
Message from the Editor

Dear readers,

Welcome to the *OnCUE Journal*, 9.3 *Special Conference Issue* of the September 2015 Nagoya conference on the theme of Diversity: Communication and Education. We have eagerly awaited sharing with the readers the highlights of the conference held at Sugiyama Jogakuen University in Nagoya and now it is finally here! This issue contains five papers that were delivered during the conference, a reflection piece on Tadashi Shiozawa's plenary presentation, and two book reviews.

In the first paper, *Building Autonomy Through Collaborative Writing with Google Docs*, **Nick Boyes** shares his use of Google Docs in a writing classroom to develop student writing skills by getting them to collaborate on feedback and error correction. Next, in *Working to Meet Students' Needs with Optimal Topics*, **Alison Kitzman** describes how topic selection within a classroom can help students develop motivation, learner autonomy, and encourage life-long learning. In the third paper, *Trends in Access to Higher Education in Japan*, **David Laurence** discusses the challenges universities in Japan face as shifts in demographics have moved the country towards "universal" access to higher education. In the fourth paper, *Corrective Feedback: Sharing Ideas and Perspectives Teacher to Teacher*, **Jenell L. Rae** explains how writing instructors can develop their approach to corrective feedback through a workshop that she conducted at the conference. In the final paper, *Teachable Communication Strategies: Asking for Help in English Conversations*, **Joel P. Rian** examines the results of a post-course survey on student perceptions of the "appeal for assistance" communication strategy.

In *Gaining Confidence in English through World Englishes*, **Eric Hirata** reflects on Tadashi Shiozawa's plenary presentation, "What does the diversity of learning and teaching environments entail? A non-native speaker's view." In his reflection, Hirata shares the insights he gleaned from Shiozawa's plenary

presentation and how it has impacted his teaching.

We are also happy to include in this issue **Teresa Koide's** review of the book *Crossing Boundaries and Weaving Intercultural Work, Life, and Scholarship in Globalizing Universities* (Adam Kamisarof & Zhu Hua, Eds.). She describes how the editors have crafted a compilation of personal stories from teachers abroad in countries that are not their own. Lastly, **Daniel Mills** gives us his take on *Therapy Care: An English Course for Therapists*, by Jim Smiley, Michiyo Masui, and Tomoaki Asano. A former massage therapist himself and now teaching at Ritsumeikan University, he offers an experienced eye on this specialized textbook in the ESP industry.

Welcome to the journal. Let the reading begin!

OnCUE Journal Special Conference Issue Guest Editors:

Eric Hirata (Nagoya University of Foreign Studies)
Jeremiah Hall (Nagoya University of Foreign Studies)