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# Message from the Editor

As 2023 comes to a close, and many people have returned to teaching face-to-face classes and attending conferences in person, we wrap up the year with another issue of *OnCUE Journal*.

In our Feature Articles section, we have three papers. **Tomoko Hashimoto** has written on “The Effects of Constructive Controversy on Motivation” as her contribution after receiving the 2022 CUE Research Grant. Focusing on basic psychological needs of students, she investigated how two classroom activities involving constructive controversy conversations would affect their competence, relatedness, and autonomy. Following that, we have **Ian Willey** and **Hiromi Suzuki** with their paper on international posture (IP) of Nursing/Psychology, Economics/Design, Medicine, and Economics/Law majors. They used a variant of Yashima’s 2002 IP survey to dig into the students’ proficiency and motivation based on intergroup approach-avoidance tendencies, interest in international vocation or activities, interest in international news, and having something to communicate. Finally, we have an article on kanji learning by **Zeinab Shekarabi** and **Fatemeh Tajfirooz** from the University of Tehran. It’s an interesting insight into how Persian first-language learners face Japanese kanji characters and how their experience in learning affects their motivation.

Next, **Dr. Robert Cochrane** and **Yumiko Cochrane** give us something to chew on regarding an Opinion and Perspective article entitled “The Sandwich Production Method: Shifting the Paradigm from Passive to Productive”. It is a description of four stages of cognitive activities involving initial content production, reflection/review, exposure to authentic samples, and content reproduction. After that article, you can turn your attention to what **Frances Shiobara** has submitted regarding “Succeeding in Online and Hybrid Teaching Environments”. This is likely to be a continuing subject even after our COVID-19 experiences are long behind us, and she has given us a nice appraisal of how things went at her institution, as well as what to imagine for the future.

If you want to know how to involve social networking media with your students, take a look in our Technology Matters section for what **Denver Beirne** has written, “Language Learning with Social Media: A Communicative Language Unit”. He gives us a very thorough description of an entire semester’s unit, and if you don’t have the time that he did, you can probably make this last two semesters!

Our Book Reviews section gives you three intriguing items to investigate. First, **Andrew Innes** has reviewed Todd Rucynski’s 2019 book, *Finding Connections: Communication and Culture in 15 Scenes*. **Jennifer Toews-Shimizu** then goes into depth with Grace Stevens’ 2020 book, *Teaching in the Post Covid Classroom: Mindsets and Strategies to Cultivate Connection, Manage Behavior and Reduce Overwhelm in Classroom, Distance and Blended Learning*. Finally, **Sean Toland** provides an extensive review of *The 6 Principles for Exemplary Teaching of English Learners: Grades K-12* by Deborah J. Short, Helen Becker, Nancy Cloud, Andrea B. Hellman, & Linda New Levine (2018). Don’t let that last one fool you as a member of a SIG on college and university teaching, because Sean has kept tertiary education in mind as he sifts out what’s relevant for us.

We have several Conference Reviews to offer in this issue. **Richard Ingham** from the British Council and **Steven G. B. MacWhinnie** from Hirosaki Gakuin University have written about the same conference, JALT2022. That is coincidental because both authors were awarded the CUE conference grant and were obligated to write about the conference. Take a look at the different perspectives they have to offer. **Peter Lutes** has contributed a non-JALT-related review, which is very intriguing, about CamTESOL 2023. We need more reviews from events that are not connected to JALT.

There are quite a few more articles brewing for the next issue, and we hope to get that out much sooner next year than this one comes to you for 2023. Keep in mind the variety of sections in the *OnCUE Journal*, too, as you ponder what you might be able to submit to us. This time, there were no articles in our Research Digest or Professional Development sections, but we have potential ones on the

boiler plate for next year.

I'd like to take this time to thank everyone who voted for me in the recent CUE officers election, and I'll do my best to improve our publishing services to the CUE community. I'm taking over the co-editing helm (with Paul Moritoshi) this time for the proceedings of the 30th anniversary CUE conference that was held this year. And, we have some new columns for the *CUE Circular*, to include interviews of retired or retiring teachers, summaries of theories and impact of notable ELT pioneers, and articles written by students!

Enough about that future. You have a lot to dig into with this issue of OCJ. Enjoy.

Glen Hill

Publications Chair and **OnCUE Journal** Chief Editor