**SIGs Officer Report 2021-22 BALEAP AGM**

ACTIVITY

Following the easing of lockdown restrictions and the ‘Introduction to SIGs’ event within the BALEAP 2021 Bi-Annual conference, all nine SIGs have continued or resumed activity on behalf of their memberships. SIGs have hosted between two and nine events over the 12 months to April 2022, an average four events per SIG. There has been quite a range of topics covered with key themes around the student voice, disciplinary practices, and deepening EAP expertise. The majority if not all events have been hosted online, generally in the form of workshops and webinars and often featuring guest speakers. Six SIGs have hosted regular networking, discussion, and/or reading groups and a number of SIGs have provided additional value to their membership through blog posts, reading lists, padlet and video content. A Test Piloting Network has also been set up by TAFSIG. In an exciting new development, SIGs have collaborated to plan and host joint events, ‘Assessing Listening’ (Listening SIG & TAFSIG planned for Jan 2022, postponed to a later date) and ‘Assessment for Social Justice World Café’ (SJ SIG and TAFSIG).

ADMINISTRATION & GOVERNANCE

I met with SIG convenors in April and Oct 2021 and in Feb 2022, and at our last meeting agreed to expand the number of meetings to four per year (Feb, May, Sep and Nov). The February 2022 meetings were also opened up to SIG committee members to provide an opportunity to network and discuss issues from the perspective of those in different SIG committee roles. This proved popular and we agreed to make this wider group meeting a regular feature of the SIG calendar. SIGs now also have access to the BALEAP standard zoom licence, which can be upgraded to capacity 500 if required.

SIGs committee members have made significant progress on issues relating to governance. All SIGs have had their AGMs (2 in Oct 2021, 2 Dec 2021- Jan 2022, 3 in March 2022) and the remaining two have scheduled AGMs for April 2022. Seven of the nine SIGs have submitted Annual reports and drafted Constitutions. Arrangements have been made to draft a ‘boilerplate’ Constitution to assist current and future SIGs with this task. There has been more discussion and some action on opening SIG bank accounts to enable SIGs to manage their finances.

There also have been a number of changes in the membership of individual SIG committees with some committee members stepping in to cover on a temporary basis the remits of those who have had to move on. Elections are in the process of being organised to fill vacant positions, most notably the TELSIG convenor role, and or ratify committee members in new roles. To ease this process the SIG Handbook has been updated with the relevant guidance.

NEW SIGS

Two additional SIGs were proposed in autumn 2021:

* BALEAP Law SIG – which aims to ‘provide a forum for EAP practitioners who teach, or are interested in teaching, language for law, or those who are interested in legal language, to discuss, deepen their understanding of, and address concerns related to teaching language for law in a higher education context.’
* BALEAP STEM SIG – which aims to ‘connect members working in EAP-STEM, collate examples of good practice, develop and share understanding of linguistic features in STEM, and encourage further research into EAP and STEM.’

These have been resubmitted following recommendations for minor revisions and additional information.

