

UKALTA

UK Association for Language Testing and Assessment

Annual General Meeting

Saturday, 23 November 2024

Agenda



1. Welcome and apologies
2. Approval of 2023 AGM minutes (previously available online)
3. President's report
4. Website & Communication Officer's report
5. Membership and Nominations Chair's report
6. Treasurer's report
7. PGR Network report
8. Awards & Sponsorship report
9. LTF 2025
10. Any other business (AOB)



Approval of 2023 AGM minutes

Lynda Taylor



President's report

Lynda Taylor

President's report (Term 2: Year 2 of 3)



UKALTA's five aims and objectives – some highlights from 2024

1. Exchange of information and research

- UKALTA sponsorship & organisation for 2-day *CEFR Alignment Conference* – Barcelona, Oct 2024
- *44th Language Testing Forum (LTF)* in Bedford – November 2024

2. Training and professional development

- UKALTA sponsorship for (free) 2-day, online workshop on 'Machine Learning for Language Assessment' led by Dr Vahid Aryadoust (July 2024)
- Won AcSS-ESRC funding in summer 2024 for EDI Leadership Training in Applied Linguistics and Language Assessment at BAAL & LTF (close collaboration between BAAL & UKALTA)
- Development of a Risk Register for UKALTA (to be kept under review annually by the Exec)
- Increased support for PGRs to attend LTF (award amount now raised to <£500)

President's report (Term 2: Year 2 of 3)



3. *Collaboration across UK language education (and more widely)*

- A new UKALTA/Hornby Scholarship Award to support a Hornby Scholar - an international ELT scholar undertaking the MEd TESOL at University of Exeter (for attendance at LTF)
- UKALTA involvement in new *Coalition for Language Education* (CLE) – coalitionforlanguageeducationuk.com - UKALTA as signatory (along with BAAL, ALL, etc)

4. *Awareness-raising and advocacy*

- UKALTA input to the Dept for Education Curriculum & Assessment Review (in collaboration with the Coalition for Language Education) – Nov 2024

5. *Outreach and public engagement*

- UKALTA presence at and involvement in this year's BAAL conference at the University of Essex and at the BAAL TEASIG 1-day conference in Oxford (both in Sept)

Some short-term initiatives for 2025



- refreshing the UKALTA website and brand (work in progress)
- re-energising the UKALTA PGR Network (i.e. activities, events, resources)
- developing a Standard Operating Procedure to support future planning and delivery of LTF
- chronicling the history & development of UKALTA since 2015
- submitting an application for charity status for UKALTA
- building on collaboration with 'peer' organisations – events, bids, etc
- extending the range of UKALTA briefing sheets on the website
- continuing UKALTA media/public advocacy work where possible
- celebrating UKALTA's 10th anniversary!

Some longer-term initiatives to consider for the future

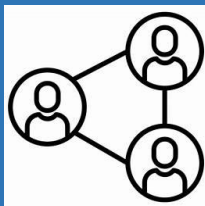


- developing a 3-5-year strategic plan for UKALTA?
- seeking to ensure financial viability and sustainability for the association?
- other initiatives – suggestions/ideas are welcome from the membership?

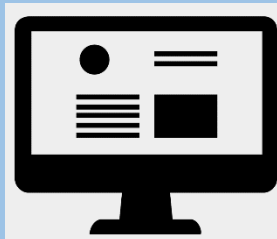
More members...
500+ in 2024!



CEFR Handbook
Conference 2024



Improvements to
UKALTA website



Support for
various peer orgs



Sponsorship for
LTF 2024



UKALTA input to
DfE Review 2024



**THE SUCCESSSS OF UKALTA ALL DEPENDS ON
YOU.... SO DO COME AND GET INVOLVED!**

New awards &
sponsorship



New membership
structure in 2024



AcSS-ESRC
funding for EDI
Leadership



Signatory to
Coalition for L/Ed



2 x BAAL-UKALTA
EDI workshops



www.ukalta.org

info@ukalta.org

@UKALTA2

Sincere thanks to our Executive Committee!





