

The LLL SIG Newsletter

Reinvigorating the Lifelong Language Learning SIG

Greetings from the new Program Chair—Joseph Dias

As the new Program Chair—due to a chance reunion at the JALT Conference in Nagoya with the current LLL-SIG coordinator, Tadashi Ishida, who seized the opportunity to invite me to take on the role—I would like to inform you of upcoming SIG-related events and convey a few ideas that Ishida Sensei and I discussed for invigorating the SIG. If you're interested in finding out a bit more about me, you'll find a brief bio at the bottom of this page.

First of all, here is a list and description of all the upcoming events in which our SIG plays a role:

Pan-SIG 2011

JALT's Pan-SIG 2011 will be held at Shinshu University's Faculty of Arts in beautiful Matsumoto, Nagano Prefecture, this year on May 21st and 22nd. This is an occasion for all the SIGs to showcase the latest developments in their respective fields. We'll have the chance to see what other SIGs are up to and, possibly, be enticed to join multiple SIGs, if you're not already a SIG-holic like me. Go to <http://jalt.org/pansig/2011> to view the conference details.

LLL Mini Conference

In late September or early October, an LLL-SIG Mini Conference will be held. It is a one-day event with sessions offered in the morning and afternoon. This year, the event will be hosted by Tokyo Keizai University. The call for papers will be sent out to you after the exact date of the conference has been set. We would like to strongly encourage you to consider attending the conference and, even better, submit a proposal for giving a presentation there.

JALT National Conference

The next JALT National Conference will be held at the National Olympics Memorial Center, Yoyogi, Tokyo, 18 – 21 November, 2011. The conference theme will be Teaching • Learning • Growing. You'll be able to submit proposals for presentations from January 17th. The deadline for submissions will be April 22nd. Our LLL-SIG is allotted one unvetted slot at the

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national conference. Keep your eye on <http://jalt.org/conference> for more details about the conference as they're posted.

Our LLL-SIG Website

Just to remind you, the LLL SIG website is at: <http://jalt.org/lifelong/index.html> . It features links to the latest newsletter (to which you are always invited to contribute), a resource list, information about an NPO started by our SIG Coordinator, Tadashi Ishida, and other useful links.

LLL-SIG Yahoo Group

When you join the LLL-SIG, you are invited to join a moderated mailing list that our group maintains. You may opt to receive individual messages to your email account or simply view messages posted on the website: <http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/jaltllsig/> . The Yahoo Group allows members to exchange ideas and learn more about each other. Here is a screen shot showing some recent messages posted to the group:

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jaltllsig · JALT LLL SIG

Home

Activity within 7 days: **7** New Messages - New Questions

Description
This is a mailing list of JALT LLL SIG to communicate with the membership.

Most Recent Messages (View All) Search: Search
(Group by Topic)

Re: Earthquake donation
Hi Motoko, Å Thank you very much for contacting me! Yes, I also donated to the Red Cross and Second Harvest. Although it would be nice for LLLÅ to give
Posted - Thu Mar 24, 2011 11:51 pm

Re: Earthquake donation
Thank you Motoko and Julia, Sounds good to me. Martin
Posted - Thu Mar 24, 2011 11:50 pm

Re: Earthquake donation
Dear Julia, Hi! I'm Motoko, a new member of LLL. I agree with the donation. Since Martin made a suggestion of a donation, I'd been thinking of what else we
Posted - Thu Mar 24, 2011 7:48 am

Earthquake donation
Hello again LLL members, Officers have been discussing the possibility of making a donation to a relief group working in the areas affected by the March 11
Posted - Wed Mar 23, 2011 10:51 pm

Re: Earthquake relief
Hi Martin, Å Thanks for your input. We will wait for some other members to respond and make a decision. Å Good to hear from you... Å Julia ... From: Martin

Group Information
Members: 27
Category: Teaching and Research
Founded: Mar 31, 2008
Language: English

Yahoo! Groups Tips

Some ideas for reinvigorating the SIG and helping our members connect Online Conferences

Although our members have the LLL-SIG Mini Conference, the Pan-SIG Conference, and JALT National in which to participate, there are long dry stretches between these formal F2F events. Therefore, I would like to suggest some virtual events for our widely-dispersed membership, using a platform called Elluminate, which is a system for members of groups or classes to participate in online conferences, possibly with specially invited speakers and a moderator, with members having the facility to ask questions, chat, see a PPT that the speaker is explaining, etc. I have been taking part in some Elluminate-mediated talks and

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have been quite impressed with them. I am now exploring some options as to how our SIG and its members can use this platform free of charge to have a few virtual events between conferences. More about that shortly.

