

David E. Shaffer

Candidate for **Vice President**, Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter of KOTESOL

I, David Shaffer, am seeking re-election as chapter vice president for the 2025–2026 term. Drawing on my leadership experience at both the chapter and national levels, which has spanned 25 years, I feel confident that my skills will contribute effectively to the role of vice president, aiding the president in various assigned responsibilities. My previous positions as chapter president and national president, along with other national-level committee-chair roles, have equipped me with valuable experience that will greatly benefit me in fulfilling the duties of chapter vice president.

Recognizing that chapters are the foundation of KOTESOL, I emphasize the significance of maintaining their strength. The challenges created by the pandemic have impacted our chapter's membership and activities. I am committed to revitalizing our chapter by working towards increasing membership through the offering engaging events.

In collaboration with the president, I aim to ensure the organization of high-quality presentations for our monthly meetings and diligently prepare for chapter events. Additionally, I am ready to support the president in any projects assigned to the vice president. My past service as chapter president and vice president, I believe, demonstrates my commitment and ability in this regard.

My in-depth knowledge of chapter affairs and KOTESOL as a whole, combined with an understanding of Korea, Korean culture, and Koreana, position me to serve the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter effectively.

I pledge to dedicate my best efforts as vice president to foster the continued growth of our chapter, aiming for it to remain one of the strongest and most active chapters within KOTESOL.

November 16, 2025

Sincerely,



David E. Shaffer, PhD
Email: ChosunU@yahoo.com
Mobile: 010-5068-9179
Gyerim-dong, Dong-gu, Gwangju
Chapter Member since 1993.

Biographical Information

Dr. David Shaffer

Candidate for Vice President, Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter of KOTESOL

KOTESOL SERVICE

— Chapter Level

1. Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter President (2009-2016);
2. Vice-President (2016-present).
3. Conference Comm. (Chair, 2011-2016; Member 2005-2009, 2017-2018; Jeolla Chair [site], 2004; Site Coordinator, 2002-2003)
4. Program Coordinator (2009-2017)
5. Newsletter Editor (2009-2019);
6. Webeditor (2009-2021);
7. Chapter Advisor (2005-2009).
8. Presenter: Chapter Workshops & Conferences, Natl. & Intl. Conferences, KOTESOL Teacher Training (KTT). (1998-present; 130+ presentations at KOTESOL events)

— National Level

1. Publications Committee Chair (2013–2017; 2019–present).
2. National Nominations and Elections Committee Chair (2020–2022, 2024–2025)
3. National President (2017–2019).
4. Immediate Past President (2019–2020).
5. National First Vice-President (2015–2017).
6. National Conference Co-Chair (2016).
7. National Treasurer (2001–2009).
8. International Conference Committee, director-level positions (2001–present).
9. Research Committee Chair (2006–2009).
10. *The English Connection* (TEC): Deputy/Associate Editor (2004–2011), Advisor (2011–2012), Production Editor (2017–present), and other positions.
11. *KOTESOL Proceedings*: Editor-in-Chief / aka Supervising Editor (1999, 2001, 2003–present), Assoc. Editor (2002), and other positions.
12. *Korea TESOL Journal*: Assoc. Editor (2013–present), Board Member & Editor (2000–2010), and other positions.
13. KOTESOL Committee Memberships: National Conference Comm. (2006, 2009–2010, 2012–2016), Membership Comm. (2009–10, 2012–13, 2021–present), Financial Affairs (2011–2013, 2018, 2023–present), Publicity Comm. (2013, 2025–present), Research Comm. (2009–2011, 2017–present), Sponsorship Comm. (2024–25), Intl. Outreach Comm. (2011, 2014–2019), Website Comm. (2006–11).
14. KOTESOL Web Calendar of Events Editor (2013–present).
 - KOTESOL Member (since 1993), KOTESOL Lifetime Member (present).

EDUCATION

1. PhD, Linguistics, Chosun University (1990).
2. MA, Linguistics (Engl. & Korean), Chosun U. (1980).
3. TESOL Adv. Grad. Certificate, Chosun U. (2009).
4. BS, Education, The Pennsylvania State University.

AWARDS (KOTESOL)

1. KOTESOL President's Plaque (2019).
2. Korea TESOL President's Award (2002–2025 multiple awards).
3. Korea TESOL Lifetime Achievement Award (2011).
4. Korea TESOL ICC Outstanding Service Award (2013).
5. KOTESOL Outstanding Service Award (2004, 2012, 2023).
6. KOTESOL Meritorious Service Award (2002, 2010, 2012, 2013).
7. Gwangju-Jeonnang Chapter Service Award (2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2022, 2023).

