

*Supporting Learning  
and Sharing Cultures:*

# THE ENHANCED NET SCHEME

# 10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE



November 1, 2008

Queen's College

NET Section • CDI • EDB • HKSAR

# Words of Welcome

## **Michael M.Y. Suen GBS, JP, Secretary for Education**

Thanks to the professionalism and dedication of all involved, we have developed a support framework to promote professional exchange and collaboration between NETs and local teachers.

Schools have now become more attuned to the strengths of NETs and the roles they play in the teaching and learning of English. We are delighted to see more and more good practices of NETs working closely with local teachers to enhance the English proficiency of our students.

## **A Word from Simon Tham, CCDO, NET Section**

NETs, who bring a wealth of experience from abroad, have been collaborating with local colleagues to help implement educational reform. Some NETs have been in Hong Kong since the inception of the Enhanced NET Scheme in 1998. Thus, the 10th anniversary of the scheme is truly a day to celebrate!

## **Enhanced NET Scheme Objectives**

NETs:

- act as English language resource persons in schools;
- assist in school-based teacher development; and
- help to foster an enabling environment for students to practise their oral English skills.

# Congratulations to our 10 Year NETs!

**Baranowski, Anthony**

**Bayer, Perry**

**Beula, Robert**

**Boswell, Craig**

**Bulley, Meryn**

**Burrige, Robyn**

**Bushell, Maureen**

**Candler, Robert**

**Chapman, Amanda**

**Cotter, Leonie**

**Dalton, Barry**

**Davies, Brian**

**Deamer, Mark**

**Dietrich, Brian**

**Dyer, Stan**

**Farmer, Stephen**

**Gaughan, Tara**

**Gibbons, Evelyn**

**Green, Gina**

**Henderson, William**

**Hone, John**

**Honig, Sabine**

**Hopkins, Alan**

**Jackson, Angela**

**Janavicius, Kristina**

**Johncock, David**

**Karczewski, Jolanta**

**Kelly, Raymond**

**Koehoorn, George**

**Kostianos, Lois**

**Lane, Charles**

**Langley, Christine**

**Lee, Cynthia**

**Leheny, Jennifer**

**Lloyd, Michael**

**Lye, Matthew**

**Lynch, Rodger**

**Margetts, Karen**

**Mark, Nicolette**

**McKay, Jennifer**

**McNamara, Paul**

**Medley, Linda**

**Mok, Mary**

**Nanda, Deepak**

**Nixon, Clive**

**North, Stephen**

**O'Callaghan, Christine**

**Orams, John**

**Pak, Samuel**

**Pankhurst, Terence**

**Peacock, Jacqueline**

**Polden, Erica**

**Poon, Dora**

**Price, Ann**

**Pinsent-Priso, Tanya**

**Pritchard, Valerie**

**Salter, Mary**

**Sarrazcin, Timothy**

**Schwedersky, Mark**

**Stone, Janene**

**Thompson, Vicki**

**Trottier, Marc**

**Tymkow, Robert**

**Warton, Deborah**

**Watson, Maree**

**Whelpton, John**

**Wilson, Marilyn**

**Witham, Sophie**

**Wyse, John**

# Schedule of Events

9:00am **Registration**

9:30 **Welcome** by Mr. Simon Tham, CCDO, NET Section, CDI, EDB

9:35 **Address** by Mr. Michael M.Y. Suen, GBS, JP, Secretary for Education, EDB

9:55 **Keynote Speaker** – Prof. Amy B.M. Tsui, Pro-Vice-Chancellor & Vice-President, University of Hong Kong

10:15 **Presentation of Certificates** to 10-year NETs by Dr. K. K. Chan, DS(ED)5, EDB

10:35 **Break**

11:00 **Workshops**

- Gifted Education
- Different but Equal: Perspectives on NET/LET Collaboration
- Storytelling
- Motivational Classroom Techniques
- Using Wikis to Promote Project Learning
- Reader's Theatre - Easy Drama for Beginners
- Poetry & Songs for NSS
- Enjoying and Exploiting Fractured Fairy Tales Through Book and Film
- Creating a Short Drama Performance
- Creativity in the English Classroom
- Word Up! Poetry from the Page to the Stage

12:30pm **Lunch Break**

2:00 **Keynote Speaker** – Nury Vittachi, Author

2:30 **Workshops**

- Stories in the English Classroom
- Self-access Language Learning
- Drama for Active English, Stagecraft & Playbuilding
- Poetry & Creativity in the Secondary School Classroom
- Pronunciation
- Moving Students with Moving Pictures: Use of Film in the English Language Classroom
- Action Research
- Assessment for Learning: Portfolios & E-Portfolios
- New NETs: Adapting Well to Hong Kong

