

BELTIC Conference Report

By Ravi Dutt and Hamish Lokhu

Bandung English Language Teaching International Conference (BELTIC) took place in Bandung – Indonesia on January 22-24, 2018. The international conference was a premier forum hosted by English Education Department UIN Sunan Gunung Djati, Bandung. The conference brought together researchers, policy makers and practitioners to discuss and share issues, new advances and research results in all aspects of English Language Teaching. The BELTIC's main theme was Developing ELT in the 21st Century.

The Conference had some excellent plenary sessions by Dr. Willy A Renandya, Robyn Najjar and by our very own Gabriel Fang. We learnt some interesting hands-on ideas which could be applied in any ELT classroom. This was our first overseas conference that we visited as a presenter. The topic we chose was close to what we practice and teach at Shantou University. We presented on **English Pronunciation errors and the Impact of L1 on English listening and speaking**. We jointly presented for 1 hour and 30 minutes. The sub-topics covered were 1) Importance of pronunciation. 2) Why is pronunciation neglected in EFL and ESL classrooms. 3) Common pronunciation errors in Indonesian context. 4) Success story of V&A course at Shantou University. Ravi presented first and explained the importance of pronunciation and why is pronunciation neglected in EFL and ESL classrooms. He also shared the success story of V&A program at Shantou University. Hamish presented on common pronunciation errors in Indonesian context using the specimens shared by some of his Indonesian friends. The friends who volunteered were give an English Phonetic pangram.

The conference had an excellent participation and fairly long Q&A session in the end. It was a fruitful learning experience and we are hopeful to get such great experiences in the future as well.

