

Quality in Higher Education

This two-day event organised by the British Council and Ege University will explore the cultivation of a quality culture in the higher education context.

Improving the quality of higher education is a commonly discussed issue with higher education policy makers, scholars and teachers. The quality of English language teaching plays a crucial part within these discussions.

Day 1: Cultivation of Quality Culture in ELT in Higher Education

The first day will be an International Conference organised by Ege University School of Foreign Languages. The theme “quality” will be explored in terms of implications for organisational culture, curriculum and assessment, benchmarking evaluation of learning, teachers and students, continuous professional development, teacher/staff satisfaction and appraisal, learner motivation and other subthemes.

The conference will aim to gather scholars and presenters who are interested in improving the quality of higher education.

Day 2: The State of English in Higher Education in Turkey

The aim of the second day is to discuss the recommendations of *The State of English in higher education in Turkey* with key higher education stakeholders in the Aegean region.

<http://www.britishcouncil.org.tr/en/teach/elt-publications/he-research>

Background

The State of English in higher education in Turkey was launched on 25 November in Ankara by the British Council and is one of the largest baseline studies of its kind in Turkey with 38 universities in 15 cities all across Turkey taking part in the study. With over 400 teachers and 4,300 student surveys, 65 observed lessons, over 350 teachers taking part in focus groups and over 72 interviews with senior managers, the report presents many questions and explores the strengths of and the challenges faced by teachers and learners of English in higher education institutions in Turkey.

Since its launch, the report has initiated major discussions around quality assurance in higher education. The Council of Higher Education in Turkey has put out a call for recommendations on how to regulate the processes of Foreign Language Education in the higher education context.

In February 2015, a second event was held in at Istanbul Technical University with over 450 participants in which the Council of Higher Education reported back on what was done at a national level to improve the quality of higher education. Since then, the report has been amongst the major drivers of the policy change regarding the competencies of EMI lecturers in Turkey. The event was also an opportunity for rectors to share their views on how to overcome the challenges of the current system. The event also gave a chance to listen to the teacher voices on the challenges that teachers and students face with respect to Foreign Language Policies in the HE.

This day at Ege University gives us the opportunity to:

- discuss the implications of the new regulations in higher education for English Medium Instruction (EMI) and EMI lecturers in Turkey
- learn how Turkish universities can adopt a quality driven approach in higher education and understand the role of language to improve internationalisation, and staff and student mobility agendas
- explore the role of accreditation in achieving quality in higher education

- get an insight into student views of the challenges they face regarding English language education in their preparatory years and beyond

We hope the presentations and the panels on both days will provide an opportunity to explore the recommendations presented in the report at an international, national and institutional level.

[Date and Venue](#)

The event will take place on 26-27 May 2016 at Ege University Bornova Campus in Izmir.

DAY 1
Programme on 26 May 2016
Plenaries will take place in the Faculty of Fisheries; concurrent sessions will take place in Faculty of Letters

09.00-09.30	Registration - Faculty of Fisheries		
09.30-09.45	Welcome and Opening Speech Prof. Dr. Atilla Silkü , Director of School of Foreign Languages, Ege University		
09.45-10.30	Plenary Prof. Dr. Gölge Seferoğlu , Dean, Faculty of Education, METU "Quality in ELT in Higher Education: Where do we go from here?"		
10.30-10.45	Coffee Break		
Concurrent Sessions			
	Title	Presenters	Venue
11.00-11.30	Maintaining the Efficacy of Warm-up Activities in EFL Classrooms: An Exploratory Action Research	Hasan Savaş	Faculty of Letters Nuri Bilgin Conference Hall
	Challenges and Professional Identity of Novice Language Teachers at Higher Education Institutions: A Case Study	Pınar Karataş	Faculty of Letters Room 1104
	Academic Writing in Higher Education: Matter of Hedging, Common Problems Encountered and Possible Ways to Avoid Them	Ahmet Meç Begüm İhtiyarer	Faculty of Letters Ahmet Aslan Conference Hall
11.30-11.45	Coffee Break		
Concurrent Sessions			
	Title	Presenters	Venue
11.45-12.15	The Effects of Socioeconomic Status on College Students' Academic Achievement in an English Language Teaching Program	Didem Koban Koç	Faculty of Letters Nuri Bilgin Conference Hall
	Are Teachers and Trainers Demonstrating the Quality of Learning They Want Their Students and Trainees to Develop?	Funda Çetin Fulya Kaya Müge Rusçuklu Margaret Ameghino Özge C. Aysal Richard Smith	Faculty of Letters Ahmet Aslan Conference Hall
	The Relationship Among Language Learning Strategies, Perception of Autonomy and Proficiency Levels of EFL Students	Vakkas Selim Yüksel	Faculty of Letters Room 1104

