

# Announcements

## December 2018 Update

Hi everyone!

I believe many of us are likely to be wrapping up the teaching semester and getting ready for the festive season? If you are among the lucky ones planning to a) fly off to a well-deserved holiday; b) getting together with family and friends for some great quality time (over food and beverage of choice); and/or c) just chilling; allow me to wish one and all **safe trails and happy holidays!**

**2018:** I also want to thank all of you for your continued support of my (and NUS's) effort to grow this network (we are about 150 strong now in 8 locations), to promote scholarship in our region. I took stock of where we are after two full years (SoTL-Asia was established in early 2016), made the decision to put together a SoTL-Asia Board (comprising Chwen Jen, Grahame, Johan, Peter, Toru, and me) to help us think through this work. We fielded the idea that we could perhaps put the emphasis on building our own institutional and local culture of learning and teaching, and share good practices with the broader network. On this count, I hosted a few chats with my NUS network members (about 25 participated) and I ran a quick survey of these members. I have shared that outcome with you (see my August and October updates).

**SOTL-ASIA SYMPOSIUM 2019:** One important outcome from the NUS survey and a regional quick poll (i.e. all of you) indicated to me that you really want to have a second symposium (following the first hosted by NUS in September 2017). I asked for volunteers to help us to conceptualise the 2<sup>nd</sup> SoTL-Asia Symposium 2019 (3 colleagues stepped up – thanks to Foong May, Namala and Misty). I recently discussed this matter further with the SoTL-Asia Board and we voted unanimously to have the 2nd SoTL-Asia Symposium to go to Nanyang Technological University. NTU's T&L Director Peter Looker has graciously agreed to host this symposium, on a month to be decided by NTU. Look out for an update from NTU/Peter in Jan/February at our next update. Please join me in giving NTU/Peter all our support!

**FYI:** I attach with this update various calls that came in recently. If you have anything that you wish to share with us, just drop me a line anytime. I will be spending much of the December break just chilling (much needed rest from a hectic year), and thinking about plans for SoTL-Asia. I must admit I did not have full energy to provide directions for this network at all times in 2018, but I assure you that this network is constantly on my mind, and I want something to come out of it. I hope to come up with some more concrete ideas for 2019 – help me if you have a concrete idea that can benefit this network!

- [2019 University of Calgary Conference on Postsecondary Learning and Teaching](#); Calgary, Alberta, CANADA; Exploring Experiential Learning; April 30 – May 1, 2019
- [Lily-Asia Evidenced-Based Teaching and Learning Conference](#); Hong Kong Baptist University; 16-18 May, 2019
- [International Students as Partners Institute \(ISaPI\) 2019 Conference](#); University of Adelaide, Australia; 10-12 July 2019
- [Transforming Futures: International Perspectives on Research Based Education Conference 2019](#); University of Adelaide, Australia; 14-16 July 2019

**Latest journal issues for your reading pleasure:**

1. [Asian Journal of the Scholarship of Teaching & Learning \(AJSoTL\)– Vol. 8 No. 2, November 2018](#)
2. [IJAD](#)
3. [International Journal for Students as Partners \(IJSaP\) - Vol. 2 No. 2, December 201](#)

## October 2018 Update

1. [SoTL-Asia Symposium 2019](#)—Action needed by 2 November to [pvogl@nus.edu.sg](mailto:pvogl@nus.edu.sg)
2. [Local 'chapter' update](#): Updates from any segment of SoTL-Asia is welcome at any time. Just email your updates to Huang Hoon.
3. Google+ - NUS members have told me that Google+ has not been useful to them. We have also noticed that the interaction on the platform has not been active. Recently, there was also an announcement that the company will be shutting down Google+ and so perhaps this is a good time for us to cease using this platform. While we figure out alternatives (if people still want an online platform for interaction), I will be asking our tech support people to look into taking us out of Google+. If anyone has concerns, pls write to me asap.
4. Articles for your reading pleasure:
  - An article on China SoTL to give us a sense of the progress made there:  
<https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?referer=&httpsredir=1&article=1308&context=ij-sotl>
  - Congratulations to two of our members, Siew Mei and Eric on the publication of their article (with Sze Han) in the latest issue of TLI:  
<https://journalhosting.ucalgary.ca/index.php/TLI/article/view/57510>
  - Latest issue of IJAD on the theme of '[Holistic Academic Development](#)' – for your reading pleasure.
  - Latest issue of AJSOTL: <http://www.cdctl.nus.edu.sg/ajsotl/current-issue/index.html> - ditto.
5. [Elon Conference](#) and [Writing event](#)—Deadline for both: November 2018
6. [Euro-SoTL 2019](#): Deadline for abstracts January 2019
7. "SoTL by Design" by Katie Linder: see <https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6453388549885693952>
8. [Message from Sophia Walker](#)
9. Job Opportunity:
  - [Lecturer, Centre for Tertiary Teaching and Learning, The University of Waikato](#); further information: <http://jobs.waikato.ac.nz>

