

December 2024

Dear UKALTA members and colleagues

It was good to see so many of you at the recent Language Testing Forum (LTF) hosted in Bedford by CRELLA. Thank you very much to the Local Committee for organising a superb conference, and to everyone for your participation, support and engagement – I hope you enjoyed the event as much as I did!

Our in-person AGM during LTF was well attended by UKALTA members and guests - thank you! The AGM is an important exercise in organisational transparency and accountability, helping to keep you up-to-date with UKALTA plans and activities. The Executive Committee's slide deck from that meeting will be available from our website in the near future.

Following LTF, we carefully considered the different Committee positions needing to be filled and how best to match them to those who were nominated or who offered to step up to various roles. Following discussion and agreement with all involved, we have been able to fill each vacant role without the need for any online elections. We have appointed new Committee members 'nem con' as follows:

Nicky Latimer - Treasurer (2025-2027)

Muhammad Tayyab – Website and Communications (2025-2027)

Yasin Karatay - Ordinary Member (2025-2027)

Sathena Chan – Chair, M&N Committee (2025)

Leda Lampropoulou - M&N Committee (2025)

Shishi Zhang - M&N Committee (2025)

Petra Smelak - PGR Network Joint Co-ordinator (2025-)

Ozlem Terzioglu - PGR Network Joint Co-ordinator (2025-)

Our grateful thanks must go to outgoing members Catherine Hughes, Tony Clark, Santi Lestari, Fiona Orel and Elena Gandini for their service in recent years. Catherine and Elena have kindly offered to continue working with me on a small group to progress the charity status application next year.

Looking ahead, 2025 promises to be another exciting year for UKALTA with various initiatives and activities about which I hope to say more in my January message. At this point, please note that applications for UKALTA event sponsorship in 2025 (up to £1500) are welcomed - details are available in the relevant TOR linked to the Events webpage: [UKALTA Awards and Sponsorship – UKALTA](#). The current deadline for applications is Wednesday 31 January 2025 and applicants will be notified of the outcome within 3 weeks. All applications should be sent by email to the UKALTA Secretary at info@ukalta.org.

Advance notice: please note the dates for LTF 2025 in Southampton: 21-23 November - hosted by the University of Southampton's Language Assessment and Testing Unit (LATU).

Wishing you all plenty of rest and relaxation over the festive/holiday season and a promising start to 2025.

Kind regards
Lynda