**IATEFL Conference 2015**

**Teacher Training & Education SIG**

**Pre-Conference Event**

**10 April 2015**

**Exploring Trainee and Trainer Beliefs and Practices**

It is now well-established that ELT professionals’ beliefs influence both how they learn and how they behave and in teacher training and education contexts the beliefs of trainees and trainers will thus interact in defining the impact that the training has. In this interactive event we will investigate how beliefs impinge on teacher training and education and how attending to beliefs can enhance our work as teacher trainers and educators. In the first part of the day we will focus on trainees’ beliefs, on how they shape trainee learning, and on specific strategies trainers can use to understand trainees’ beliefs; in the second part of the day the focus will be on the beliefs that trainers have and how these influence their work. Throughout the day, the focus will be on critically reflective discussion and debate through which participants will be encouraged to make explicit and challenge their own beliefs about and practices in language teacher education. Discussion will be supported with input that draws on contemporary research and theory in the field of teacher education. The facilitator will be Simon Borg, who is well-known internationally for his work on language teachers' beliefs - see <http://simon-borg.co.uk>