## August 2018 Update

2 months have flown yet again - time for an update! The summary version below:

1. [Message from Teaching and Learning Inquiry \(TLI\) editor Gary Poole](#)— a call for book reviewers - see attached.
2. *Conferences: see attached documents or access weblinks for details*
  - [CDTL-EiRP 2018](#), 20 September 2018.
  - [CDTL-TLHE 2018](#), 25 September 2018.
  - ISSOTL 2018 in Bergen, Norway – 24-27 October 2018, see programme at <https://www.issotl.com/> - just studying the titles of papers will give you a sense of what people are doing in the ISSOTL community.

- [International English Across the Curriculum Conference](https://elc.polyu.edu.hk/conference/EAC/) at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, 3-5 December 2018; <https://elc.polyu.edu.hk/conference/EAC/>; Contact: Julia Chen at [julia.chen@polyu.edu.hk](mailto:julia.chen@polyu.edu.hk)
  - Co-constructing Excellence Conference at University of Hong Kong, 18-19 December 2018.
3. **Local group meeting:** 25 members of the *NUS-SoTL community* have met in late July – we are currently gathering feedback among NUS members through a needs/interest survey. I will share relevant information with all non-NUS members when we have something useful to share. I hope in your own local network, you also had found time to meet up too, and if you wish to share info with the rest of us outside your institution, just send it to me. Let me know if you are missing a lead and/or need my help.
  4. **SoTL-Asia Symposium 2019:** 3 members – Foong May, Misty and Namala have helped to come up with a first draft concept for our own 2019 SoTL-Asia symposium. I will share it with all of you once it is shaped up. Stay tuned.

If you have any news you think may benefit other members, just send it to me and I will help you publicise.

Take care, and thank you for being part of this community – you are the people who define this network.

## June 2018 Update

### Proposal for Change to Member Engagement

The Board and SIG leads have been pondering over how best to engage such a growing network of almost 130 members. After some discussions, we are generally agreed that for meaningful engagement, we need perhaps to focus energy on the *local* but continue to share on the global scale. In other words, we are proposing that each of us who are institutional leads (in formal or informal capacities) help to engage colleagues in their own immediate domain (i.e. university/school), build up a stronger engagement link among local members, focus on issues most pertinent to members within that domain, and at the same time, learning and sharing on the SoTL-Asia platform. This does not mean that we cannot interact across domains/institutions/geographical locations – it just means we want to find a way to locally engage smaller groups within the same context as a first call. I assure you that I will continue to facilitate the global links – I will continue to provide you global updates once every two months or so, bring local knowledge emanating from the small groups to share with you, and will find reasons for the whole network to interact and even meet now and then, on- and off-line (see no.2 below). I also assure you that we will continue to be inclusive and will not prevent people from ‘crossing’ domains if they wish. We just want to find a productive way to engage everyone. If you have any views/concerns about this plan, pls drop me a note anytime at [pvochh@nus.edu.sg](mailto:pvochh@nus.edu.sg) If I don’t hear from anyone by 18 June, I will contact local leads (or you can volunteer yourself as a local lead) to facilitate this.

