

# Conference Report: 2019 FAAPI Conference: 'Literature in ELT: Connect, Create, Collaborate'.

Valquiria Fazzi.

Cita:

Valquiria Fazzi (2019). *Conference Report: 2019 FAAPI Conference: 'Literature in ELT: Connect, Create, Collaborate'*. 44th FAAPI Conference. ASPI Salta, Salta.

Dirección estable: <https://www.aacademica.org/asociacion.profesores.ingles.rosario/20>

ARK: <https://n2t.net/ark:/13683/p6Pz/qeu>



Esta obra está bajo una licencia de Creative Commons.  
Para ver una copia de esta licencia, visite  
<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/deed.es>.

*Acta Académica es un proyecto académico sin fines de lucro enmarcado en la iniciativa de acceso abierto. Acta Académica fue creado para facilitar a investigadores de todo el mundo el compartir su producción académica. Para crear un perfil gratuitamente o acceder a otros trabajos visite: <https://www.aacademica.org>.*

## **Conference Report**

**2019 FAAPI Conference: 'Literature in ELT: Connect, Create, Collaborate'**

**Salta, September 19th-21st**

**Organised by A.S.P.I. Salta**

**Selected papers published at**

**<http://www.faapi.org.ar/congreso-faapi/publications/>**

By Valquiria Fazzi <sup>1</sup>

While I prepare this post-conference report, I vividly remember the excitement that I felt upon being informed that I had been awarded APRIR's first-time speaker scholarship to attend and present at FAAPI 2019, followed by the anticipation of what lay ahead. I just knew that I had the opportunity to move away from my comfort zone, to dare go for more, to network with fellow colleagues from the remotest parts of Argentina and neighbouring countries and to reflect upon the importance of lifelong learning as a key to developing professionally in the ELT context.

Despite the relatively remote location of the conference venue, over 800 attendees travelled to Salta "La Linda", illustrating the successful promotion efforts of FAAPI Organizing Committee. Under the theme '**Literature in ELT: Connect, Create, Collaborate**', the event demonstrated once again the importance of creating opportunities for teachers of English to interact, to share insights and to foster continuous professional development among colleagues.

Whithin the two and a half day program, I felt privileged to attend thought-provoking plenaries and semi-plenaries from cherished experts like Claudia Ferradas, Gustavo Gonzalez, Mark Almond and Griselda Bacon among others. I was delighted by that "warm feeling" of belonging and camaraderie in a full-packed auditorium. Needless to say, all of them managed to tap into the audience's hearts and souls! Workshops and paper presentations were not to be missed; some delivered by renowned speakers, and others by less well-known promising young teachers or passionate

---

<sup>1</sup> Valquiria Fazzi was joint winner of the APRIR Speaker Scholarship.

experienced practitioners. Overall, they all provided me with intellectual nourishment and a broader perspective to reflect upon.

Participants had many opportunities for bouncing off ideas either at formal (Q&A sessions after each talk) or more casual contexts like coffee breaks, lunches and dinners. I believe it is necessary to highlight the the spot-on decision of setting setting the publishers' stands and exhibitions in the same place as the refreshments which also facilitated socialization among attendees in an informal place. At times, I felt like a bookworm crawling along the exhibition areas (trying not to spill coffee) looking for hot-off-the-presses or freebies or for book signing sessions where I was able to meet my favourite authors and "take" a bit of them home with a selfie.

Beyond any doubt, the added value of this Conference was its location. Salta glowed over the three days during which I had possibility of visiting the most dreamy landmarks like San Francisco Church, San Bernardo Convent, Monument of General Güemes, the Cabildo and the MAAM Archeology Museum. The most cherished bonus at the end of the day was to go for some *humitas* and *empanadas* at the *Peñas* where folklore and *guitarreadas* sparkled the nights.

My workshop was called: ***"How to hook students into reading fiction: Hypertext as a New Reading Dimension."*** As I had to give the presentation on the last day of the Conference, I was afraid that many participants may have already left but luckily, there was a sizeable audience. As the workshop unfolded, I could not help but feel truly humbled as I saw the attendees' positive facial feedback, their approving nods and most importantly, their willingness to partake. And it was by the end of the workshop when I reflected on Maya Angelou's words: *"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."*<sup>1</sup> It was rewarding to have seen that attendees left the room with a satisfying smile.

Finally, I would like to express my warmest thanks to APRIR and FAAPI for having given me this unique opportunity and considering my proposal worthy of being selected for a scholarship. Having attended FAPPI 2019 gave me the refreshing feeling of reassurance that I have chosen the right profession which continuously challenges me to think outside the box, to gain new insights and to face new

experiences. Along with this, I would happily encourage other peers to attend or give presentations at future FAPPI Conferences in order to enrich their practices but , above all, to enrich their souls.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://quotationcelebration.wordpress.com/2017/09/01/ive-learned-that-people-will-forget-what-you-said-people-will-forget-what-you-did-but-people-will-never-forget-how-you-made-them-feel-maya-angelou/> (Retrieved on February 18 2020)