



H-INET

Higher Education in Israel Network of English Teachers

A quarterly newsletter brought to you by H-INET

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Message from the Chair



Spring Conference



H-INET—it's official!



Quality Committee

Message from the Chair

It's been a long and difficult journey in our efforts to promote the advancement of English in higher education in Israel. I am very optimistic that our efforts have paid off – and very much because we have banded together as professionals and have voiced our concerns about policy decisions that were made without consulting us, the experts. It is because of our persistence that the CHE ordered a Quality Assessment of English in higher education in Israel. The International QA Committee's recommendations reflect what we have been fighting for: an integrative four-skills approach aligned with international standards. We are now cooperating closely with the CHE on the implementation of the committee's recommendations. Although there is the probability that not all the recommendations will be implemented (for legal, political and/or budgetary reasons), the CHE has acknowledged that English in higher education in Israel will be aligning with the CEFR. The struggle is not over yet – we need to take part in professionalization initiatives and ensure that conditions allow this transition to take place. I am sure that H-INET has been and will continue to be instrumental in transforming the CHE's English language policies.

I would like to thank the members of the steering committee and the va'adat bikorit for their tireless efforts. It has been an honor working with such a group of dedicated professionals. And finally, I would like to thank all H-INET members for volunteering, for disseminating, for coming to meetings and conferences, and for giving us the financial and moral support to carry on the fight for quality English instruction in higher education in Israel.

Looking forward to continued collaboration - Shana Tova and Gmar Hatima Tova.

Elana

Spring H-INET - Conference

H-INET held its second International Spring Conference at Tel Aviv University on February 27th. Over 100 people attended and enjoyed the plenary talk given by Prof. Cristina Flores who spoke on Issues in Learning and Teaching Heritage Languages; Dr. Tziona Levi, Inspector for English at the Ministry of Education, talked about oral proficiency and innovations within the high school program. There were 8 presentations in the morning parallel sessions, and following an amazing lunch, the first of the Clive Lawrence Series of Workshops included a session on assessment with Dr. Ruth Fortus from NITE, and a session on EMI with Prof. Ofra Inbar-Lourie of TAU and Dr. Linda Weinberg from Braude College of Engineering. Additional and varied presentations completed the final parallel sessions of the day. Conference participants repaired to the Hahog haTzafon pub on Einstein to wind down and chill out after a full and satisfying day. Many thanks to the organizers and we look forward to the next one which will be on 18th February, 2019 at Tel Aviv University.



SAVE THE DATE:

H-INET Spring Conference

18th February 2019



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H-INET—it's official

Thanks to the tireless efforts of Carmen Fedor of Tel Aviv University, all the legalities surrounding the official establishment of the H-INET Association have been completed. H-INET is the official professional association for English teachers in higher education in Israel. Our gratitude to Carmen knows no bounds. A truly amazing job well done.

The Steering Committee, comprising equal representation from the universities, the academic colleges and the teacher training colleges, and the vaadat bikoret were approved by the membership at the AGM held in February at TAU. The Chair of H-INET is Elana Spector-Cohen of Tel Aviv University; the other university members are Rosalie Sitman and Keren Goldfrad; the academic college members are Susan Itzhak, Linda Weinberg and Tal Levy; the members from the teacher training colleges are Tina Waldman, Debbie Hellerstein and Hanne Juel Solomon. Carmen Fedor and Shaya Kass make up the the vaad bikoret.

The takanon and minutes of the meeting can be found in the [H-INET website](#).

Quality Committee

On February 14th, representatives of the EAP departments around the country convened at the Mishkenot Sha'ananim Conference Center in Jerusalem to meet with members of the International Committee who were visiting Israel to review the information gathered by the CHE. During this meeting, Elana Spector-Cohen, Chair of H-INET, in an emotional presentation, charted the tempestuous journey that had brought us to this point, and expressed the hope shared by all that the committee would present recommendations to the CHE that will truly promote the advancement of English in higher education in Israel. The second meeting took place in Tel Aviv at the Dan Panorama on March 15th. During this meeting, the committee members met in small groups with the EAP representatives, and the committee discussed their preliminary recommendations.

Future Newsletters

Our newsletters are intended to come out 4 times a year. The next one is planned for the end of the calendar year; the first one of the new calendar year will be published following the Spring Conference in February; the second one is planned for the end of June to coincide with the end of the spring semester; the third newsletter will come out in time for Rosh Hashana, and the fourth one will be timed to coincide with the end of the calendar year. Contributions from all members will be welcomed. Please send information for the next newsletter that you feel is relevant to the membership - classroom initiatives, workshops, conferences, publications, collaborative activities between members, or requests for collaboration, news about members, special offers that might be of interest. All contributions can be submitted via the H-INET website: <https://h-inet.org/>

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Please mark the conference date in your diaries and share with all your colleagues. Updates will be sent regarding the Call for Papers and will be posted in the H-INET website. We look forward to seeing you all there.