4:00 – 4:15 **The Last Word** - Ryan Hynek, NET, Maryknoll Secondary School

## Keynote Speakers



Amy Bik May Tsui is Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Teaching and Learning) of The University of Hong Kong. She concurrently holds the position of Chair Professor in the Faculty of Education. She specialises in discourse analysis, language policy, English as a Second Language (ESL) teaching and learning, and teachers' professional development. She received her PhD in Linguistics from the University of Birmingham, UK. She has published eight books, numerous articles and given plenary papers in conferences in Asia, Europe, Australia and the US. Her most recent books include *Understanding Expertise in Teaching – case studies of ESL teachers*, (2003, Cambridge University Press); *Classroom Discourse and the Space of Learning*, (2004, Lawrence Erlbaum Associates (LEA) co-authored with Ference Marton); *Medium of Instruction Policies – Which Agenda? Whose Agenda?* (2004) and *Language Policy, Culture, and Identity in Asian Contexts* (2007), (both co-edited with James W. Tollefson and published by LEA, now Routledge/Taylor and Francis Group). Her latest book, *Learning in School-University Partnership: Sociocultural Perspectives* (published by Routledge, co-authored with Gwyn Edwards and Francis Lopez-Real), just came out in October 2008.

Nury Vittachi is one of Asia's most prolific authors. He has written more than 30 books, many published around the globe by the world's biggest publishers. A Sri Lanka-born author living in Hong Kong, his best known work is the comedy-crime series, The Feng Shui Detective, described by *The Times of London* as 'endearingly wacky'.

His newspaper columns are syndicated in Asia and attract an audience of a million-plus readers. They are printed in various countries, monthly, weekly or daily, and he runs a popular website, [www.misterjam.com](http://www.misterjam.com). Nury takes a special interest in education, young people and cross-cultural bridge-building – all areas of interest to NETs.



## Workshop Descriptions

**THERE IS NO PRE-REGISTRATION.**

**WORKSHOPS WILL RUN ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS**

**Morning Session 11:00am - 12:30pm**

### **Workshop A Gifted Education**

Dr. Stephen Tommis, Director, HK Academy for Gifted Education

The key stages of Gifted Education in Hong Kong will be identified and Dr. Tommis will explain the role and service delivery of the Hong Kong Academy for Gifted Education. Participants will be asked for their feedback and how the Academy can be of help to schools.

## **Workshop B Different but Equal: Perspectives on NET/LET (Local English Teacher) Collaboration**

Dr. David Carless, University of Hong Kong

The workshop will begin with an historical perspective of the NET Scheme. There will be some discussion and analysis of the strengths and limitations of NETs/LETs and the associated implications with an analysis of some principles and good practices in team teaching and intercultural collaboration. The challenge of change and development will be covered as well as common missteps in intercultural collaboration with suggestions on how they might be avoided.

## **Workshop C Storytelling**

Mabel Sieh, General Manager, HK International Literacy Festival

This workshop is about appreciating storytelling as an art form and using storytelling skills in the Hong Kong classroom. Learn a few stories and the activities that go with them. Mabel will share her passion and experiences in storytelling as an educator and demonstrate how storytelling skills can be employed to help students communicate and build confidence through a variety of meaningful contexts.

## **Workshop D Motivational Classroom Techniques**

Ron Kordyban, NET

Turn a normally quiet and unresponsive class into an active one. Make boring drill-type activities into enjoyable lessons and learn about useful websites for teacher resources.

## **Workshop E Using Wikis to Promote Project Learning**

David Johncock, NET

A ‘wiki’ is a website which is open for peer editing. This presentation will look at how ‘wikis’ can be used to build teaching resources, reference materials and links, incorporate a variety of multi-media resources into one website, enable students to work collaboratively on projects and to peer edit and keep track of each student’s contribution to group work.

## **Workshop F Reader’s Theatre – Easy Drama for Beginners**

Jolanta Karczewski, NET

Reader’s Theatre is an easy and non-threatening way to introduce drama to beginners. You don’t need a large space, costumes or a stage. It can be easily done in the classroom and it is a lot of fun. Participants will see a film presentation of Reader’s Theatre performed by students, write a short script from a piece of prose and act out a Reader’s Theatre script to see how easy it is to do.

### **Workshop G Poetry & Songs for NSS**

Dr. Timothy Taylor, Hong Kong Institute of Education

The workshop will briefly introduce the concept of teaching English through Language Arts as presented in the New Senior Secondary Curriculum. The workshop will provide practical examples of tools and resources, with handouts and Internet links, to explain, discuss and demonstrate how to use poems and songs to meet a variety of diverse language teaching objectives.

