CALICO 2020 Executive Board Candidate Statements

The following are statements by the candidates, professional and biographical, to help you make a more informed voting decision. They are listed alphabetically.

Mahmoud Amer

Professional Statement

I would be honored to serve CALICO in any capacity. I have been a member of CALCIO for nine consecutive years, but my work and scholarship have been at the heart of what CALICO does since 2004, when I first started building mobile apps for the S60 Symbian platform (the software that powered millions of Nokia lines before Android and iOS) for my students. I am fortunate to have witnessed a sustained growth in technology in the last decade and I am proud to call CALICO my home for professional and scholarly work, having been no stranger to being an active member in equally respectable organizations, including TESOL, ACTFL, AAAL, and AATA, and if elected, I pledge to reach out to our colleagues and further our collaboration.

CALICO meetings have enabled me to see the breadth, knowledge, and variety of perspectives we bring to our profession. I believe that CALICO occupies a very unique position. Because many of us in CALICO play the dual role of both creating digital content, as well as being the instructors to many of our students, we are uniquely qualified to observe the power that technology can offer to transform learning. To this end, I believe CALICO should continue to be involved in the process of developing the standards for teacher education in the use of technology in language learning, to better assess the readiness of the next generation of world teachers. I believe CALICO's best years are ahead of it. The evolution in computing has enabled more people to access learning content in general, and with the increasing rate of adoption of wearables and the "Internet of Things", CALICO will play an important role as a venue to examine and discuss the extent to which learners take advantage of these tools and the roles they might meaningfully play in language education. I care to mention that while I am passionate about technology, I love being in the classroom educating language learners. I have dedicated technology to leverage learning in the classroom, under the guidance and work by colleagues in CALICO and other sister organizations.

Biostatement

Dr. Mahmoud Amer is an Associate Professor of Applied Linguistics and currently serves as the Chairperson of the Department of Languages and Cultures at West Chester University. His research interests include an active agenda in technology in language teaching and learning, language learning analytics, mobile applications for language learning Arabic, and second language acquisition. Dr. Amer is an Adobe® Certified Expert®, a CompTIA® Certified Technical Trainer (CTT++), and has deep expertise and special interest in leveraging emerging technology (mobile devices and wearables) in language learning. Dr. Amer is a member of the iOS® and Android® Developer Programs. Dr. Amer published peer-reviewed articles, most

recently in the CALICO journal. He has also authored courseware and several award-winning programs, including a mobile app and an in-house computer program to support his students of Arabic. Dr. Amer is committed to socially-responsible and open-access technology in education, and equally committed to training the next generation of teachers on best practices and theory-driven use and adaptation of technology in the field.

Lisa Frumkes

Professional Statement

CALICO has been my professional home for 30 years. In 1990, as an undergraduate, I attended my first CALICO conference, where I presented a HyperCard-based project that I'd worked on with a professor at my college. Since then, I've attended as many CALICO conferences as time and money have allowed.

I've led two CALICO SIGs: I chaired the Courseware SIG in 2010-2011 and I am the current chair of the Virtual Worlds (VW) SIG. I've been holding regular SIG leadership meetings to plan activities that keep the group's interest high between conferences. We've already hosted one whole-SIG virtual meeting since Montreal and plan to hold others. We've been putting out regular newsletters to everyone interested in virtual worlds, virtual reality, augmented reality, and other immersive technologies. I've also been connecting CALICO with similar groups in IALLT and EUROCALL.

I am currently serving IALLT as an affiliate representative to CALICO, helping to cement, maintain, and extend the bonds between these two groups that do so much to support people who leverage the power of technology to support and improve language learning.

As a CALICO board member, I hope to extend CALICO's reach even further. As the experts in the area of computer-assisted language learning, we have a lot of knowledge to share with language-learning companies, educational institutions, and the press. Those seeking expertise in the area of using technology in language learning should be able to find CALICO and benefit from our collective knowledge.

Those who have worked with me remark on my high level of organization, clear communication skills, compassion, and pragmatic attitude. I excel at striking that delicate balance between getting the job done and getting the job done right, while nurturing interpersonal relationships.

I would be honored to serve CALICO as a board member and appreciate your support.

Biostatement

Lisa Frumkes has been working at the intersection of language, education, and technology since 1989. After completing a PhD in Slavic linguistics at the University of Washington, where she wrote a dissertation on design and materials for an electronic textbook of Russian, she worked for several years with college faculty at small-liberal arts colleges, helping them integrate technology into their language teaching. After nearly 20 years of working in language and linguistics at Getty Images, Apex Learning, and Rosetta Stone, she is now providing consulting

services to language-learning startups, helping them to improve their content, tools, and processes.

