

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

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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 Andrea Masset ¹

The **FAAPI** conference is simply delightful – the perfect mixture of key ingredients in any career: passion, expertise, practice and fun. You end up with a recipe for success and the thirst to go back every year.

Be happy, be Faapi – 2019's slogan is completely true! There were three days of constant celebration among the ELT community in Salta. The beauty of the scenery, the friendliness and hospitality of ASPI members together with the evening *peñas* turned this FAAPI destination into the perfect conference. We were welcomed in an opening ceremony full of Salta's artistic traditions: Samba folk dancing, black-and-red costumes and the final poem recitation by Claudia Ferradas transported us to our inner feelings for our *patria* – a unique start for the FAAPI topic of literature.

It was a great honor and challenge for me to have been awarded APRIR's scholarship to share my workshop with colleagues and students. In addition, attending sessions was deeply motivating. I had the chance to meet fascinating minds and listen to experienced teachers and professors. Griselda Beacon's workshop on drama techniques was presented in a master class on how to tell stories to young learners – utterly inspiring, even for those of us who do not work with children. Listening to Melina Porto or Eugenia Carrión Cantón present their papers was enlightening as I could learn what other teacher-training colleges do around Argentina and see other perspectives on our profession. Lastly, Claudia Ferradas delivered an enthralling plenary on the concept of *transliterature* and fluid *multiple*

¹ Andrea Masset was joint winner of the APRIR Speaker Scholarship.

identities and introduced us to great authors, namely Patience Agbabi and Taiye Selasi . As stated by Ferradas, literature enables us to transcend sterile binaries and “see beyond *interculturalism* into what we have in common as humans”.

To end, a big thank-you to APRIR for their trust in my work and encouragement to share my proposal in such a significant event. There is no doubt for me that, as ELT teachers, we are part of a world community that is passionate to do their best - a recipe for a better world.