### **Workshop H Enjoying and Exploiting Fractured Fairy Tales Through Book and Film**

Gary Harfitt, University of Hong Kong

The talk will make reference to several popular films and show how they have built on the fairy tales that we all know and love. The link between films and other creative texts, such as “The True Story of the Three Little Pigs”, “The Stinky Cheese Man” and other subversive adaptations of fairy and folk tales is made. The focus will be on raising students’ awareness and promoting creativity in the classroom.

### **Workshop I Creating a Short Drama Performance**

Tanya Kempston, NET Section, and David Walker, NET

Participants will engage in warm-up activities and improvisation exercises and will learn how using cloth and minimal props can facilitate creative thinking. Participants will take part in a simple script-building exercise and will work in small groups to present scenes from a traditional tale. Hoi Ping Chamber of Commerce Secondary School students will act out a 15-minute drama. Participants will have a Q&A session with Mr. Walker about directing a drama performance.

### **Workshop J Creativity in the English Classroom**

Dr. Rodney Jones, City University of Hong Kong

This workshop explores the psychological and social dimensions of creativity and their relationships to language teaching and learning. Participants will explore the barriers teachers may encounter when introducing creative work in Hong Kong classrooms. They will also learn practical techniques to unlock their own creativity and that of their students.

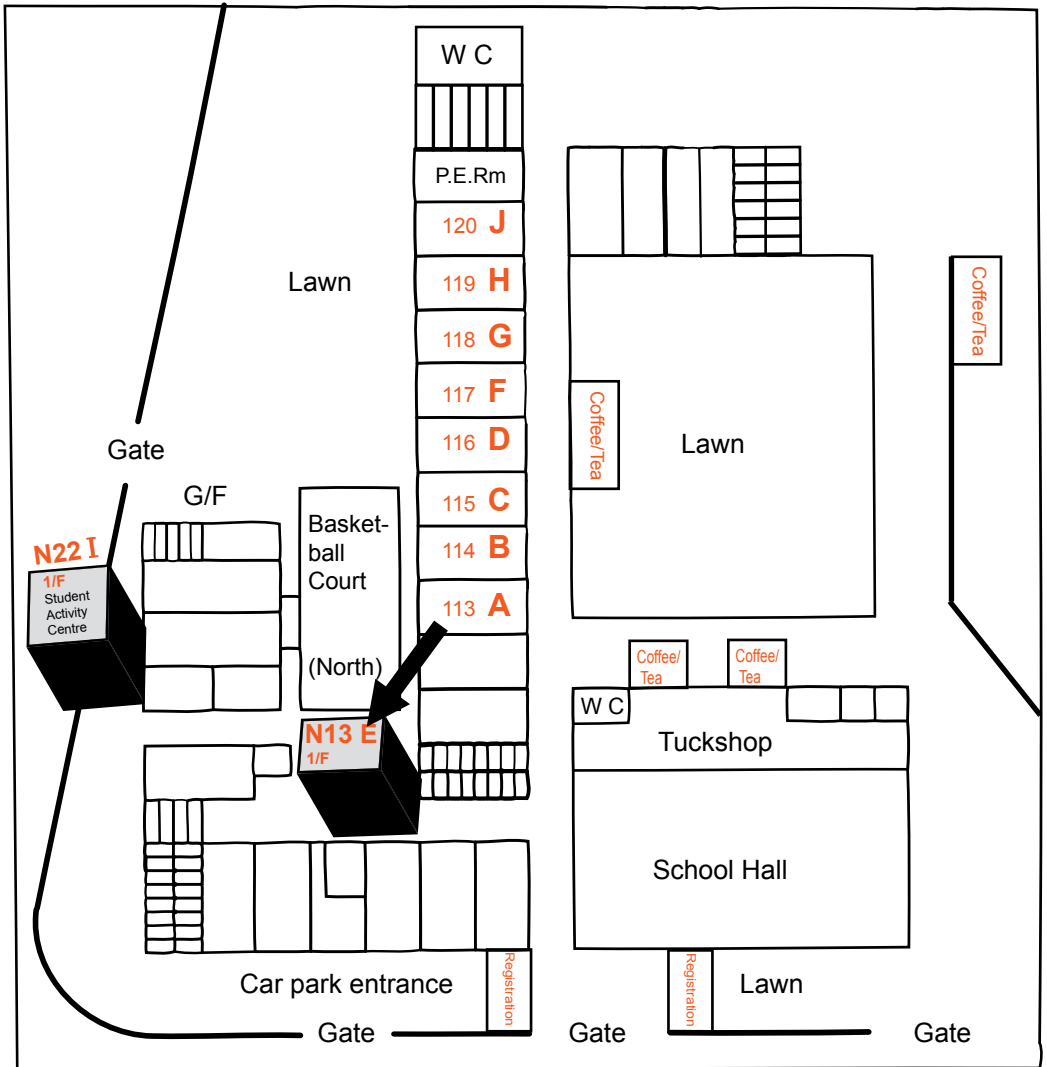
### **Workshop K Word Up! Poetry from the Page to the Stage**