Website & Communications

Tony Clark

Website & Communications



Website: Resources, Briefing Sheets (x8 up so far), advocacy documents, codes of ethics, CEFR, test reviews and more

UK languages, LTF archive, PG events, 'Links and Partnerships'

- Zobia commissioned this year (web specialist), new logo and website updates

Twitter: 297 tweets, 709 followers (nearly doubled in the last year)

Instagram and LinkedIn accounts planned

Used for live coverage of LTF and other major international conferences (EALTA, CEFR event in Barcelona, BAAL, New Directions Kenya)

Mailchimp: 353 recipients (slightly up from last year)

President's messages (seven previous messages now available on website)



Membership & Nomination

Sathena Chan

Membership and Nominations



Progress this year:

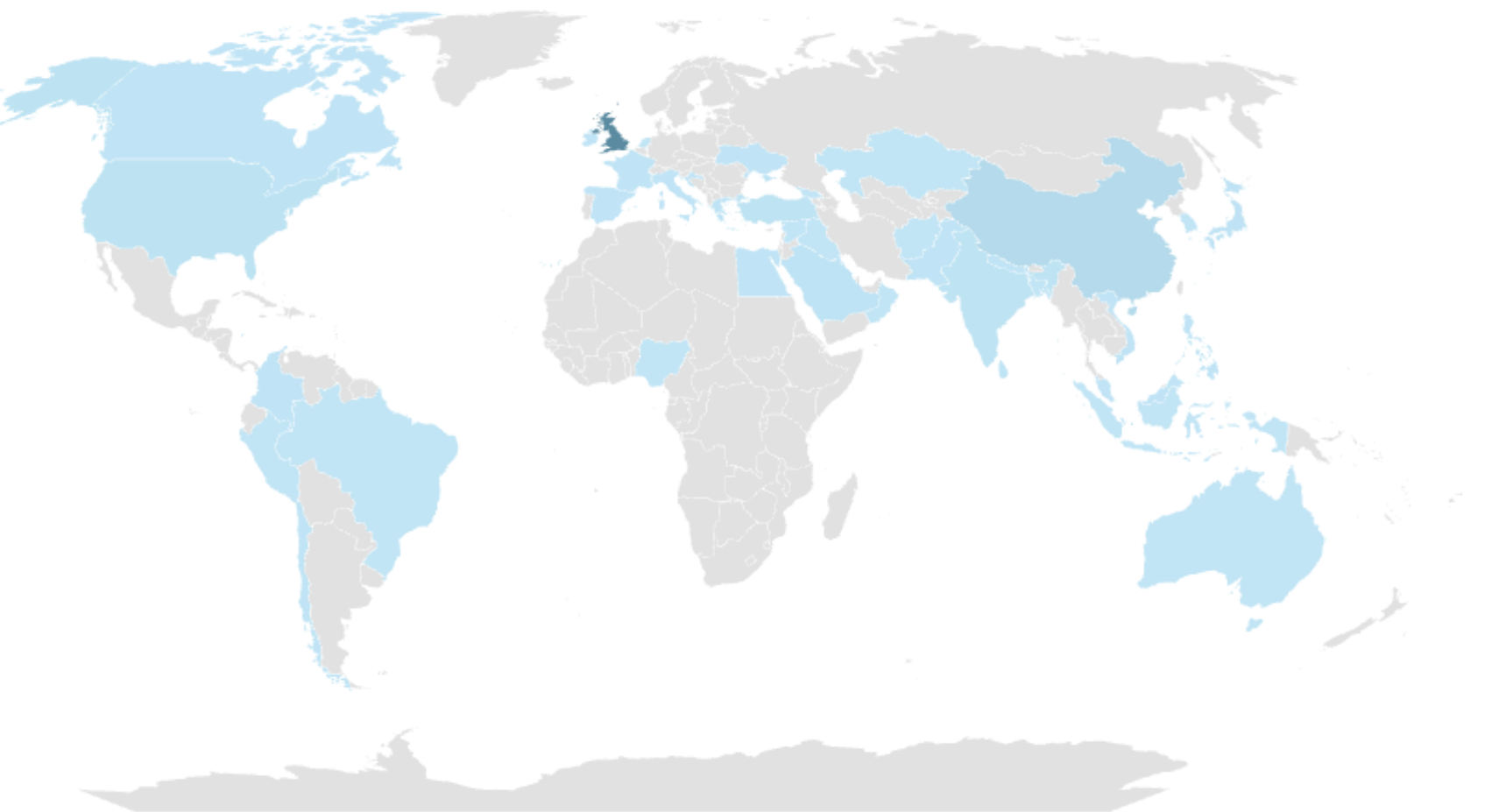
- Implemented changes in individual membership categories (Full membership; Associate membership)
- Streamlined application review procedures
- 535 full members (10% growth from last year)
- Working with the Website team to improve M&N functionalities

