

Secretary's Report, June 2025

Today we are looking back over two years of ISATT activities and looking ahead to the future beginning with the 21st biennial ISATT conference in Glasgow, July 2025.

20th ISATT biennial conference, Bari, Italy, 2023.

The past two years have seen ISATT gather momentum following the hiatus in activities precipitated by Covid-19. We came together for the 20th biennial ISATT conference *ISATT 2023: Living and Leading in the Next Era: Connecting Teaching, Research, Citizenship and Equity* hosted by the University of Bari Aldo Moro Bari, Italy, July 3-7, 2023. The Bari conference was much appreciated by members who took advantage of the freedom to gather in person. It sparked numerous scholarly conversations across international members and, under the leadership and encouragement of Dr. Tara Ratnam, National Representatives Coordinator, it ignited several collaborative research projects that have flourished across international borders through the past two years.

ISATT Regional conferences 2024

In 2024 we have been welcomed by ISATT colleagues to two regional conferences, one in Brazil and one in Greece. In September 2024 Dr. Luiz Sanches Neto welcomed the ISATT community to the Fortaleza campus of the Federal University of Ceará, Brazil. This ISATT Regional conference was situated as part of the 3rd Teacher-Researchers International Congress, and the 70th Anniversary of the Federal University of Ceará. Through aligning the ISATT regional conference with the larger conference, under the theme *Fighting Social Injustices Through Teacher Collaboration*, Dr. Sanches Neto was able to bring together teacher-researchers from higher education and schools, and students from teacher education programs. With the underlying goal of strengthening collaborations and partnerships among teachers and teacher education researchers, this conference provided rich opportunities to strengthen the ISATT presence in South America and the Caribbean under the umbrella of social justice advocacy. The Brazil ISATT Regional conference held space for teachers and scholars to share experiences, engage in dialogue and together to work towards possibilities of a socially-just, (self) critical and emancipatory education.

In November 2024 Dr. Stavroula Kaldi and colleagues from University of Thessaly, Greece attracted ISATT members from across the globe to the ISATT Regional Conference held in Volos Greece. and 55 presentations around the theme "Imagining possible futures of teaching and learning." This regional conference provided a forum for discussion on the futures in education across different educational and cultural settings. Delegates shared ways in which teaching and teacher education might learn from the forced isolation of the pandemic to consider adaptations to societal needs of the 21st century. The three days of discussion and presentations served to foster networks for developing innovative actions about teaching and learning across all sectors of formal, informal and non-formal education.

21st ISATT biennial conference, Glasgow, Scotland, 2025

We are very much looking forward to the ISATT 2025 21st biennial conference to be hosted by Glasgow University from Monday 30 June through to Friday 4th July. The [program](#) is available online and reveals a rich array of different presentations including 4 keynote addresses from

leading scholars from Scotland, USA, and Canada, who are sure to provoke conversations and alternative perspectives on the conference theme: “*Quality Teaching got a More Equitable World*”. For the first time this ISATT conference also welcomes our Self-Study of Teacher Education practices (S-STEP) colleagues as an embedded [S-Step Conference](#). The program reveals a full day pre-conference for graduate students followed by four days comprising 28 symposia, 316 individual research presentations, 23 poster presentations, 52 round table discussions and workshops with journal editors on publishing your research. We are expecting a strong contingent of ISATT members from all continents at the Glasgow conference (registrations currently sitting at over 450 delegates), and I am very much looking forward to the rich and generative discussions that the 21st biennial ISATT conference will provoke.

ISATT Awards

I take this opportunity to announce two important ISATT awards.

ISATT ST²AR Award:

Dr. Tara Ratnam is this year’s recipient of the ISATT ST²AR Award: The ISATT ST²AR (Service to Teachers and Teaching, the Academy, and Research). Dr. Tara Ratnam is a most worthy recipient of this award as evidenced by the remarkable nomination file that included 27 letters of support from a wide breadth of ISATT membership. The nomination file was submitted by ISATT member Magdalena Kohout-Diaz of France and supported by 27 ISATT members including members from 16 different countries which is a remarkable testament to Dr. Ratnam’s contribution to ISATT. Reading the nomination file for Dr. Ratnam is a privilege clearly demonstrates the esteem in which her colleagues hold her. She has made a remarkable contribution to ISATT and to teaching and teacher education well beyond her own country.

ISATT Outstanding Article Award:

The Outstanding Article Award recognizes ISATT members whose research programmes contribute to teachers and teaching. This year the award goes to the following article co-authored by Chair of ISATT Prof. Cheryl Craig along with past ISATT Chair Maria Assuncao Flores. Their article makes a strong contribution to scholarly debates in the discipline of teacher education.

Maria Assuncao Flores & Cheryl J. Craig (2023) Reimagining teacher education in light of the teacher shortage and the aftershock of COVID-19: adjusting to a rapidly shifting world. European Journal of Teacher Education, 46:5, 772-788, DOI: 10.1080/02619768.2023.2294697

I would also like to acknowledge the strength of the other articles submitted for consideration for this award as both are most worthy of your time to review. The article by Elsie Olan and Christi Edge was highly commended by the awards committee for its contribution to research methods in teacher education.

Elsie L. Olan & Christi Edge (2019) Collaborative Meaning-Making and Dialogic Interactions in Critical Friends as Co-Authors, Studying Teacher Education, 15:1, 31-43, DOI: 10.1080/17425964.2019.1580011

ISATT members from Greece and the UK collaborated on the following article which reports a phenomenological study of primary teachers’ engagement in Professional Learning Networks (PLNs), both formal and informal. This article makes a strong contribution to understandings of how PLNs contribute to teacher learning and collaborations.