Stephen Elting, NET

Word Up! is an innovative and fresh approach to the teaching and learning of poetry. Participants will learn about the Word Up! method of dramatising poetry and how voice, gesture, facial expressions and simple movement can bring poetry to life. Participants will be provided with class materials enabling them to transfer workshop experiences into effective classroom lessons just in time for the New Senior Secondary Curriculum.

# Queen's College School Plan (G/F)

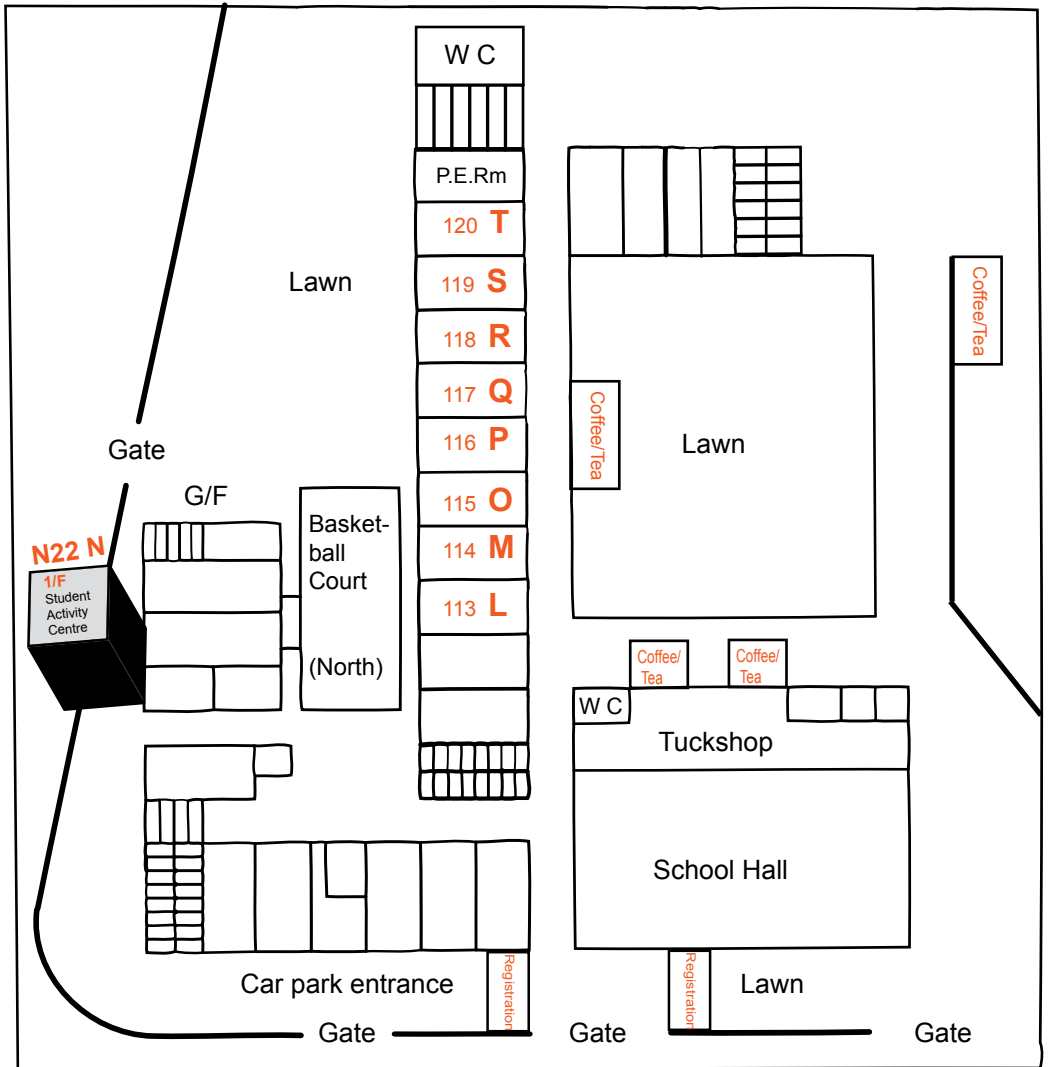
## Morning Workshop Locations





# Queen's College School Plan (G/F)

## Afternoon Workshop Locations



## Afternoon Session: 2:30-4:00pm

### **Workshop L Stories in the English Classroom**

Dr. Max Hui-Bon-Hoa, University of Hong Kong

The workshop will provide opportunities for participants to discuss a variety of issues related to the teaching of short stories in the English language classroom. The session will include a short presentation by the speaker, small group discussion, games, drama activities, as well as collaborative (creative) writing.