Next year:

- Advertise Associate Membership
- Survey of main reasons for joining UKALTA

UKALTA Individual Full Membership

United Kingdom	57.76%
China	7.58%
United States	2.53%
India	2.17%
Turkey	2.17%
Greece	1.81%
Saudi Arabia	1.81%
Hong Kong	1.44%
Iran	1.44%
Japan	1.44%
and many more ...	





Treasurer's report

Catherine Hughes

Treasurer's report



Opening Balance 14 Nov 2023	£17,366.56			
Income			Outgoings	
LTF 2024 Surplus	£6,681.00		3 Grants - CEFR Coll, V Aryadoust, Hornby	£2,500.00
Sponsorship LTF 2023	£5,275.00		Awards and Prizes	£400.00
Grant AcSS-ESRC	£2,825.00		ACSS Membership	£340.00
LTF 2024 Payments	£60.00		IT Contractor	£1,830.00
TSO Hosting Refund	£5.92		Online running costs (website, web, cert)	£670.38
			EC Expenses LTF 2023 & LTF 2024 (so far)	£2,369.15
			Other Costs (Bank Charge & Postage)	£28.15
			LTF 2024 Payment (Conf Dinner)	£815.50
			Jamie Dunlea Funeral Contribution	£237.50
TOTAL	£14,846.92		TOTAL	£9,190.68
TOTAL INCOME 2022-2023	£2,807.88		TOTAL OUTGOINGS 2022-2023	£5,586.68
Closing Balance 18 Nov 2024	£22,772.80			



PGR Network report



Awards & Sponsorship

Nate Owen

Awards and Sponsorship



This year:

- UKALTA offers funding for students to attend and present at the *Language Testing Forum* (LTF) each year. Funding given towards the cost of LTF registration, travel, accommodation or and/other LTF-related expenses - up to a maximum of £500 per awardee.
- The student must be accepted to give an oral or poster presentation at the event.
- This year, we are delighted to announce the winners are **Shishi Zhang** and **Yuanyue Hao**.

Sponsorship

- From British Council, Cambridge, Duolingo, Eiken, GEPT, Oxford, Lancaster University, Text Inspector and UCL

Awards and Sponsorship



Next year:

- Proposal for a new award: **First-time attendee award.**
 - Formal selection process ('why do I want to attend the conference and what I hope to get out of it') – wording to be decided by Executive Committee
 - This would be open to MA/PhD candidates who have not attended LTF before.
 - They would have to be UKALTA members.
 - The award would cover registration and meal.
 - We would have two awards per year.
 - There would be no commitment to present by the awardees.
 - Part of the award is to write up their experience of the conference to be shared with the community via the UKALTA website.



LTF 2025 – in Southampton

(A special year: 45th anniversary for LTF & 10th anniversary for UKALTA)



Any other business?