United Nations Language and Communications Programme

**Javier Zanón** is the head of the United Nations Language and Communications Programme (UNLCP). He came to UNHQ as Coordinator of the Spanish Language Programme in 2001. He earned an MA in Educational Psychology and a PhD in Psycholinguistics from the Universitat de Barcelona. Mr. Zanón has been both a lecturer and academic director of the Master of Arts programme in Teaching Spanish as a Foreign Language at Universitat de Barcelona, and was Academic Director of the Cervantes Institute in Chicago, USA. In addition, he has been teacher and teacher trainer in Spain, Morocco, Mexico, the United States, and Portugal. He has authored a number of Spanish language teaching books and materials and has served as Learning Manager at the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean. Mr. Zanón describes himself as a firm believer in cultural and linguistic diversity as a tool to fight discrimination and inequality. His favourite quote is: “The intellectual health of the planet is dependent on multilingualism.” (D. Crystal)

**English Language Programme**

**Full-time Teachers**

**Jodi Nooyen** has been the Coordinator of the English Language Programme since September 2013. She joined the UN in 2001 as a full-time English teacher. Before working for the UN, she taught English in the US, Puerto Rico, Japan, and Venezuela. She earned a BA in English Literature and Spanish from the University of Wisconsin - Green Bay, USA; and an MA in Applied Linguistics and TESOL from the University of California - Los Angeles (UCLA). She has special interests in teaching with technology, writing for the web and social media, and exploring innovative teaching solutions. Her Twitter handle is @JodiNooyen.

**Mary Regan** has taught English at the United Nations since 1998. She earned a BA in Classics from Holy Cross College, an MA in TESOL from Georgetown University and an MA in Applied Linguistics from Teachers College, Columbia University. Earlier Ms. Regan held teaching positions at several American institutions including Columbia University, New York University, and City College of New York. She enjoys developing and delivering department-specific courses and courses for distance learning on WebEx. She believes “learning a language can be fun if you relax and turn off your inner monitor.”

**Patricia Duffy** holds an MA in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages from Teachers College, Columbia University. She has been a full-time English teacher in the UN English Language Programme at HQ since 1992. During that time, Ms. Duffy has also done UN staff training at UN duty stations in Addis Ababa, Arusha, Entebbe, Kigali, Nairobi and Port-au-Prince. She has also taught English at Suzhou University and Jiangsu Television University in the People’s Republic of China; at the City University of New York (LaGuardia College and the off-campus site in Chinatown, NY); and at the American Language Institute in New York University. Her special interests include content-based language teaching and courses in work-related skills, e.g.,
report writing and presentation skills. She has authored an online course, two textbooks and a book about perception.

**Kirsten Duckett** has been a full-time instructor in the United Nations English Language Programme since 2008. She has taught in Belgium, Lebanon, the Netherlands, Puerto Rico, South Korea, Thailand, Uganda, the United States and Venezuela. Ms. Duckett earned an MA in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) at the City University of New York and an MA in Germanic Languages, Vrije Universiteit, Belgium. Having studied anthropology-linguistics, she has special interests in how people negotiate the cross-cultural gap and in language pragmatics. Her advice to language learners is: *Relax and use your noodle; it’s just a language.*

**Rodrigo Bergamasco Bottura** has been a full-time instructor in the United Nations Language Programme since September 2014. Before joining the UN, he taught at several Brazilian and American institutions including Teachers College, Columbia University, and Hunter College, both as an ESL instructor and teacher educator. He holds an M.A. in Applied Linguistics from Teachers College, Columbia University and a B.A. in Foreign Language and Literature from Universidade Presbiteriana Mackenzie. His interests are in second language reading and writing development and the cognitive processes involved in text comprehension and speech production.

**David Hattem** began teaching English at the United Nations in September 2014. He earned a BA in History and Philosophy from Rutgers University - Newark, and an MA in Applied Linguistics from the University of Massachusetts - Boston. Before coming to the United Nations, David worked as a full-time ESL instructor at Rutgers - Newark and as a part-time instructor at both Union County College and Middlesex County College. He is an avid language learner himself and finds he learns languages best through toil and effort, “Language learning is a perpetual struggle that requires fortitude, determination and discipline balanced with some humor and creativity.” His most recent research interests focus on social media and language learning with a particular emphasis on developing grammatical skills through the use of Twitter.

**Part-time Teachers**

**Sabina Altumbabic** has been a part-time instructor in the United Nations English Language Programme since 2011. She earned an MA in English Language and Literature, with a concentration in Linguistics, from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

**Raymonde Burke** has been a part-time instructor in the United Nations English Language Programme since 1991. She holds an MA from Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland and also studied at Aberdeen University in Scotland, where she earned a degree in Education.

**Dilek Hancioglu** has been a part-time instructor in the United Nations English Language Programme since 2005. She holds an MA degree in Teaching English as a Foreign and Second Language.

**Richard Humphreys** has been an English instructor in the United Nations English Language Programme since 2009. Mr. Humphreys earned his MA in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) at San Francisco State University.
Heidi Jensen has been a part-time instructor in the United Nations English Language Programme since 2007. Ms. Jensen holds a MEd in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages.

Dawn Jordan has been a part-time instructor at the Organization since January 2012. She holds an MA in Teaching English as a Second Language from Hunter College and an MA in Media Studies from the New School University.

Lori Richards has been a part-time instructor in the United Nations English Language Programme since January 2011. She holds an MA in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) from New York University, and a TESOL Certificate from Columbia University.

Sandy L. Singer has been a part-time instructor in the United Nations English Language Programme since 2010. Mr. Singer holds an MA in Applied Linguistics/TESOL from Hunter College (CUNY).

Maxine Berger holds an MA in French from Columbia University in New York and an MA in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) and Applied Linguistics at Hunter College, New York.