Message from the Guest Editor

This special edition is the culmination of an extended cooperative initiative involving the English Language Institute (ELI) at King Abdulaziz University and the Arab World English Journal (AWEJ). The edition’s overall theme, “Application of Global ELT Practices in Saudi Arabia,” serves to collate a significant collection of ELI faculty research papers to produce one of the most critical and authoritative investigations into the state of English language education in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia published to date.

This collection includes topics ranging from classroom observation for professional development purposes to the role and impact of a variety of current technologies in classroom pedagogical practices. Additional topics explore teacher and learner attitudes, assessment instrument impact and effectiveness, the role of motivation and social interdependence, and the use of the mother tongue as a classroom mediation tool. The volume contains thirteen research papers and is intended to serve an international audience of scholars interested in better understanding English language learning in Saudi Arabia.

By producing a body of work that can aid in the application of an increasingly dynamic, effective, and responsive practice of English language education in universities and schools nation-wide, this endeavor aligns with ELI's vision of regional leadership and directs and hones the Institute’s targeted drive toward fulfillment of its mission of achieving excellence in English language teaching and learning, academic research, and community service.

The publication further supports ELI's continuing efforts to embody the themes and goals of the Kingdom's Vision 2030 and its ambitious benchmarks for development in all fields. It is hoped that the ideas, theories, and practices presented herein will positively impact pedagogy both regionally and globally, thereby serving to inspire further research in this exciting and ever-developing field.

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