

2016-2017 Güz – CPD Liderleri

Teacher Leader

İlknur Bayram

(in charge of overseeing **Lesson Study**)

Who am I?

I've been working at UTAA, DFL since 2011 as a teacher, curriculum developer and test writer. Recently I've become interested in teacher-led professional development especially since I got to know Lesson Study, a Japanese professional development model, and I'm looking for ways to integrate it into our school culture. I hope we – and more importantly our students-will benefit a lot from it.

How do I feel about being a teacher leader?

After piloting Lesson Study last term, I feel more than happy now to be doing it with two other teams of teachers this term. I feel indebted to pilot Lesson Study practitioners for all their efforts, hard work and ideas. It is they who showed us a completely new way of looking at professional development. Now with two other teams who volunteered to try Lesson Study out, we will explore what else we can learn from this kind of a professional development model which puts student learning at the heart of it.

Teacher Leader

Özlem Canaran

(in charge of overseeing **Team Teaching**)

Who am I?

My name is Özlem. I have been teaching English for 13 years but I feel that I am still a beginning teacher as I am just very recently able to describe “who I really am” in my profession. I believe it gets harder to tell who you are with more knowledge and experience you get one year after another. I have now more to say about myself but I will keep it short here with a brief account of my professional life. I graduated from Hacettepe University, American Culture and Literature Department in 2004. I completed my M.A. at Hacettepe University, English Language Teaching Department and wrote a thesis on “Enhancing Composition Writing Skills of the English Preparatory Students through Critical Thinking Skills”. I began attending PhD courses in the same department in 2012. I am currently writing my dissertation on continuous professional development for EFL teachers, which is my recent area of focus and interest. Previously, I taught at TOBB University and worked in the Curriculum Development and Testing Office. I started working at UTAA, Department of Foreign Languages in 2011 and I have been in charge of academic and administrative affairs since then. I am also interested in reflective & collaborative teaching and learning, curriculum development, testing and assessment in language teaching.

Teacher Leader

Türkan Kaplan

Who am I?

As a 2004 graduate of Ankara University, I have student teaching experience on the third grade level in a state school as part of her internship at the university. I have been teaching English for 9 years in several state and private universities. I formerly worked as the Head of Foreign Languages Department for a year in 2008 at Afyon Kocatepe University in Afyon, Turkey and at the same institution I worked at the material Development Department for two years from 2006-7. I received my BA in English Literature from Ankara University, Faculty of Humanities and Letters, Ankara and had my MA in Anglistik (English Literature) from Vienna University in 2012. My research mainly focuses on Irish Literature and History. My BA thesis was on The Short Stories of D.H. Lawrence and the Symbolism and MA thesis was on Traumatized Women in Eire as Reflected in Two Selected Novels: The Ladies' Road and The Last September. I published one academic book shared with Olivia Frey titled Legal Research Article Abstracts by Grin Verlag Ohg Country in 2012 and also I published a non-academic short story in my language, Turkish titled Görülmemiş Düşler Dillenmemiş Gerçekler by İkinci Adam Publishing in 2014. I have been an instructor of English at the University of Aeronautical Association since 2012.

How do I feel about being a teacher leader?

Thanks to PDP activities organized at UTAA for two semesters, I have the opportunity to discover the latest trends in the ELT world with the help of my colleagues working as different study groups; lesson study, team teaching, teaching journal and workshop groups. Being part of the organizing committee and planning such an event also give me the necessary strength to tackle new challenges and the chance to improve both my individual and academic skills. I am glad to feel the priority to keep myself up to date with learning new skills and practices as well as the responsibilities I may need further in my career.