

The LLL SIG Newsletter

Important information about upcoming conferences

From the LLL-SIG Program Chair, Joseph Dias

Call to present at the LLL-SIG Mini-Conference

After this year's JALT National Conference in Kobe, a smaller scale conference will take place the following weekend (November 2nd and 3rd) in Tokyo. It will be the Tokyo Conference and Expo of ETJ (English Teachers of Japan). The annual LLL-SIG Mini-Conference, along with the JALT West Tokyo Chapter Mini Conference, will be a part of that program. Presenters at the conference, representing the JALT LLL-SIG, are now being sought. This is an excellent opportunity to share your ideas to a receptive and enthusiastic audience. Last year's ETJ Conference at Kanda Gaigo Gakuin was lively, enjoyable, and useful. We already have John Fanselow as part of the LLL SIG's program at the conference. He will give a workshop entitled "Beyond Rashomon—Lifetime Learning for Teachers," in which participants will learn to translate the categories of FOCUS in *Breaking Rules* (Longman, 1987) into their own language.

Presentations will be between 45 minutes and an hour and they may take on a workshop, or more expository, format. Presenters in the Lifelong Language Learning stream need not be teaching adult, non-traditional students. They might present ideas on how tasks or activities they've developed inculcate lifelong learning habits among their students of any category.

If you would like to be considered as a presenter at the conference, here is what you need to submit.

Proposal format:

1. Name(s) of presenter(s)

2. School or company (main affiliation)
3. E-mail address
4. Title of Presentation and topic area (e.g. reading)
5. Presentation description (max 50 words)
6. Biographical data (max 30 words)
7. Type of teachers for whom the presentation is relevant (e.g. university teachers)
8. The language the presentation will be given in (e.g. English)
9. Date/times that you are not available to give your presentation. If you are available at any time on either day (November 2nd or 3rd), please write 'none'

Cost of Conference (per day) -- ETJ Members: 500 yen

[It's free to be a member and you can join online at...

<http://ltprofessionals.com/etjform.html>]

Send your submissions to Joseph Dias at getumwhiletheylast [at] gmail.com .

Also, if any of you would like to help with the vetting of proposals for this conference, please let me know and I'll include you on the vetting team. As this is a relatively small-scale conference, the amount of work for each member of the vetting team will not be onerous. Of course, you would not be vetting your own proposal. No prior experience with vetting is necessary as you'll receive on-the-job training. Consider it a kind of lifelong learning.

Lifelong language learning and the community: JALT2013 LLL-SIG Conference Forum

The theme of JALT2013 will be "Learning is a Lifelong Voyage," making a perfect fit with the theme of our SIG. The program for our SIG's forum at the conference will be extra special to mark the confluence of the conference theme with our perennial focus.

Three presenters will speak about various ways to nurture a lifelong orientation

to language learning through connections with those around them and to the outside community. Andrew Reimann will describe how cultural awareness can be enhanced through critical incidents, helping students to feel closer to "the other," whom they may encounter outside the safe confines of the university. The second speaker, Joseph Poulshock, will describe how he helps students communicate their life stories and draw out the life stories of others--both inside and outside the classroom. Joseph Dias will show how to make the most of guest speakers as bridges to the community.

More detailed descriptions of the 3 elements of the forum:

Raising Cultural Awareness through Critical Incidents

Andrew Reimann, Associate Professor, Faculty of International Studies,
Utsunomiya University



Andrew Reimann

The presentation describes activities which engage students with interesting and relevant content, provide opportunities for reflection, critical thinking, evaluation and self-exploration. Critical incidents build communication skills

and a sense of curiosity motivating and enabling students to extend their inquiry and interests out into the community. A predominantly student-centered activity, much of the information and questions are generated in class, steering the lesson towards students goals while teachers assume the roles of facilitator, guide and mentor.

Story is Life

Joseph Poulshock, Professor, Tokyo Christian University



Joseph Poulshock

This presentation describes ideas and activities that can help learners and teachers find and create the "grammar of story" in (a) the books they read and the films they see; (b) the goals, dreams, and ambitions that they have for life, and (c) the way they communicate their own life stories and how they listen to, evoke, and draw out the life stories of others--both inside and outside of the classroom.

Guest speakers as bridges to the community

Joseph Dias, Professor, Aoyama Gakuin University



Joseph Dias

Carefully chosen guest speakers in ESL/EFL classes can provide a bridge to the community. The presenter will explain how guest speaker engagements can be arranged for individual and pooled classes, and how the most can be made of the events through engaging preparatory activities, readings, and tasks. Speakers from such organizations as Doctors of the World, Second Harvest and Tokyo English Life Line, as well as a film director and musician, will be used as examples.

Cheers,

Joseph V. Dias

Joseph Dias

LLL-SIG Program Chair