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# Message from the Guest Editors

Welcome to the JALT CUE SIG 25th Anniversary Conference “25 years and still right on CUE” Special Issue. The conference held September 15-16, 2018 at Rikkyo University in Tokyo, brought together a large number of researchers and conference participants. We are pleased to present a collection of six features articles, three practice-oriented papers, two on poster presentations and three reflections.

The first of the six featured articles starts with, **Tomoko Hashimoto**, who investigated student attitudes on informal and formal cooperative learning through data mining of student responses to their experiences of cooperative learning activities. This is followed by a paper from **Tomoyuki Kawashima** who looked at the effects of awareness-raising activities regarding World Englishes. **Jamie Lesley** investigated decision-making tasks in high-level discussion classes, and **Sakae Onoda** wrote about enhancing L2 interactional skills through pair presentations with small-group discussions. **Kristen Sullivan** discussed the post-study abroad experiences of Japanese university students. Finally, **Davey Young** described student perceptions of textbook topics in a discussion course.

Following this, there are three practice-oriented papers. **Wendy Gough** and **Kazumi Kato** proposed a project-based learning method in a content English course designed for students specializing in marine sciences and technologies. Then, **Caroline J. Handley** described statistical methods and interpretations using JASP, an open-source software package. **Mary Hillis** shared selected poetry to increase student engagement and motivation, and presented how to incorporate poetry in courses for academic English.

In the short reports section, **Aaron C. Sponseller** provided an initial attempt to validate a Japanese version of the Motivation to Study Abroad scale using exploratory factor analysis, CFA, and Rasch analysis. Then, **Christopher Piroto** and **Robert Dykes** described five common mistakes early researchers are

prone to making when using quantitative research methods.

Finally, in the reflection section, **Simon Park** discussed Piroto and Dykes' poster presentation on common errors in quantitative analysis, and Handley's presentation on quantitative analysis using JASP. **Derek Herbert** considered the practical advice on getting published presented by Melodie Cook. Lastly, **Anthony Torbert** reflected on Kay Irie and Howard Brown's presentations related to English-medium instruction (EMI) and discussed whether EMI is practical for Japanese universities.

## **Acknowledgements**

It was a great pleasure to be guest editors for this Special Issue in which we had the opportunity to have a deeper understanding of each paper and the editorial process specific to the *OnCUE Journal*. We appreciate the timely efforts made by each author during the editing process, and congratulate them for their contributions to the CUE SIG community. The CUE SIG have gathered professionals with knowledge in a wide range of topics and we wish the CUE SIG committee and committee members the very best to maintain their vibrant contributions to tertiary language education, especially in Japan.

Jean-Pierre J. Richard & Suwako Uehara

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