**ABSTRACT**

Teachers are the cornerstone of the education systems of the countries; hence teachers’ continuous professional development has become vital for innovative pedagogies. Almost all countries have regulated their national level laws, policies, and procedures with little input from teachers to develop teacher education curriculum. Regardless of how carefully they have developed their new curriculum, effective teaching still depends on teachers’ knowledge, skills and professional development since teachers are at centre of achieving quality education. It is therefore essential that ELT teacher candidates understand and share examples of practice in continuous professional development (CPD). Academic conferences provide excellent opportunities for teachers and teacher candidates to gain fresh insights into the world of education beyond their school walls. Thus, the aim of this study was to find out teachers’ and teacher candidates’ views on the activities carried out during the conference and on CPD. The results of the quantitative data revealed the overall description of the conferences as positive and encouraging events. The qualitative data supported the positive feelings about the conference and revealed teachers’ and teacher candidates’ positive and negative thoughts and feelings about CPD.