Liudmila Klimanova

Professional Statement

My engagement with CALICO has a long history. I was first introduced to CALICO in 2005 by my graduate advisors and founding members of CALICO, James Pusack and Sue Otto from the University of Iowa. Jim and Sue's work on creator tools for building technology-enhanced interactive activities for effective language learning inspired me to consider a doctoral degree with a specialization in educational technology, and pursue an academic career in the field of CALL. As an eager participant of our CALICO Annual Conventions, I have benefited greatly from attending annual conferences and panels (and copious CALICO meals that no other national organization can ever beat!). As my primary professional affiliation, CALICO has played an instrumental role in molding my academic career profile, and provided me with an extensive network of professional connections across the globe.

If elected as Executive Board Member, I would introduce the following initiatives to better advocate for our organization and for the work that we do: 1) I will institute an Ad-Hoc Committee on the development of initiatives that promote active and timely integration of CALL research findings in foreign language instruction and outline high-leverage CALL teaching practices in FL education. 2) I will develop a program to enhance our donor relations. By articulating to potential donors the importance of CALL research to foreign language learning in the 21st century, CALICO can broaden its appeal, establish and grow the endowment so that the Consortium can support new professional awards and fellowships for graduate students and faculty members as well as potentially help K-12 teachers to attend the annual convention and directly engage with CALL specialists. 3) I will strengthen ties among current CALICO members by establishing CALICO Expert Team Networks for cross-institutional research initiatives and provision of free consulting services on quantitative and qualitative CALL project designs.

Biostatement

Liudmila Klimanova (Ph.D. University of Iowa) is Assistant Professor of CALL at the University of Arizona. Dr. Klimanova's research program lies at the intersection of phenomenological studies of virtual L2 learner experience, translanguaging in CALL contexts, and virtual identity enactment. Her current research delves into the notions of critical virtual exchange, digital humanistic pedagogies, and space humanities, focusing, in particular, GIS mapping technologies that allow learners to experience physical and cultural spaces remotely. At the University of Arizona she serves as co-director of **The Mapping Borderlands Initiative,** a global network for critical cultural virtual exchange among borderland regions (borderlands.arizona.edu) and co-director of **LLCcommons** - an open access web-based portal for hybrid and online teaching (llc.arizona.edu). She is editor of 2022 CALICO Volume, 'Identity, Multilingualism, & CALL'. Along with more recent national initiatives, her record of service includes leadership positions at CALICO CMC SIG (2016-2018) and AAUSC

(Association of University Supervisors and Language Program Coordinators). Since 2015 she has served as reviewer for LLT, CALICO and ReCALL journals.

Stephanie Link

Professional Statement

Over the years, the CALICO community has helped me grow as a scholar and mentor. I look forward to spreading my appreciation for the organization by supporting the development of CALICO members. To do this, I am committed to devoting time and energy to collaborations that expand membership benefits and contribute to the organization's reputation.

When I first joined CALICO, I was motivated as a student to present at the conference. I've maintained membership because of the tight knit community and continued excellence in academic professionalism. As the organization grows, it will become increasingly difficult for students and newcomers to network. While networking is indeed a benefit of attending the conference, there are few efforts to facilitate networking beyond conference spaces. I would like to take an active role in formalizing a mentorship/networking program so that students, newcomers, and seasoned CALL academics and professionals have year-long support.

Membership benefits may draw individuals into the organization, but mechanisms for maintaining participation are needed. This interest could be sparked through each of the SIGs. Participating in SIGs is a membership benefit, but individuals may not be aware of what they offer. Efforts to promote and develop SIGs can improve. One suggestion would be to encourage synergistic activities that not only foster inter-SIG collaboration but also highlight activities of individual SIGs. This can be done by forming a space during the conference where SIG leaders come together to discuss collaborations and by offering a newsletter for better visualizing CALICO as a community of global leaders.

As a volunteer organization, it will take a full community to elevate CALICO to a level that it could be. As a board member, I would be interested in forming ad hoc committees to help with CALICO outreach. Together, we can build a bright future for the CALICO organization.

Biostatement

Stephanie Link is an Assistant Professor of TESOL/Applied Linguistics and Director of the International Writing Program at Oklahoma State University. She teaches courses in CALL, L2 writing, and SLA. Her primary research focuses on intelligent tutoring systems and automated writing evaluation tools for L2 writing and written scientific communication. Her work has appeared in journals such as *CALICO Journal*, *Language Learning and Technology*, *System*, and the *Journal of Second Language Writing*. She was also co-editor of CALICO's 2018 Advances in CALL Research and Practice Book Series and is the incoming AAALetter Newsletter editor. Stephanie has been a CALICO member since 2012.