

Making a Mountain Out of ESP: Unearthing Idiomaticity Buried Beneath the Surface *John I. Liontas, Ph.D.*

In keeping with the conference's theme, Establishing the Predominant Position of ESP within Adult ELT, this keynote investigates the many theoretical and practical ways the predominant position of ESP may be established within adult ELT. In so doing, the keynote shall purposefully "make a mountain out of ESP" by unearthing important matters of idiomaticity believed to be buried just beneath the surface of ESP. Accompanied by an amazing cast of mind-blowing images worthy of a thousand words each, this keynote aims to deliver a breathtaking landscape of ideas and pedagogical constructs in order to establish the predominant position of ESP within adult ELT. Most importantly, this keynote seeks to explore the teacher-training practices affecting the attainment of idiomaticity in English as a second or foreign language. Said practices are anchored in a pragmatic methodology of idiomaticity teaching that takes into account learners' interests and active involvement. It will be argued that such focus shall be particularly useful for the purposes of diagnosis and achievement, and the ESP/ELT research to date is a promising start to further work on idiomaticity. Recommendations for idiomaticity training-and-teaching as well as time-tested practices for further theorizing and research will be employed in an unapologetic fashion to engender a great many "aha!" experiences. It is hoped that the practices and recommendations explored here will spur on more research in this vein during this year's ESP conference and summer school and long after we succeed making a mountain out of ESP. After all, navigating the many unexplored tunnels beneath the ESP surface may yet become your most engaging reflection worth writing home about again and again!