AWARDS (General)

1. Gwangju Intl. Center Plaque of Appreciation (2021, for service as Board Chair)
2. ROK Order of Merit – Conferred by ROK President (2015).
3. AsiaTEFL Outstanding Service Award (2017) [for 2003–2017 service].
4. ROK Minister of Home Affairs Commendation (1984).
5. KATE Plaque of Appreciation (2002, for service as Board Member)
6. Chosun University Meritorious Service Plaque (2015, CU Foundation).
7. Chosun University Distinguished Service Plaque (2015, CU President).
8. Chosun University Service Awards: 20 yrs. (1996), 30 yrs. (2006), 40th yr. (2015).
9. *Korea Times* Literature Translation Award (1994).
10. Pennsylvania Certificate of Citizen Service (1991) [for U.S. Peace Corps service].
11. ETS (Educational Testing Service) Certificate of Appreciation (1990).

WORK EXPERIENCE

1. Gwangju International Center, TESOL Program Instructor (2019–2022).
2. Chosun University, professor (tenured), graduate & undergrad programs. English depts. (1976–2016).
3. Chosun University, Foreign Languages Programs Director, LEI (2008–2010).
4. Chosun University, TESOL Program Director (2008–2010).
5. Gwangju & Jeollanam-do In-service Teacher Training Programs (1980s–2000s).
6. U.S. Peace Corps / Korea (1971–1975).

RELATED EXPERIENCE

1. Gwangju International Center, Chairman of the Board (2018–2021).
2. *Gwangju News* Editor-in-Chief (2017–present).
3. AsiaTEFL Executive Director (2003–present).
4. Gwangju International Center, Board of Directors (2016–present).
5. AsiaTEFL 20th Anniversary Book, Editor (2022–2023).
6. ALAK Vice President & Conference Chair (2016).
7. GETA Executive Director (2006–2010).
8. KATE Executive Director (2000–2002).
9. Professional Association Memberships: Numerous ELT, Applied Linguistics, Linguistics, and Language and Literature associations past and present.

PUBLICATIONS

Author of numerous research papers on ELT, applied linguistics, and linguistics; as well as books, essays, and newspaper and magazine columns on English language teaching and learning; and on Korean language, culture, and poetry.

(Additional Information available at **LinkedIn**: <https://kr.linkedin.com/in/davideshaffer>
And at **Academia.edu**: <https://chosun.academia.edu/DavidShaffer>)

Gwangju National University of Education
Department of English Education
Pilmundae-ro 55, Buk-gu
Gwangju 61204

November 18, 2025

Dear Chapter Elections Committee:

I'm pleased to formally endorse Dr. David Shaffer for the position of chapter vice president. Dave has served in this capacity for multiple years now, deftly assisting the current chapter president and contributing insights and advice from his varied experiences in KOTESOL leadership positions.

Dave's dedication and innovation were key features of his time as our chapter president many years ago. Under his leadership, the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter expanded its membership, events, offerings, and visibility. Our chapter has Dave to thank for many aspects of its current success, including our monthly column in the *Gwangju News* and the diverse workshop formats at our meetings. Dave was also the impetus behind our chapter's partnership with the ALAK conference a few years ago, increasing our visibility in the ELT community and securing for KOTESOL members a discount on conference admission.

Dave is also active in KOTESOL at the national level, having served in nearly every leadership position available: president, immediate past president, first vice-president, national conference co-chair, Nominations & Elections Committee chair, treasurer, and more. Currently, he serves on multiple national committees and for many years has chaired the Publications Committee, where he has rejuvenated our flagging academic journal, the *Korea TESOL Journal*; established KOTESOL's new ethical standards for research; and ensured the quality and timely release of all of our publications. He has handled the finances of both the national and international conferences, coordinated invited speakers for both conferences, represented KOTESOL overseas at PAC partners' conferences, and selflessly volunteers himself wherever there is a need.

Dave's involvement with KOTESOL cannot be overstated. As long as he continues to be willing to serve the organization, I will be happy to endorse him in whatever role he desires. KOTESOL is fortunate to have him.

Sincerely,



Lindsay Herron, EdD
Lifetime Member
Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter

Endorsement for Dr. David E. Shaffer

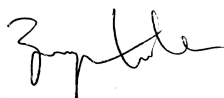
For the Office of Vice President, Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL Chapter

November 19, 2025

I am delighted that Dr. David E. Shaffer will stand for another term as vice president of the Gwangju-Jeonnam chapter of KOTESOL. Dr. Shaffer has played a significant role throughout our chapter's history, and he is always focused on our present needs with determination, patience, and keen attention to detail. Throughout the years I have known him, I have been consistently impressed with his ability to work with diverse colleagues with thoughtfulness, generosity, and kindness. I admire his deep commitment to KOTESOL and its members, and am certain he will contribute greatly to our chapter as vice president in 2026.

I wholeheartedly endorse Dr. Shaffer for the role of chapter vice president, and encourage all Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL members to recognize and support his ongoing contributions to our professional community.

With sincere regards,



Bryan Hale

Lifetime member of Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL Chapter

English Language Teacher, Jeonnam Foreign Language High School