

Foreword

The Forum on English for ASEAN Integration was held from November 11-14, 2012 and was the first of two co-organized by Universiti Brunei Darussalam and the East-West Center, Hawai'i. Held in Brunei, the forum is one of the many initiatives under the 5-year Brunei – US English Language Enrichment Project for ASEAN, a large-scale cooperation that comprises a series of strategic outreach efforts aimed at improving English language capacity across ASEAN.

The Forum theme, “Policies and Practices,” was an invitation to discuss English language policies in the ten ASEAN countries, followed by presentations on practice case studies that examine the policy issues through the sharing of best practices and experiences. Over 20 speakers from all over ASEAN were invited to talk at this forum, and a selection of the papers presented is available in this volume.

These valuable and insightful discussions are hoped to give us a better understanding of the ASEAN whole by learning the policies and initiatives taking place in the ten countries, how these translate into achievements and ongoing challenges of English teaching and learning on the ground, and also open up new avenues for ideas on English language education and policy making in the ASEAN context.

Putting together this volume was a tremendous team effort. We first thank the authors for providing content of their presentations. We are grateful to the committee members who worked very hard in reviewing papers and providing feedback for authors. A forum of this magnitude and caliber could not be realized without the tremendous and generous support of Brunei's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, which contributed to making it all happen. We offer a special note of gratitude to James McLellan, Kiran Sagoo, and Alistair Wood, who over many months contributed much behind the scenes leading to preparation of this volume.

We hope you find these perspectives useful and we look forward to continuing dialog in the second Forum on English for ASEAN Integration in Brunei in November 2015.

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