
Message from the Editor

Dear readers,

These Conference Proceedings provide a retrospective account of the CUE ESP Symposium—Hokuriku 2013, *Getting Published in English: Opportunities and Obstacles*, held at the Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology in Ishikawa, Japan September 7, 2013. The event was jointly sponsored by the College and University Educators (CUE) SIG of the Japan Association for Language Teaching and the Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology. Participating in the symposium were instructors from colleges, universities and academic and research institutions throughout Japan teaching students of science, technology, engineering and medicine as well as educators concerned with the current state of English for Specific Purposes (ESP) in Japan.

The event featured four invited presentations, including a plenary presentation from two of the foremost experts in ESP and English for Academic Purposes (EAP) publishing in Japan; workshops and research presentations addressing some of the barriers faced by non-native speakers seeking to publish in English; over 15 concurrent poster presentations describing ongoing ESP-related research in the areas of needs analysis, data-driven learning, corpus linguistics, materials development and methodology; and a closing round-table discussion which focused on how instructors can help students overcome the difficulties they face in having their work published in English.

This conference is significant in several ways. First, it is a follow-up and extension of the work begun by colleagues at our sister institution, the Nara Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, in 2012. Second, it carries on the tradition begun at the first Japan Conference on ESP, held on the campus of Aizu University, Fukushima Prefecture over ten years ago. Third, the experience, knowledge and contacts gained in hosting this symposium have helped pave the way for a third symposium, The JALT CUE SIG ESP Symposium – Kanto 2014, to be held at Waseda University in Tokyo on September 13.

While it is encouraging that ESP-related conferences have become more frequent and that ESP in Japan has become more firmly established, it is in many ways still in the shadow of English for General Purposes (EGP). Thus, if we are to raise awareness for the need for ESP, communication and collaboration among those with an interest in ESP is vital, so that individuals working in academic and research institutions throughout Japan are able to share their knowledge, experience and insights and discuss advances in various affiliated fields of linguistics and language teaching. As we seek to devise and implement pedagogically sound strategies that will help our students reach their personal, professional and academic goals, such continued collaboration will encourage the development of long-term, mutually beneficial relationships which will in turn raise the profile of ESP in Japan.

In closing, I'd like to thank everyone who participated in the conference, particularly our invited speakers, those involved in the planning and logistics, and the CUE SIG which made the symposium possible. Special thanks to Leigh McDowell of NAIST, John Blake and Dubhgan Hinchey of JAIST, and Juanita Heigham of CUE for their assistance in making the symposium possible.

Sincerely,

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