Ventista, O.M., Kaldi, S., Kolokitha, M., Govaris, C. and Brown, C. (2024), "Professional learning networks: a descriptive phenomenological study with primary school teachers in Greece", *Quality Education for All*, Vol. 1 No. 1, pp. 86-105. <https://doi.org/10.1108/QEA-12-2023-0020>

Changes in the ISATT Executive, July 2025

The ISATT Executive is saying thanks and farewell to members who have served in important ways over recent years.

- **Prof. Dr Cheryl J Craig, Texas A & M University, USA.** As ISATT Chair Prof. Craig has done a remarkable job leading ISATT through an unsettling period which called upon everyone to pivot to new ways of imagining our work as teachers, teacher educators and researchers. Cheryl has brought her considerable experience as a teacher, teacher educator and researcher to her role as ISATT Chair and has served as a constant support and mentor for ISATT members far and wide. Her knowledge of the field is evident in the depth and breadth of her publications, and her network of collaborators speaks to the ways in which she creates spaces and opportunities for so many emerging scholars – many of whom began as graduate students in ISATT. It is difficult to convey in words the impact Prof. Cheryl Craig has had on the direction and growth of ISATT as a thriving international association. Her leadership will be undoubtedly missed by us all, but I am confident that she will continue to work alongside ISATT members and support upcoming scholars.
- **Dr. Tara Ratnam, India** (National Reps/ coordinator) has been a committed coordinator of ISATT National Representatives for two terms. She has enormous energy and enthusiasm for ISATT and has had a significant impact on ensuring members from across the globe are connected to their international colleagues through initiating and mentoring collaborative research across international borders. We thank her sincerely for her commitment and contributions to the ISATT Executive committee and her energy and commitment to connecting with and supporting new members.
- **Dr. Stavroula Kaldi, University of Thessaly, Greece** (Member at Large) has served on the ISATT executive with energy and enthusiasm over the past six years. Stavroula has always advocated strongly to ensure members, particularly graduate students, have access to ISATT activities and events. To enable fellow colleagues and emerging researchers in Greece and neighboring countries to contribute to important ISATT conversations and activities, Stavroula hosted an ISATT regional conference in Volos, Greece in November 2024. She has made a significant contribution to ISATT through her role on the executive and will continue to do so as an active member of the ISATT community.
- **Prof. Ruth G. Kane, University of Ottawa Canada.** I have served two terms as ISATT Secretary and am handing over this role to **Dr. Nasreen Majid, University College London**, who I have no doubt will make a significant impact on the smooth workings of ISATT. I have valued my time as Secretary of ISATT and have learned a great deal in the process.

Remaining members of the executive have indicated their willingness to continue in their roles for a further term including: **Dr. Christiana Afrikaner, EAT ARTS Training, Namibia**, (Treasurer); **Professor Samuel Ouma Oyoo, Maseno University, Kenya**; **Professor Stefinee Pinnegar, Brigham Young University, Utah, USA** (Newsletter Editor); and, **Dr. Luiz Sanches Neto, Federal University of Ceará, Brazil** (Outreach Coordinator). We are grateful

for the continuity that these executive members will contribute as we begin a new two-year cycle with the 2025 ISATT Biennial Conference hosted in Glasgow in July.

We also take this opportunity to welcome to incoming ISATT Executive Committee members:

- **Juanjo Mena, Salamanca University, Spain** is returning to active duty on the ISATT executive as incoming Chair of ISATT.
- **Nasreen Majid, University College London, UK** is our incoming *ISATT Secretary*.
- **Alison Mitchell, University of Glasgow, Scotland/UK** is our *National Representatives Coordinator*.
- **Ayelet Becher, The Open University of Israel, Israel** joins the ISATT Executive as *Member at Large*.
- **Magdalena Kohout-Diaz, Universite de Bordeaux, France** joins the ISATT Executive as *Member at Large*.

We offer congratulations to our new executive members, and sincere thanks for their willingness to serve our community in these important roles. Given the affiliations of the current and incoming members of the ISATT Executive Committee it is evident that there are many different jurisdictions represented from across our diverse international community.

ISATT Membership

The membership of ISATT has recovered from understandable decreases because of Covid-19. As of May 30, 2025, we have **208** ISATT members representing **52** countries. While we are encouraged by this increase in membership from a low of 178 in 2023, it remains similar to 2019 - 202 members. We call on all members to encourage graduate students and colleagues to consider joining our supportive and unique international community.

Looking ahead to ISATT 2027

At ISATT 2025 in Glasgow we hope to announce the location for the ISATT 2027. The initial call for ISATT 2027 conference bids received no response from members. A second call was recently circulated, and we are hopeful of receiving a bid before the Glasgow conference. All bids will be shared with members as soon as possible after receipt. Following ISATT 2025 in Glasgow we will activate calls for the 2026 Regional Conference.

I would like to conclude my report with my personal and heartfelt thanks to my fellow “small executive” members. Daniela Hotolean’s work as ISATT Administrator on behalf of ISATT is above and beyond. She keeps her fellow committee members on task and is the ‘face’ of ISATT for our members. She is tireless in her advocacy and action on behalf of members. Professor Cheryl Craig has served as ISATT Chair with as much energy and enthusiasm in recent months as she brought to the position when appointed at the 2019 regional conference in Sibiu, Romania. Her experience in the field is unmatched and her leadership of ISATT will continue to influence our community for years to come.

I very much look forward to reconnecting with you all in person in Glasgow in July 2025.

Ruth Kane, Secretary ISATT