

Síntesis de actividades.

APRIR 2014: A year in review.

Comisión Directiva APRIR.

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Asociación de Profesores de Inglés de Rosario

2014: A year in review

Dear Member,

The time has come again to reap the harvest of another year's voluntary work for our colleagues and ourselves. Since the last General Assembly held in April 2014 the EC has been invigorated by the presence of new members who have contributed ideas and action towards fulfilling the aims of our Association.

Let us summarize the activities which took place during the year and appraise the results of our work so far.

February

On February 26th **Prof. Florencia Viale** replicated the two talks she had offered at FAAPI 2013: *Kinder 3 goes Irish: The experience of bilingual and bicultural education at Saint Patrick's school* and *Meet the words: a philological and socio-cultural approach to discourse analysis at teacher Training college*. See

<http://www.aprir.org.ar/anuncios/kickoff2014instyle>



March

This year marked the 100th anniversary of the birth of **Prof. Arlette Battier de Imbert**, APrIR's first President. We paid homage to her on May 10th through a celebration of her life, led by Rev. Mónica Tompkins at St Bartholomew's Anglican Church, in which relatives, colleagues and former students shared memories and songs. See <http://www.aprir.org.ar/anuncios/celebratingprofarletteimbert>

April

At the **Annual General Meeting**, a new Executive Committee was elected. Some members stepped down, others changed roles, and new helping hands (and brains) joined under President Prof. María del Carmen Fernández Beitía and Vice President Prof. Juana Nicenboim. See <http://www.aprir.org.ar/home-1>


FAAPI also held its **AGM** in April, which was attended by two APrIR EC members. Prof. Cristina Mayol was re-elected as President and among other decisions, the FAAPI EC requested a document detailing tenure conditions and processes in the province, and the general outlook for qualified teachers. This summary was prepared by the EC and submitted later on.

May

On May 10th **Claudia Ferradas, PhD**, with the sponsorship of OUP, gave two presentations: *Developing Intercultural Competence in the Foreign Language Class* and *Shakespeare in the ELT class*. See <http://tinyurl.com/nes9to7>

June

Aware that the curricular design for **Teacher Education Programmes** for the province was under construction, the EC wrote a document analysing the legislation and addressing crucial issues regarding the characteristics and demands of our profession to be taken into account in this process. This document was submitted to government officials and shared with our members and our sister association **ASPI**

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(Santa Fe). Both Associations then made a joint presentation before the Ministry of Education and contacted the **FAAPI** EC, which in turn made a presentation to provincial authorities requesting the consideration of our document. See <http://tinyurl.com/mvtzx4u>

June was also fun, as once again we were invited to join **St Patrick's** Catholic Association for the celebration of **Bloomsday**, where we shared readings of Ulysses and traditional Irish songs and dances. See <http://tinyurl.com/n5syqjw>

August

Mathilde Verillaud, United States Department of State English Language Fellow in Argentina, presented *Selfies: a Fast Track to Boost Students' Motivation*. See <http://tinyurl.com/omscsjy>

September

Celebrating the 450th anniversary of William Shakespeare's birth, on September 5th **Prof. Mónica Pérez** with the ARCI Drama Club delighted us with Master Shakespeare: *Which is the natural man and which the spirit? Who deciphers them? Mistaken identities in Shakespeare's comedies*. See <http://www.aprir.org.ar/anuncios/mastershakespeare>

Seeing that no applications had been received for APrIR's First Time Speaker Scholarship, we decided to have a draw for a **free registration for the FAAPI Conference**. The lucky winner was our recent member **Analía Giulietti**, who wrote a report of the experience included in Newsletter 3. See <http://tinyurl.com/l89ajgj>

In Santiago del Estero we were delighted to share the FAAPI Conference with a large number of APrIR members, though not so many presented their own views and experiences. Remember the selected papers may be downloaded from: <http://tinyurl.com/kand7ja>



