
Message from the Editor

Dear Readers,

Greetings from the northern island of Hokkaido. Time again for a preview of what to expect inside another full issue of *OnCUE Journal*. We have quite the assemblage of articles, so there should be something for everyone.

Our Features Articles section is hefty this time with three articles to whet your intellectual appetite. It begins with the matter of language confidence and self-perceived notions of students' own ability, which was investigated in a paper Students' Levels of Confidence in Using English, Self-Perceptions of Ability, and Perceptions of Course Difficulty, by **James Bury** and **Anthony Sellick**. They looked at results from ten nationalities attending a university in Japan. Then, we have **Simon Cooke's** contribution Languaging, Star Power, and L2 Motivation. Simon's research report is about gauging the motivational effects on non-English majors of watching videos of Japanese celebrities and doing in-class activities. Finally, **Ruth Vanbaelen** and **Jonathan Harrison** tackle a critical point in how to approach the teaching of English writing, that of providing proper scaffolding in their paper Building Paragraph Writing Skills through Scaffolding. Their subjects were STEM students, who likely need to learn a lot of academic writing skills for their careers.

After soaking up those intriguing results, you can switch over to the @CUE section on technology issues, where we have **Paul Daniels** and **Paul Raine** and their article The Correlation Between Standardized Test Scores, ASR Scores and Oral Presentation Scores. The ASR stands for automatic speech recognition, in case you didn't know. The two Pauls looked at CASEC test scores and what comes out of technology students' mouths to see what sort of pattern might be found.

Tim Murphey will delight readers with his account of The International Society of Language Studies (ISLS) 2019 Conference that took place in Hong

Kong. Its theme was “Disrupting and Recreating Beliefs in Language Studies,” and that alone should make you want to read it.

We have two book reviews to offer CUE readers this time. **Tim Murphey** provides a second contribution to this issue with his recap of *The Structure of Healthy Life Determinants: Lessons from the Japanese Aging Cohort Studies*, edited in 2018 by Hoshi and Kodama. Then, to wrap things up, **Kevin Thomas** delves into a timely topic by reviewing the 2011 book *English in Japan in the Era of Globalization*, by Phillip Seargeant. While the book itself is slightly old, it may be amusing to compare its findings with today, and its author Seargeant is known to please with his acumen regardless.

The *OnCUE Journal* is also happy to close this issue with the names of the two book raffle winners from the 2018 anniversary CUE conference, which was held at Rikkyo University. Please read how they made use of CUE funds to purchase books for their research needs. Congratulations to **Howard Brown** and **Yasushi Miyazaki**!

Glen Hill

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