as conducting teach training.



Neenaz Ichaporia

Neenaz is Head, Academic and Teaching Delivery at the British Council in India. She is responsible for the design and delivery of the British Council's 'myEnglish' online courses, leading on teacher training and quality assurance.

Neenaz has worked in English Language Teaching since 2010. She is currently pursuing an MSc in Digital Education from the University of Edinburg. She also holds a Cambridge DELTA, a certificate in e-Moderating and a certificate in ELT Management Skills from International House, London.

Neenaz has been interested in language assessment from early on in her career. She has helped deliver 'How Language Assessment Works', a series of workshops aimed at developing teachers' assessment literacy. She has presented on the themes of online learning and teaching at several conferences, including at New Directions Yokohama in 2019, IATEFL Liverpool 2019 and Glasgow, 2017.



Svetlana Khan

Svetlana Khan, Hornby scholar, holds a M.Ed in Trainer Development from University of Exeter, UK and is currently working in the Agency for promoting foreign language learning under the Cabinet of ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Her fields of interest include development of educational curricular and syllabi, teacher training and material design for learners at all levels and sectors of educational system.



Nargiza Kuchkarova

Nargiza is a Head of Teacher Selection and Capacity Building in the Agency for Presidential Educational Institutions. She has been involved in several national and international projects as teacher-trainer and material designer. Her expertise is in teacher empowerment and teacher professional development.

Nargiza holds a MA in TESOL from the University of Saint Mark and Saint John.

Hugh Moss

Hugh has nearly 30 years' experience within ELT and has responsibility for overseeing the production and assessment of Cambridge English teaching qualifications. Previously with Cambridge English he was an advisor to Ministries of Education and other educational bodies besides and managed a range of complex projects from modernisation of exam processing to a reform of English language testing in Colombia. Hugh has travelled extensively to different countries and provided advice and training to key stakeholders in China, Mexico, Brazil and Portugal.

Steven Murray

Steven has more than 25 years' experience in the field of education working as a project manager, researcher, author, teacher trainer and teacher. He is a Project Manager and a Senior Training Consultant in the English for Education Systems British Council Taiwan.

His love for education stems from the fact that he has seen time and time again how effective teachers can really open up a whole new world of possibilities for their students... In the 21st century more than ever before, it is important for teaching and training activities to be interactive, authentic and motivating. Steven's also believes that it's important for teachers and trainers to enhance their students' abilities to think critically and deeply as well as to learn for themselves.



Erkin Mukhammedov

Erkin is a senior lecturer in the School of Law, Technology and Education at Westminster International University in Tashkent, where he has been a faculty member and consultant to many local and international development agencies for 15 years. He has extensive experience in English language teaching and testing in Uzbekistan. He is involved in many educational reform projects in Uzbekistan including a training the trainers' programme. He was also involved in baseline studies conducted in Uzbek research universities where English is taught for research and teaching purposes. He has been a

trainer in various educational projects (e.g. TRED - training for research enterprise development, Cultural skills) and organizations such as Advance HE (UK), etc. His professional interest areas include assessment and continuing professional development. He earned an MA from University of Warwick (UK) specializing in testing and assessment.



Mark O'Sullivan

Mark O' Sullivan holds a first degree from Sheffield Hallam University and English teaching qualifications from University of Cambridge ESOL and Trinity College London. He began teaching full-time in 2005, specialising in IELTS from 2006, and moved into focusing language assessment literacy projects since 2016.

He currently works as an Assessment Consultant for the British Council and has been involved in several projects involving large-scale assessment, material production, as well as teacher training courses



Sardor Rajabov

Sardor is a deputy director of State Test Center under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan where he has been contributing to improve the quality and transparency of university entrance exams.

He is also involved in several projects to develop more than language tests for university candidates and teachers in Uzbekistan, specifically, to provide validity evidence for multi-level English proficiency test to get international recognition and launching international language tests in Uzbekistan. He is expanding cooperation with British Council, Cambridge Assessment, ETS, CITO and other international organizations to improve assessment in Uzbekistan. He constantly attempts to develop professionally and implement the latest experience in the field of assessment in Uzbekistan.



Mukhammadkhon Soliev

Mukhammadkhon is an international ELT teacher, teacher trainer and speaking examiner based in Samarkand. He is Head of LPA in Samarkand region, Cambridge English Speaking Examiner (for all levels) and accredited presenter of Cambridge English in Central Asia. Associate member of ELT-consultants, BA University of Northampton, UK, Certificate of Language Proficiency (C2), Certificate of Teaching English to Young learners, joint programme of US department of State, office of English language programmes and University of Oregon College of Arts and Science, American Language Institution, USA, Certificate of Cambridge English qualification, University of Cambridge, UK

Moderators and conference advisors



Dr Victoria Clark

Dr Victoria Clark is currently the Global Assessments Solutions Manager for the British Council. She leads on work with ministries of education, regional educational authorities, universities and other tertiary institutions to assess and respond to their assessment needs. She is currently working on several projects including aligning assessment to national curricula; training of staff in national state testing centres in assessment-related areas such as item writing and rating productive skills; and consulting ministries of education on models of EMI and assessment challenges related to EMI. She worked as an EFL teacher, teacher trainer, and lecturer before specialising in assessment of English. She has also written numerous books on the General English Proficiency Test and has presented in many parts of the world.



Dr Johanna Motteram

Assessment Solutions, Global Assessments, British Council

Johanna works with government and institutional stakeholders to identify, develop, and deliver solutions to language assessment problems in education systems. Her day-to-day challenges span the linguistic, operational and stakeholder management adaptations to the Aptis test system necessary to achieve defensible, workable, and locally acceptable language test localisations. Her research work has included case studies, classroom-based research and SFL informed text analysis. She has a keen interest in the impact of the introduction of new assessments into education systems, and what policy makers and test providers can do to enhance or mitigate that impact.



Mina Patel

Mina Patel is Assessment Research Manager with the Assessment Research Group at the British Council. Her background is in English language teaching and training. She has worked in the UK, Greece, Thailand, Sri Lanka and Malaysia as a teacher, trainer, materials developer and ELT projects manager and has extensive experience working with Ministries of education in East Asia. Mina has presented at numerous national and international conferences on ELT related matters. Mina's interests in language testing and assessment lie in the areas of language assessment literacy and the impact of testing and assessment. She is currently a PhD student with CRELLA at the University of Bedfordshire, UK.



Keshav Sreedharan

Keshav Sreedharan is the Regional Director of Exams in Wider Europe based in Istanbul, Turkey. He has been with the British Council for a little over 13 years having worked in both English Teaching and assessments. He has worked in several countries across the world spanning South Asia, Middle East and Wider Europe. Keshav brings in a wealth of experience in engaging with a diverse range of stakeholders - Educators, Regulators, Commercial directors, Business Managers, CEO's and Consultants on their assessment needs and requirements thereby building strong and long lasting relationships. He is fluent in several languages and is currently learning Turkish and Russian.