October

On October 18th Prof. Mariel Amez presented *Travellers' Tales*, where she shared free, easily accessible material to liven up our lessons, collected at the IATEFL Harrogate Conference she attended earlier this year and/ or inspired by her journey. <http://www.aprir.org.ar/anuncios/travellerstales>

November

APrIR's End of the Year Party

On November 27th we met at Asociación Católica San Patricio and shared a very pleasant array of finger food and beer and pop sodas. The highlight of the event was our tribute to three senior colleagues who have mentored and developed junior teachers for a great number of years: Prof. Fanny Sloer de Godfrid, Prof. Nelly Bureau and Prof. María Adela Coccolo.


When the Karaoke started very many colleagues joined in the singing and dancing, which proves that English teachers are fun to be around. Singing continued till the early hours of the following morning and ended with a standup show by one of our EC members which only a few late party-goers enjoyed.

December

After some members drew our attention to unfair situations affecting qualified teachers in the "escalafones" for 2014, we wrote a detailed report to **Unidad de Incumbencias y Competencia de Títulos**. We received a prompt reply indicating that we would be contacted by telephone.

Final thoughts

Throughout the year, **APrIR members** with their dues up to date have had **free access** to all the activities we organized and have benefited from **discounts** when attending professional development events organized by other institutions. We would like to highlight the free pass for the "Beyond the English Class" Applied



Drama Conference, granted through member **Patricia Zorio** by the Bs As Players, and the special fee for the series of f2f workshops on the integration of the Internet into the English class led by our member **Rita Zeinstejer** and organised by SBS.

We have issued **three newsletters** (downloadable from <http://aprir.org.ar/newsletters-2014>) and **forwarded** details of conferences, calls for papers, news from the Ministry of Education, and useful materials to our members and the ELT community through our online **Info Services** (see archive at <https://groups.google.com/forum/?fromgroups#!forum/aprir>), **Facebook page** <http://www.facebook.com/pages/APrIR/127774673899632> and **Twitter account** <http://twitter.com/aprir> . Because we believe in the power of **networking**, we have made a point of sharing news involving **Teachers' Associations** who are **FAAPI affiliates**, as well as, of course, **FAAPI** itself, including the two editions of **AJAL** (downloadable from <http://www.faapi.org.ar/ajal/archive.html>).

We have also tried to spread the word about the many **achievements** of our **members**, though we fear we may have missed some. We encourage you once again to fill in this form <http://tinyurl.com/events-aprir-members> or drop us a line at info@aprir.org.ar so we can all rejoice in your success.

We have been glad to see the incorporation of **new members** and we have granted a **free year membership** to the graduates with the highest average form the three Teacher Training Colleges in the city.

We would like to thank **Asociación Católica San Patricio**, **Asociación Rosarina de Cultura Inglesa**, **Instituto de Educación Superior "Olga Cossettini"** and **Instituto Superior "San Bartolomé"** for generously lending us their premises (and often much more) every time we have requested them for our events during this year. An even more special "Thank You" goes to **Universidad del Centro Educativo Latinoamericano** which continues to host our office as well.

We at the EC do this no-pay job with utmost pleasure, since we learn - and enjoy ourselves - in the process. We feel quite proud of the year that comes to an end now, and hope you agree.

We are already busy planning our activities for 2015. Do **contact** us to tell us what you would like to do and to see.

If you are not yet a member, why don't you consider **joining in 2015?**

Reminders:

- + If you have not cancelled your 2014 dues yet, write to secretaria@aprir.org.ar to check the amount you should pay and the methods of payment available.
- + Our **office** will be **closed** until late February. We'll let you know the exact opening day. But feel free to contact us by email.
- + Until 31st December fully paid up members can enjoy a **Super Early Bird Fee** (\$650) for the **2015 FAAPI Conference** to be held in Córdoba. Write to info@acpi.org for details of payment.

Reminisce about our activities this year by looking at our photo album at <http://www.aprir.org.ar/anuncios/seasonsgreetings>

