

Opening Address

Hyesook Park
(Conference Chair)

Good morning ladies and gentlemen. It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 2012 Geta Conference. It is my honor to welcome all of the Geta members, presenters, both Korean and from other countries, and all other attendees, to Jeonju National University of Education.

The theme of this conference is “Pedagogical and Evaluative Approaches to Speaking and Writing.” I believe this theme is timely and appropriate due to the development of the nationally-based English ability exam (NEAT) which includes the four sections of listening, reading, speaking and writing. Through presentations and colloquiums, I expect this conference will provide you with many opportunities to experience diverse voices and academic interests.

First, I'd like to express my profound gratitude to the plenary speakers : Prof. Curtis Kelly of Kansai University in Japan, Dr. Kyungsook Chang of Korea Institute of Curriculum and Evaluation, and Prof. Yongwon Lee of Seoul National University. I am confident that they and all of our presenters will help expand our insights on the theme of this conference by sharing their expertise and professional experience.

In addition, I wish to convey my sincere gratitude to conference chair Professor Maria Oh of Jeonju National University of Education, and the rest of the committee members of this conference. Without their tireless dedication in organizing this conference, we would not have been able to produce such a wonderful conference.

Furthermore, my heartfelt thanks goes to the many sponsors of our conference: English Moo Moo, Cambridge University Press, and Jeonju Top ELT Book Center. Your generosity has been a vital part in the implementation of this conference. Thank you so much for your contribution.

Finally, I hope that everyone will do their best to actively participate in the conference. I trust that each of you will enjoy this conference and will have many opportunities for intellectual exchanges as well as finding insights and implications for your classrooms in terms of how to teach and how to evaluate students' productive skills. I hope you go home energized, enthusiastic and full of new ideas to implement in your classroom. Thank you again for your participation and interest in GETA, and enjoy the conference.