

# The LLL SIG Newsletter

## Attending an EBM (Executive Board Meeting)

By Joseph Dias

LLL-SIG Program Chair

I attended the EBM (Executive Board Meeting) in place of Tadashi Ishida, our LLL-SIG coordinator, on February 2nd and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2013 to represent the LLL-SIG. It was a well-attended event, with almost all of the SIGs and chapters having some presence, either by their president, coordinator or some other officer from their organizations. The current JALT board of directors are impressive in their professionalism, helpful attitudes, senses of humor, and dedication.

Going to an EBM provides a behind the scenes view of all the sweat and creative energy that holds our association together. I hope that some other officers of the LLL-SIG will have an opportunity to attend one in the future. Perhaps we should all go by turns.

The EBM is a two-day event, taking up most of a weekend, but the time goes by fairly rapidly and I did not feel that people spoke just to hear themselves speak. The meetings were purposeful and productive. Various motions were discussed and voted upon, a new JALT mission statement was proposed, and there were "break-out" sessions, during which chapter and SIG representatives held discussions with their respective liaisons. The EBMs are conducted twice a year and the next one will take place at the Campus Plaza Kyoto at the end of June. The ones in Tokyo will no longer be held at the National Olympic Memorial Youth Center due to some planned reconstruction of that facility.

During the SIG "break-out," all of the following items that have some bearing on our SIG were decided or reported on:

\* All SIGs except the Study Abroad SIG will be participating in the Pan-SIG

Conference, to be held at Nanzan University in Nagoya on May 18th and 19th.

\* SIGs participating in the Pan-SIG have to collaborate with at least one other SIG to share a forum and, optionally, a fuller program of coordinated presentations.

\* Our LLL-SIG will pair with JSL (Japanese as a Second Language) and OLE (Other Language Educators). I asked them to join us and they accepted. The topic of the joint LLL, JSL and OLE forum at the Pan-SIG conference will be “Learning languages at all stages and ages.”

\* I will be vetting proposals that have LLL listed as their primary area of emphasis. The deadline for proposals was the 15th of February. They had to be submitted at:

<http://www.pansig.org/2013/JALTPanSIG2013/Submissions.html> .

In addition to a contribution by our SIG to the joint LLL, JSL and OLE forum, the LLL-SIG received four proposals from people who listed LLL as being the area most relevant to their presentation topic.

\* For this SIG conference, someone from our SIG needs to play a role on the conference committee in order for our SIG to be an official co-sponsor of the event and to share in any profits it might make. Therefore, I put my name in to be the “Assistant Student Intern Coordinator,” one of the few roles that was unspoken for.

\* The SIG Liaison, Kevin Ryan, will join each of the SIGs so that he can get a better picture of what we are all doing. Let’s make sure that he feels welcome.

This year the SIG Liaison would like SIGs to have their Coordinator's Report prepared by the time of their AGM (annual general meeting) at the National Conference. In the future, it will probably be

required that the document be prepared before (or during) the AGM. This is partly due to the fact that some new SIG coordinators could not get the cooperation of outgoing ones at the end of the year to fill in necessary information in the Coordinator's Report.

It was reported at the EBM that there is a fund called the development fund that is used for new or interesting projects suggested by chapters or SIGs. If we have an idea for something, we can apply to tap this fund when our SIG's savings are low.

Clear skies,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph V. Dias". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Joseph Dias

