

SIG News

Career Design in the Lives of Teachers

Joseph Dias - Program Chair

Gregory Strong, Charlie Browne, and Blair Thomson were part of a forum at the JALT PanSIG at Toyo Gakuin University on May 19th that focused on “Career Design in the Lives of Teachers.”

The talk was well attended by an enthusiastic audience and led to much food for thought.

Description of the talk:

"For many, teaching can be more a labor of love than an endeavor that ensures a comfortable standard of living and future financial security. Whether employed full-time or on a casual basis, teachers may need to use their ingenuity and resourcefulness to supplement their income and adequately provide for their families. In this presentation, a panel of experienced university instructors explained how they invested in their futures, made various career choices, and struggled to make sense of pension plans and retirement options."

It was a pleasure putting this program together and I would like to thank the three speakers for their hard work preparing for it. Due to my poor time keeping, time ran out before we could have a proper Q & A. I wanted to say at the end how much respect I have for the speakers' approaches to life and the way they keep a great sense of balance—with teaching, research, social connections, and family all being attended to seamlessly—while still managing to think carefully about their futures.