Use of social bookmarking

I would also like to suggest that our group members share bookmarks of websites and articles that they've found useful on the Web by making use of the social bookmarking site, Delicious (<http://www.delicious.com/>). This site allows users to share their bookmarks with others. For example, see bookmarks that I've found useful by going to my "tag cloud" and clicking on some tags that interest you: <http://www.delicious.com/tags/jodias> . I encourage you to register for a free delicious account and, when you encounter an LLL-relevant link, use the tag "JALT-LLL" as one of your tags when saving the link to your account. If all of our members use that tag, which had not been used before I inaugurated it recently, we'll be able to search for each others' LLL-related links easily. If our 44 members contribute just a few links each, we will have shared many useful resources. Here is what annotated delicious bookmarks, and their associated tags, look like:

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Learning a Second Language Protects Against Alzheimer's ...

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Want to protect against the effects of Alzheimer's? Learn another language.

That's the takeaway from recent brain research, which shows that bilingual people's brains function better and for longer after developing the disease.

Psychologist Ellen Bialystok and her colleagues at York University in Toronto recently tested about 450 patients who had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's. Half of these patients were bilingual, and half spoke only one language.

While all the patients had similar levels of cognitive impairment, the researchers found that those who were bilingual had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's about four years later, on average, than those who spoke just one language. And the bilingual people reported their symptoms had begun about five years later than those who spoke only one language.

EDIT | SHARE | DELETE

Alzheimer SLA health prevention language_learning lifelong JALT-LLL

University of Oxford - Kellogg College - Lifelong Language Learning

The Centre was established in January, 2007, as one of a number of academic centres at Kellogg College. Integral to the college's mission is an interest in mature learners. Kellogg also has a critical inter-disciplinary mass in applied linguistics and second language acquisition, with three Fellows, Katie Gray, Vicki Murphy and Robert Vanderplank.

The aims of the Centre are:

- * to marry academic and research interests in mature and younger language learners from a variety of perspectives.
- * to strengthen links between the college and university departments with which it already has well-established links in teaching and research.
- * to identify means of improving and supporting lifelong language learning, particularly for those who may not be natural or gifted language learners or who may not have had advantages such as foreign travel, contact with foreign cultures or appropriate educational support earlier in life.

EDIT | SHARE | DELETE

language_learning linguistics SLA oxford_university oxford CALL

JALT-LLL

LLL-SIG on Facebook!

I'm pleased to announce that our SIG is now on Facebook as a "community page." This will provide another channel for you to learn about our activities and special events, but, more importantly, it gives all of you an opportunity to interact with the other members of the group in a more spontaneous way. You will be able to view the content on the page even if you are not a member of Facebook, but, if you would like to post messages, photos, videos or links that have some connection with lifelong language learning, you will need to register for a Facebook account; something that's quick and easy.

Feel free to access our SIG on Facebook at...

<http://tinyurl.com/4hzlwdv>

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Through participating on this community page, you may get hints about how you might use social networking, and other Web 2.0 technologies, in your own teaching. You will also be able to interact with other JALT members who have established Facebook sites for their chapters, SIGs, and NPOs. Hopefully, the half of our membership who have opted out of our Yahoogroup mailing list will feel inspired to try out the Facebook site, as it is not necessary to join it if they would prefer not to.

Here is a screen shot showing a portion of our Facebook site:



JALT Lifelong Language Learning SIG

Please check out the good work that the folks at JALT's Global Issues in Language Education are doing on their well-established FB page, offering great links to videos and websites related to NGOs, peace education, topical global issues, and matters pertaining to JALT.



Global Issues in Language Education

Page: 198 people like this.

515 Impressions - 0% Feedback

 February 13 at 11:14pm - Like - Comment - Share



Joseph Dias

What is your favorite quote related to language learning? One of mine is the following by the astronomer, Carl Sagan. It reminds us how humble we need to be in the face of so much that we don't know:

"It is of interest to note that while some dolphins are reported to have learned English – up to fifty words used in correct context – no...

[See More](#)



 February 12 at 9:58pm - Like - Comment

 Eric M. Skier likes this.

Write a comment...

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Something about me

To introduce myself... I'm an American from Silicon Valley (San Jose), now working as an associate professor in the English Department (Communications Section) of Aoyama Gakuin University. My interest in lifelong learning first sprang from a pantomime course I took at an adult school in Berkeley shortly after I graduated from university. It allowed me to plug into a much wider variety of student colleagues than I was exposed to in my more formal education, including deaf people who were learning pantomime alongside me, and followed the course through a sign language interpreter. This was a truly precious experience. More recently, I have been teaching "non-traditional," mature students in our night program (Nibu) at Aoyama Gakuin. This has helped me to see the different needs, and richer depth of experience, of such students first hand.

I've been involved with JALT in various capacities for about 20 years, serving as the program chair of the West Tokyo Chapter at the time that Tadashi Ishida was its treasurer, some years before he rose to become the vice president of the entire organization and, more recently, its auditor. I have mostly had roles vetting conference proposals and submissions to the JALTCALL Journal. My main research interests are in the collaborative learning that CALL facilitates and in curriculum design. I co-coordinate the Integrated English program in the English Dept. at Aoyama Gakuin University.

Warmly,

Joseph Dias

Program Chair -- LLL-SIG