12.15-13.15	Lunch		
Concurrent Sessions			
	Title	Presenters	Venue
13.15-13.45	Obtaining Meaningful Student Feedback and Evaluations of the Learning Experience in a Business English Context	Chris Banister	Faculty of Letters Nuri Bilgin Conference Hall
	ELT Pre-Service Teachers' Professional Learning: Institutional and Policy Perspectives	Ayşe Kızıldağ	Faculty of Letters Ahmet Aslan Conference Hall
	New Dimensions in Language Teaching; A Comparative Case of ICT-Based TBLT	Aslı Özlem Tarakçıoğlu	Faculty of Letters Room 1104
13.45-14:00	Coffee Break		
Concurrent Sessions			
	Title	Presenters	Venue
14.00-14.30	Corpus Use in Enhancing Lexico-Grammatical Awareness through Flipped Applications	Hatice Çelebi Hatice Karaaslan Serpil Vegter	Faculty of Letters Nuri Bilgin Conference Hall
	The Effect of Vocabulary Learning Strategy Training on University Students' Word Knowledge in an EFL Context"	Salma Seffar	Faculty of Letters Ahmet Aslan Conference Hall
	Professional Development of EFL Teachers	Ümran Üstünbaş	Faculty of Letters Room 1104
14.30-14.45	Coffee Break		
Concurrent Sessions			
	Title	Presenters	Venue
14.45-15.15	The Role of Personalized Activities and Materials on University Level EFL Learners' Motivation	Esra Can Gülin Balıkçıoğlu	Faculty of Letters Nuri Bilgin Conference Hall
	Integrating Game Elements into Online ELT Education in Preparatory Programs	Mahmut Özkan	Faculty of Letters Ahmet Aslan Conference Hall
	Associations between Classroom Learning Environment and Motivational Variables: An EFL Context	Gülçin Mutlu	Faculty of Letters Room 1104

15.15-15.30	Coffee Break		
Concurrent Sessions			
15.30-16.00	Training vs. Coaching: Finding the Right Mix for your Situation	Chris Sheen	Faculty of Letters Nuri Bilgin Conference Hall
	Learner Autonomy	Paul Johnson	Faculty of Letters Ahmet Aslan Conference Hall
	An Avalanche is Coming	Grant Kempton	Faculty of Letters Room 1104
16.00-16.15	Coffee Break		
16.15-16.30	Closing session		

Day 2 Programme on 27 May, 2016
Venue: Faculty of Fisheries, Binbir Gıda Conference Hall

09.00-09.30	Registration
09.30-09.45	Welcome and Opening Speeches Prof. Dr. Candeğer Yılmaz , Rector, Ege University Margaret Jack , Country Director, British Council
09.45-10.30	Quality Assurance in the higher education context Dr. David Gwynne Harries , Director, Leicester Language Academy
10.30-10.45	Questions and Answers
10.45-11.15	Coffee Break
11.15-12.15	Panel 1: Rectors' Panel: Quality in English in higher education Moderator: Prof. Dr. Kayhan Erciyeş , Rector, Izmir University Prof. Dr. Candeğer Yılmaz , Rector, Ege University Prof. Dr. Galip Akhan , Rector, İzmir Katip Çelebi University Prof. Dr. M. Cemali Dinçer , Rector, Yaşar University Prof. Dr. Mustafa Güden , Rector, Izmir Institute of Technology Prof. Dr. Seyfullah Çevik , Rector, Gediz University
12.15-12.30	Questions and Answers
12.30-13.30	LUNCH
13.30-14.15	Level 3 Continuous Professional Development (CPD) and the pursuit of quality language teaching George Pickering , Accreditation, UK
14.15-14.30	Questions and Answers
14.30-15.30	Panel 2: Quality assurance and the role of accreditation Moderator: Engin Ayvaz , Director, School of Foreign Languages, Yaşar University Prof. Dr. Atilla Silkü , Director, School of Foreign Languages, Ege University Dr. Deniz Kurtoğlu Eken , PDR Coordinator, School of Foreign Languages, Sabancı University Dr. David Gwynne Harries , Director, the Leicester Language Academy Sibel Tüzel Kandiller , Director, School of Foreign Languages, Izmir University
15.30-15.45	Questions and Answers
15.45-16.00	Coffee Break

16.00-17.00	Panel 3: Student voices on the quality of English in higher education Moderator: Suat Özyeşilova , Ege University Ece Erdemir , Ege University Ayşenur Öner , İzmir Institute of Technology Metin Karasazoğlu , İzmir Institute of Technology Uğur Dirik , İzmir Katip Çelebi University Dide Tekinarslan , İzmir Katip Çelebi University Çise Sakinoğlu , Dokuz Eylül University Emre Şahin , Dokuz Eylül University
17.00-17.15	Questions and Answers
17.15-17.30	Closing Session Ayşen Güven , Head of English, British Council