*Note: for NUS members, please kindly hold for now. I (and our other NUS leads) will get the ball rolling around late June, after my travels. We can discuss details then with you. Be prepared to step up and help me organise ourselves!*

### Proposal for 2nd SoTL-Asia Symposium (2019)

A second issue that I discussed with the SoTL-Asia Board and SIG leads is the possibility of a second SoTL-Asia Symposium, following the one held in September 2017. I have heard a number of requests for a second gathering but I was just too swamped to get this going sooner. I wish to propose that we do this as a community/network project by first electing a core group of people to steer this event. If anyone wishes to be in the core group, perhaps you can drop me a note by mid-June to signal your interest. The only

criteria is: commitment to cause! I will then subject candidates (if there are several) to a simple vote (in late June perhaps), and we can elect a small core (maybe 4-5 members will be a good start?) to get this plan going for us from July/August. So first step: signal your interest to be in the core group and stand for election to the core. If no one steps forward, then we may need to nominate a few good women and men!

**Members' profiles:** We have six profiles up already, with more promised. If you wish to be profiled, just drop a note to KC Lee at [cdtleekc@nus.edu.sg](mailto:cdtleekc@nus.edu.sg) – don't be shy. I think it is really good that we get to know one another a bit more through this platform and possibly make connections with individuals with shared interests. Pls visit the site at: <http://nus.edu.sg/sotl-asia/members.htm> to see the existing profiles submitted so far.

**ISSOTL 2018 in Bergen, Norway:** If you wish to know more about ISSOTL and the coming October conference in Bergen, pls visit this site: <https://www.issotl.com/> If anyone wishes to know more about ISSOTL, I am happy to speak to you about it.

**HKU Co-constructing Excellence Conference:** Pls consider submitting an abstract to this – this is such an interesting and important theme. Details follow:

Co-Constructing Excellence: Recognising, Scaffolding and Building Excellence in University Learning and Teaching, 18-19 December 2018, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

Website: <http://www.cetl.hku.hk/conf2018/>

Online submission system: <https://myreview2018.cetl.hku.hk>

**FYI: NEW BOOK: Learning from Academic Conferences**

Release of a new book published by Brill/Sense (Netherlands) and edited (and written) by Celia Popovic, with contributions from Canadian colleagues Alice Cassidy, Beverly Hamilton, Erika Kustra, Jessica Raffoul, and Mary Wilson - and Sue Beckingham and Fiona Campbell from the UK. This book is on planning, participating in, speaking at, and attending conferences for the best professional development impact.

Book details:

Title: *Learning from Academic Conferences*

ISBN: 978-90-04-37299-3 (Paperback), 978-90-04-37300-6 (Hardback)

E-ISBN: 978-90-04-37301-3 (E-book)

Price: Paperback € 27,- (\$ 33,-) / Hardback € 93,- (\$ 112,-) / E-book € 88,- (\$ 106,-)

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Series/subseries: Critical Issues in the Future of Learning and Teaching ([CIFL](#))

Pages: xvi, 180 pp.

Publication date: May 2018

**FYI: Job: Lecturer in Science Communication, University of Melbourne; Applications close June 17**

We are seeking an outstanding Lecturer in Science Communication (Teaching Specialist role), with a passion for science, teaching and science communication, to contribute to the expansion of the University of Melbourne's acclaimed science communication teaching program. Further information

<http://jobs.unimelb.edu.au/caw/en/job/896771/lecturer-in-science-communication>.

**International English Across the Curriculum Conference at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University: 3-5 December 2018**

Conference website is <https://elc.polyu.edu.hk/conference/EAC/>; and our email is [EAC2018@polyu.edu.hk](mailto:EAC2018@polyu.edu.hk).

## April 2018 Update

**WELCOME NEW SOTL-ASIA MEMBERS:** We are so glad you have joined us! We now have 126 members: Chan Kok Hoe (NUS) and Misty Cook (NUS)

**SOTL-ASIA MEMBERS' PROFILES:** This is a new initiative to profile a few members each time, so that we get to know one another a little better. We started with Chen Chwen Jen (Malaysia; our SoTL-Asia Board member) and Eric Chan (Singapore; an editorial board member of AJSOTL). In this second profile set, we wish to introduce you to three members: Melvyn Tan (Singapore), Toru Iiyoshi (Japan; our SoTL-Asia Board member), and Susan Rowland (Australia). Click this link to view: <http://nus.edu.sg/sotl-asia/members.htm>

If any member wishes to be profiled in this way, you just need to drop me a text and a photo – we will do the rest. Heartfelt thanks to KC Lee and her team for helping to put this together.

