

**Connecting Globally Conference**

**11 March, 2015**

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| **13:00 14:00** | **Lunch RECEPTION** |
| **registration** |
| **Time** | **OPENING SPEECHES** |
| **14:00 14:15** | * **Arevik Saribekyan**, British Council Armenia, Director * **Armen Ashotyan**, RA Minister of Education and Sciences (TBC) * **Katy Leach,** UK Ambassador to Armenia (TBC) |
| **INTERNATIONALISING ASSESSMENT** | |
| **14:15 15:05** | ***IELTS In An Age of Change***  The value to both the student and to society in general when he or she travels beyond his or her own borders to gain an education is increasingly being recognised. In recent years the pace of change in the international education sector has gathered speed almost daily. In my talk I'll look at some of the opportunities, as well as the challenges, that this change creates for both the students who are wandering further from home to gain an education as well as for the institutions that they are studying at.  **Presenter:** Mike Welch, IELTS Business Development Manager, Europe |
| **15:05**  **15:50** | ***Aptis:******Forward thinking English Testing for all***  Aptis is an innovative English assessment tool from the British Council. It is designed to help organisations and institutions identify standards of English and select the staff or students with the right skills. But how much do you know about this test? What distinguishes this test from other existing ones? And how the test can benefit educational institutions?  Find the answers to these questions in this presentation.  **Presenter:** Addeh Hovassapian, ELT Projects Manager |
| **15:50 16:10** | **Coffee break** |
| **16:10 17:10** | **internationalising education: case studies from armenia** |
| ***IELTS as a professional community-building and enhancement tool***  Among many English language certificates of international recognition, IELTS has been chosen by Armenian State Pedagogical University as a target-oriented tool for teaching staff recruitment and a prerequisite for the full-time staff membership determined on a competitive basis. Despite the initially envisaged specificity of the certificate, it gradually opened up inbuilt potentials of much wider scope of application, explicitly – community-building, benchmarking and even methodological expertise and professional enhancement.  **Presenter:** Tigran Mikaelyan, Dean of English Faculty; Yerevan State Pedagogical University |
| **IELTS – More than a Language Proficiency Test**  IELTS is widely acknowledged for its clear-cut comprehensive format and the assessment it provides. Russian-Armenian (Slavonic) university is but one of many organisations and institutions worldwide which have benefited from the exam to a large extent. Almost two academic years ago the university started teaching those students who had a different major than English by using IELTS preparation materials. It devised its own plan to meet the needs of students. The success was much hailed. It is the unique experience of the university and the changes it has undergone in teaching English that we would like to share.  **Presenter:** Shushanik Melik-Adamyan, English Instructor at Slavonic University |
| * Introduction to National Program for Educational Excellence   **Presenter:** Ayb Foundation Representative (TBA) |
| **17:10 18:10** | **internationalising TEACHING** |
| ***British Council Continuous Professional Development Framework: The route to Excellence***  So, you’re working in English language teaching and want to find the best ways to develop. But how do you progress as an English language teacher? What career pathways are open to you? What can you do to develop your skills and prospects? Where can you find the right support?  These are some of the questions this presentation aims to answer.  **Presenter:** Addeh Hovassapian, ELT Projects Manager |
| **18:15 18:30** | **Certificates / CLOSING** |