



Curtin University

*8th International Conference on TESOL:
ELT IN THE 21ST CENTURY: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES*

Date: **Friday, Aug 11, 2017**

Time: **10:00-10:30**

Presenter/s: **Dr. BUI Thi Thuc Quyen & Dr. DUONG My Tham**

Bio:

Dr. BUI Thi Thuc Quyen is currently a lecturer and Head of TESOL Department at the Faculty of Foreign Languages - Technical Education, Nong Lam University, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Her primary areas of academic interest include teacher training, teaching methodology, research methodology, communication strategies, and learning strategies. Email: bttquyen@hcmuaf.edu.vn

Dr. DUONG My Tham is a full time lecturer of English at Nong Lam University, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. She earned her Ph.D. in English Language Studies at Suranaree University of Technology, Thailand. Her academic areas of interest predominantly lie in learner autonomy, TESOL methodology, language skills, qualitative research, and task-based learning.

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Title: **Creating an Active Environment for Students' Willingness to Communicate in English**

Abstract:

Learners' using the target language for communication has been proposed by many scholars as a crucial part of language learning. However, due to different reasons, not all learners are willing to do it. For those who learn English as a foreign language, the difficulty is likely to come from their context with its human and non-human factors. This paper reports a project which aims to create an active learning environment to promote the willingness to communicate in English among English majors studying at a university in the suburb of Hochiminh City. The project has been conducted with the participation of a teacher who is in charge of a Listening and Speaking 2 class and her 30 freshmen. Questionnaires and interviews with the students, and the teacher's and students' diaries have been employed as instruments for continual data collection. Results and findings from quantitative and qualitative data analyses have provided information for necessary adjustments of actions inside and outside the classroom to enhance the students' willingness to communicate in English. Upon completion, this project will set out conditions for the students' language use, which is supposed to facilitate their language development.

Keywords: environment; willingness to communicate in English; EFL; English majors.