

## Keynote Speakers



**Dariusz Buchczik** has been a scientific and didactic employee of the **Automation Department of the Silesian University of Technology** for over 20 years. He took part in the implementation of many educational projects co-financed by European Funds related to the education of students in the field of automation and robotics. He is a co-author and for the last two years a project manager of the project "Silesian University of Technology as a Centre of Modern Education based on research and innovation", which is co-financed by the European Social Fund under the Operational Programme Knowledge Education Development.



**Alastair Creelman** is an e-learning specialist in the field of online and distance education at the unit for Higher Education Development at **Linnaeus University**, Sweden. Monitors developments in the field and is active in several national and international projects in areas such as distance/online learning, quality in online education, open educational resources (OER), MOOCs, social media in education and virtual mobility/exchange. More information at <https://lnu.se/en/staff/alastair.creelman/>. He writes regularly on the use of technology in education at <http://acreelman.blogspot.se/> and can be found on Twitter as @alacre.



**Melanie Ellis** works at the Institute for Research on Education and Communication, Silesian University of Technology in Gliwice, Poland. She holds a PhD from the University of Warsaw, Poland and a habilitation (post-doctoral degree) from the Pedagogical University of Kraków, Poland. She has worked as a language teacher and teacher educator in many countries. Her research interests are the process of the education of teachers of English as a foreign language, or those teaching through English as the medium of instruction; the role of assessment in the teaching/learning process; and early reading in English as a foreign language in primary school, with a focus on struggling readers. She has long experience in distance education, and tele-working and holds a post-graduate diploma in Open and Online learning.



**Małgorzata (Gosia) Kurek** is a researcher and lecturer at **Institute of Foreign Languages, Jan Długosz University, Częstochowa, Poland**. She holds a PhD in Applied Linguistics and works as an Assistant Professor and TEFL trainer long involved in academic-level Virtual Exchange. Her principal research areas address the issues of CALL, digital literacy, teacher education and task design for CALL and VE. She has been involved in several VE projects focusing on the development of linguistic, digital and pedagogical competences. She is the First Training Officer for Unicollaboration and a co-designer of several VE training programmes. She is currently involved in EVOLVE project supporting the mainstreaming of VE. She has published and presented internationally on the subject of VE. ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7191-6273>



**Barbara Loranc-Paszyk**, holds a PhD in Applied Linguistics from **University of Silesia**, Poland. She works as Assistant Professor at University of Bielsko-Biała, Poland. Her research interests focus on exploring various linguistic aspects of telecollaboration as well as innovative uses of digital resources in foreign language teaching and learning. She has published in international journals and edited volumes in the field of second language acquisition.



**Yael Tågerud** has been developing courses and teaching intercultural communication since the 1990s - both within academia and as consultant for various companies and organisations outside the university. Yael also coordinates, processes and facilitates in-service professional development initiatives for employees and managers at **Linnaeus University**. Yael's academic background is in Media and communication studies and her Masters degree is in the field of Professional skills, i.e. tacit knowledge. Yael has a personal intercultural background and experience of working in different environments in Sweden and abroad.