### **Workshop M Self-access Language Learning**

Dr. Elza Tsang, English Curriculum Development Officer, Law Ting Pong Secondary School

The following issues will be the focus of this workshop: How is self-access language learning (SALL) different from independent learning or self-directed learning? Is SALL a teaching method or a learning method? Can we introduce SALL in the core curriculum or use it for co-curricular activities or extra-curricular activities? Is SALL possible in a secondary school context?

### **Workshop N Drama for Active English, Stagecraft & Playbuilding**

Bill Henderson, NET

Learn practical uses of drama in the teaching of grammar and phonics. See and practise basic drama skills necessary for a production: movement, voice, stagecraft. Participants will be involved in improvisation and play-building leading to a performance.

### **Workshop O Poetry & Creativity in the Secondary School Classroom**

Viki Holmes, Poet

Participants will learn how to design and implement poetry lessons in ways that incorporate poetry interpretation and creative writing so that students develop critical and imaginative skills. There will be a brief sample lesson where participants join in a discussion and a short creative exercise. Handouts will be provided with suggested resources and teaching ideas.

### **Workshop P Pronunciation**

Dr. Beatrice Ma, Chinese University of Hong Kong

Pronunciation is often overlooked in the English syllabus and the teaching of phonetic symbols is often considered uninspiring. This workshop will examine ways in which the teaching and learning of phonetic symbols can be integrated into classroom activities and how they support speaking tasks.

**Workshop Q    Moving Students with Moving Pictures: Use of Film in the English Language Classroom**

Prof. Andy Curtis, Chinese University of Hong Kong

This workshop will explore the use of film and movies as a rich teaching and learning resource. It will demonstrate how 5 minutes of movies can be made into 60 minutes of material for use in the language classroom. Participants will consider how to choose movies and short extracts from movies. Participants will consider how to make the most of movies for the teaching and learning of language and culture, and the relationship between the two.

**Workshop R    Action Research**

Dr. Gail Forey, Dept of English, Hong Kong Polytechnic University

‘Action research’ is a buzz word in education these days and teachers are finding that they are required to carry out some form of action research project as part of their professional development. Unfortunately this is often without a lot of resources. The workshop will outline how to organise and undertake a collaborative action research project within your English panel at your school.

**Workshop S    Assessment for Learning: Portfolios & E-Portfolios**

Melissa Megan, University of Science and Technology

The purposes of assessment will be reviewed, as well as the link between learning, teaching and assessment. Various kinds of assessment will be considered: formative, summative, peer and self-assessment. Participants will gain an understanding of what portfolios and e-portfolios are and how they might be used for learning and assessment purposes.

**Workshop T    New NETs: Adapting Well to Hong Kong**

A panel of NETs, chaired by Julien Hawthorne

For this session, a panel of experienced teachers will share their thoughts and strategies for a successful NET experience in Hong Kong. They will deal with the particular learning styles of Hong Kong students and the types of resources and activities that most motivate them. They will also talk about how to cultivate cultural and professional harmony in the English staff room and in the wider school community.

## Acknowledgements

The Regional NET Coordinating Team (RNCT) of the NET Section would like to express its gratitude to the people who have helped us to make this conference a success:

- Keynote speakers:

Prof. Amy B.M. Tsui - Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Teaching and Learning) of The University of Hong Kong

Nury Vittachi - Author

- All workshop presenters

- Principal Li Lok Yin and staff of Queen's College

- Queen's College Old Boys' Association

- Christine Bennett, NET, Queen's College, and her student helpers

- Student speakers - Akina Lam, Jeannette Siu, Man Wong

- Ryan Hynek, NET, Maryknoll Secondary School, and his volunteers

- Musicians, Our Lady of the Rosary College

Liang Man Yi (Cello)

Hung Ka Yan (Piano)

Wu Yuk Kam (Flute)

Mok Seen Ling (Flute)

Poon Ka Yee (Piano)

Li Tsz Wun (Piano)

Chan Wing Ka (Flute)

Lau Yat Yu (Flute)

Chin Kei Yu (Piano)

and their music teacher Mrs Li Ng Oi-tai, Edith