**Anneli Williams, BALEAP SIGs Officer, March 2022**

**OVERVIEW OF SIGs**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SIG** | **Membership** | **Events hosted** | **Other outreach activity/fora** | **Governance/**  **administration** |
| **Academic Literacies** | No change reported | * Jun 2021 1st workshop re Student Needs * Sep 2021 2nd workshop re Development * Dec 2021 3rd workshop re implementation * Mar 2022 4th workshop re Embedding Academic Literacies in the Disciplines | * Reading club (some with guest speaker) meeting quarterly (?) * Blog & reading list set up (but little content to date) * May 2021 Website launched | * 17 March 2022 AGM * April 2021 Constitution drafted |
| **Creative Disciplines** | No change reported | * Apr 2021 online event CD educational processes * Oct 2021 online event ‘Spotlight on EAP in the Performing Arts’ * Nov 2021 event with CD subject lecturers as part of Coventry City of Culture | * Monthly ‘Speakeasy’ networking event * Monthly ‘Mid-month musings blog posts * Reading list | * AGM moved to 22 April to accommodate striking colleagues |
| **Developing, Teaching and Testing Academic Listeners** | 147 Twitter followers | * Jun 2021 ‘Listening in the Disciplines’ * Jul 2021 Praxis workshop: ‘Materials Development for Listening’ * Nov 2021 Praxis workshop re bottom-up listening skills - postponed? * Jan 2022 half-day event (2 plenaries + seminar discussion) with TAFSIG’ – postponed? * Feb/Mar 2022 Listening in the Disciplines 2’ – postponed? | * Oct 2021 Coffee club – open discussion matters listening related | * Apr 2022 AGM * July 2021 Constitution drafted |
| **Doctoral Education** | 52 official members  72 followers on Twitter | * Apr 2021 BALEAP Glasgow SIG Event-Doctoral Education SIG ‘Relaunch’ * Jun 2021 Coffee meet: Communicating doctoral EAP provisions to the university: making your work valuable/visible (Input from Julie King, Robin Mowat and Andrew Northern from Imperial) * Oct 2021 AGM & Coffee meet: online vs. f2f delivery of doctoral provisions – lessons learnt from the pandemic. * Oct 2021 Coffee meet: Pre-sessional provisions for doctoral students (Input from Irene Addison-Child, Milada Walkova and Kashmir Kaur from Leeds) * Nov 2021 Coffee meet: Building relationships (input from Gosia Drewniok from Lincoln) | No website but Twitter handle, @BALEAP\_DocEdSIG | * Dec 2021 AGM & annual report * SIG constitution written & ratified Oct 2021 |
| **Social Justice** | 89 on JISCmail discussion list 623 Twitter followers  70 blog followers | * Apr 2021 ‘Social justice and Classroom Practices’ presentation of SJ research project & EAP for Refugees in memory of Carole Irvine, BALEAP 2021 Conference * Sep 2021 ‘Assessment for SJ World Café’ with TAFSIG * Mar 2022 AGM + lightning talks re SJ projects from recipients of the BALEAP Social Justice in EAP funding stream * Soft launch of RefugEAP scheme; working group set up | * 3 Race in EAP Reading Club discussions summer 2021 * Publication of 3 pieces in the Emerging Voices series * ‘Race in EAP’ & ‘Delivery or Deliveroo’ Padlets * Blog posts, podcasts & interviews * Rebuilt & launched website on the Weebly platform * Commissioned the design of a new logo * 2 committee members joined ‘Enacting SJ’ panel | * July 2021 AGM * Oct 2021 Annual report * Mar 2022 AGM * Constitution written * Call for new committee members (conv, sec & 2 ord members) * Bank account set up |
| **Technology Enhanced Learning** | No change reported | * Apr 2021 BALEAP 2021 Conference Introduction to SIGs * Apr 2021 17th webinar: Encouraging Fluency and Confidence in L2 Speaking Using Commercial Digital Games (Michael Hofmeyr, Osaka University) |  | * Feb 2021 Constitution updated * Convenor resigned Mar 2022 * AGM & call for nominations underway |
| **Testing, Assessment and Feedback** | 90 members  264 Twitter followers | * Apr 2021 BALEAP Conference PCE (all SIG) and Membership survey dissemination (Sam Barclay and Rob Playfair) * May 2021 Webinar: Eye-tracking research methods (Nicola Latimer) * Jun 2021 TAFSIG piloting network (Eddie Cowling, Maddy Hall, Rob Playfair, Wil Hardman) * July 2021 Webinar: TAFSIG piloting network (Eddie Cowling and Rob Playfair) * Sep 2021 Webinar: Integrated listening into writing (Carolyn Westbrook) * Sep 2021 World café event: EAP Assessment for Social Justice (Dr Jan McArthur, hosted in collaboration with EAP4SJ SIG) * Nov 2021 ‘Emergency Remote Assessment in the UK EAP sector: Challenges, Innovations and Opportunities’ (Emma Bruce and Heléna Stakounis) * Jan 2022: Joint half-day event with Academic Listening SIG (two plenaries and discussion in breakout rooms based on findings from membership questionnaires administered by both SIGs) – postponed (?) * Mar 2022 BALEAP Restes Scholarship into Testing/ Assessment Practices | * June 2021 Blog post: Assessment for Social Justice interview with Dr Jan McArthur (Jo Kukucska) * Sept 2021 TAFSIG Piloting Network launched | * Oct 2020 Constitution drafted * Oct 2021 AGM * Nov 2021 Annual report & coffee club |
| **Transnational Education** | No change reported | * Oct 2021 TNE Coffee Morning ‘ Finding the Transformative in TNE’ * Jan 2022 ‘Let’s hear from our TNE students’ * Mar 2022 ‘Sustaining learning communities across borders: a UK-China TNE partnership through and beyond COVID’ | * Updating website * Twitter handle set up Twitter@TNESIG * Regular coffee mornings | Oct 2021 AGM & Annual report |
| **Teacher Education in EAP** | 95 members (63 also BALEAP members)  224 Twitter followers  45 Youtube subscribers | * BALEAP 2021 Exploring needs & issues in EAP education (138) attendees) * Praxis Reading: Towards an EAP without borders: Developing knowledge, practitioners, and communities (45) * EAP Teacher Development: Puzzling about our Practice (47) * Teacher observations: Getting the Most out of Observations  (119) * Exploratory Practice: Re-igniting Interest to Explore EAP (67) | * 17 videos released on Youtube (761 views) * Twitter feed used consistently | Jan 2022 AGM & Annual report for 2021  April 2021 Constitution drafted |