### ONLINE SIG DISCUSSIONS THROUGH GOOGLE PLUS+:

Pls join our G+ community at:

<https://plus.google.com/communities/116348560551583315164?sqinv=Y2ZRNGNiOGxQRDdIZ1pnYWdGVUgxak52THNvQm5R>

Note: Any member can share a post on G+ (without having to go through the SIGs)

Come join the SIG conversations: <http://nus.edu.sg/sotl-asia/sigs.htm> if you are already in the SIGs. If you are not part of any SIG and wish to join, just let the facilitator or me know.

**FROM THE SOTL-ASIA BOARD:** The 6-member board held an online meeting/email exchange on 7 February. We are meeting next in early May. As we are a new Board, do allow us some time to come up with concrete ideas to share with you. Don't hesitate to suggest to the Board (via me or Johan) if you have something on your mind. Let's grow and co-direct this network, together.

**Seeking your views:** How would you like to contribute to this network? How would you like to be engaged? We really want this network to benefit you. Just email Huang Hoon at [pvochh@nus.edu.sg](mailto:pvochh@nus.edu.sg) anytime with your perspective and ideas for better engagement.

### Relevant Conferences:

ICED ATLANTA 2018, 5-8 June 2018. The conference theme is "Organizational Change: Voices, Identities, Power and Outcomes. If you plan to attend, do let Huang Hoon know – we can meet there!

[Huang Hoon and Johan have been to ICED conferences in the past, and will be participating in ICED-Atlanta this year. This is a very collegial platform to share your good practices in teaching and learning, and is particularly suitable for those who manage T&L issues in universities.]

15TH ISSOTL@BERGEN, NORWAY, 24-27 October 2018. The conference theme is "Toward a learning culture". Again, if you plan to attend ISSOTL, Huang Hoon and Johan love to meet up with you there too.

[Several of us on this list has participated in past ISSOTL conferences. I serve on the ISSOTL Board of Directors as Vice President – Asia Pacific. ISSOTL is an international platform for sharing SoTL work, and is a good learning ground for newcomers, and also a good network for cultivating SoTL practices. Drop me a note if you have a question about ISSOTL.]

**AJSOTL and other journals:** We publish 2 issues per year, in May and in November. If you have something to share with our readers but are not sure about how to go about it, just drop Johan a note at [cdthead@nus.edu.sg](mailto:cdthead@nus.edu.sg) or speak to our journal manager, Liew Shin Dee: [cdtlisd@nus.edu.sg](mailto:cdtlisd@nus.edu.sg)

In the most recent issue, a number of our SoTL-Asia members have shared their work: see

<http://www.cdtl.nus.edu.sg/ajsotl/current-issue/index.html>

And just in case you did not know, on our SoTL-Asia website, if you click on “resources”, you will also see a list of relevant SoTL journals that may be useful to you, both as a reader and a writer. This link takes you there directly: <http://libguides.nus.edu.sg/sotl-asia/journals>

## February 2018 Update

**WELCOME NEW SOTL-ASIA MEMBERS:** We are so glad you have joined us! We now have 124 members:

From Singapore: Adam Staley Groves (NUS), Amy Choong (NUS), Bellam Sreenivasulu (NUS); Clement Lim (SUTD), Foo Yang Yann (Duke-NUS), James Foo (SMU), Khoo Xiaojuan (SUTD), Lee Chee Huei (SUTD), Lieven Demeester (SMU), Lim Cheng Puay (NUS), Magdaleine Lew (SMU), Oka Kurniawan (SUTD), Preman Rajalingam (NTU), Sergey Kushnarev (SUTD), Susan Seetho (NUS), Tan Ban Pin (NUS), Volker Patzel (NUS), Wee Tian Lu (SMU), Wong Wei Pin (SUTD)

From the region (and farther afield): Beth Remedio (Philippines), Inoue Fumiko (Japan), Prasert Kanthamanon (Thailand), Qi Gao (China), Rae Lan (Taiwan), Sanae Okamoto (Netherlands, UIIN).

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## January 2018 Update

Happy New Year, SoTL-Asia members!

I apologize for the silence, since the 1st SoTL-Asia event held at NUS in late September. The last quarter has been crazy for me, but I am finally able to get back on track to get this network going again. I have a number of things to convey to you:

I have taken the liberty to add a number of new names to this distribution list because of your recent expressed interest in this network. If anyone does NOT wish to be kept on this list, pls let me know so that I can ensure you are not bothered with more email from us.

I have been busy! The first order of business this past week was to establish a SoTL-Asia Board to help to guide this expanding network. The colleagues who have agreed to serve on this Board are:

Grahame Bilbow (Hong Kong)  
Toru Iiyoshi (Japan)  
Chen Chwen Jen (Malaysia)  
Peter Looker (Singapore)  
Johan Geertsema (Singapore)  
Chng Huang Hoon (Singapore)

This Board meets online/through email once every two months. Our first Board meeting is in February. If members have specific ‘strategic’/SoTL-Asia direction-type issues/ideas that you wish this Board to consider, pls do not hesitate to email Johan Geertsema ([cdthead@nus.edu.sg](mailto:cdthead@nus.edu.sg)) latest by 4 February.

We have set up a webpage for SoTL-Asia within the CDTL website. Pls access this link to check it out: <http://nus.edu.sg/sotl-asia/index.htm>.

Our web facilitators are Adrian Lee ([cdtaml@nus.edu.sg](mailto:cdtaml@nus.edu.sg)) and Lee Kooi Cheng ([cdtleekc@nus.edu.sg](mailto:cdtleekc@nus.edu.sg)). If you wish to provide feedback and ideas about this site, you may reach out to them directly.

We have also created a Google Plus platform for the Special Interest Groups (SIGs) to do some online interaction for continued conversation, see <https://plus.google.com/communities/116348560551583315164>. For moderators' e-guide, see [http://nus.edu.sg/sotl-asia/moderators-eguide/eguide\\_player.html](http://nus.edu.sg/sotl-asia/moderators-eguide/eguide_player.html); best viewed with Chrome browser. A big thank you to NUS colleague Charina Ong for her help with these.

Note: At the moment Google Plus has been set as Private. That means moderators (i.e. SIG leads) will have to include members. And if there are requests, these participants will be included only with the acceptance of the moderators. So SIG leads – you need to 'activate' this platform for your members.

I have attached my membership excel sheet – it contains your SIG subscription. Pls update me if you wish to join another SIG or if you wish to be dropped from a current SIG, or if you wish to be dropped from the membership list totally.

Please look out for the next [ISSOTL conference](#) that is going to be hosted by University of Bergen, Norway. The dates are 24-27 October 2018.

<http://www.issotl.com/issotl15/node/239>- abstracts submission from 1 February  
<http://www.issotl.com/issotl15/node/255>- call for proposal on "Reading across disciplines", chapter proposal abstracts due soon on 15 Feb

Please consider sharing your work on the NUS SoTL Journal platform. We publish twice a year, in May and in November. We support any scholarly work on teaching and learning you wish to share with colleagues. We subject the papers to friendly, double-blind review. Please see [www.ajsotl.edu.sg](http://www.ajsotl.edu.sg) for further info, or email Liew Shin Dee at [cdtisd@nus.edu.sg](mailto:cdtisd@nus.edu.sg) if you have a question about the journal.

The SIG leads remain unchanged:

Institutional leadership: Chng Huang Hoon  
Academic development: Johan Geertsema  
Assessment: Mark Gan  
Technology-enhanced education: Toru Iiyoshi and Jeanette Choy  
Sharing your SoTL work: Nacha Sockalingam and Sandy Cook (Leads, I revised your SIG title – let me know if this is ok.)  
Non-Conventional Teaching Contexts: Lee Kooi Cheng  
SoTL in the Disciplines: Wu Siew Mei

I have requested Jeanette Choy and Wu Siew Mei to help me look after SIGs. They will work with SIG leads to ensure our SIGs are active and engaging platforms.

That's all for now – will be back in touch soon as I have more to report.