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Welcome to the Spring issue of Learning Learning, the Learner Development SIG’s (LD SIG) biannual online newsletter.

Soon the brief respite of Golden Week will be over but we hope that you all will have time to peruse this bumper issue at your leisure, and find something that inspires your teaching and learning.

In its 20th anniversary year the LD SIG is very much coming of age and this issue is a testament to its constant engagement with Learner Development issues, puzzles and practice, summarized in the News update. Following the update are the Get Together Reports that show the success of learning from each other as practitioners. If you haven’t yet been to one, we thoroughly recommend you do! Even if you are not an LD SIG member you are welcome to join the meetings. Should you decide to join the LD SIG there are a number of grants available for you to apply for, see <ld-sig.org/grants2013/> for more details.

Two of last year’s Grant Awardees, Gretchen Clark and Jason White, write about their research interests in the LD SIG Grant Awardees Essays on Research Interests. Gretchen details the reasons behind her incorporating technology into her practice to “prepare students for the digital age,” while Justin reports on the challenges faced by his high school students as they move from anxiety to autonomy.

Following on from this, Takara Kenza Allal gives an insight into how she successfully overcame her anxiety as a non-native and non-Japanese English teacher. Her experience illustrates how important it for mixed root language learners to be comfortable with their L2 Self.

This issue’s Special Feature article is a collaboratively written report on the LD SIG’s Tohoku Outreach weekend that took place at the beginning of March and focused on engaging with the local communities of Tohoku and exploring future avenues for collaboration. Well worth a read! If you are interested in Outreach, we recommend reading the NGO Outreach column that follows the report as it details various ways you too can become involved in outreach as a LD SIG member and also gives a preview of how the LD SIG will incorporate Outreach into its 20th anniversary conference in November, see <ldsigconference2013.org>.
To whet your appetite for the conference, we have included an interview with one of the featured speakers, Naoko Aoki (which was very kindly arranged, organized and conducted by Alison Stewart). Aoki offers some interesting perspectives on both learner and teacher autonomy, and also explains how the LD SIG came to be founded. Following on from her inspiring interview are short introductions of the other featured speakers at the conference, Richard Smith and Kensaku Yoshida, who will be interviewed for the next issue.

Following on from the conference preview is a review of a review by Alison Stewart of *Innovating EFL in Asia*, edited by Theron Muller, John Adamson and Philip Shigeo Brown, a book which seeks to showcase some of the original pedagogies that are being developed in the Asian context.

Then in the Looking Back section Juanita Heighem reflects on her experience attending the JALTCALL conference, and Aiko Minematsu looks back at attending and participating in the 2012 JALT national conference.

Building on the successes of last year, the LD SIG goes full steam ahead, which can be seen by the Looking Forward section. This includes a PanSIG preview by Jim Ronald; a preview of JALTCALL by Hugh Nicoll; a call for contributions for the LD Forum at the JALT national conference by Ian Hurrell and the LD SIG 20th Anniversary Conference in November for which the Call for Proposals is now open until May 31.

A big round of applause to everyone who contributed to *Learning Learning* and made this issue possible. As always, *Learning Learning* has relied on the amazing goodwill and cooperation of a diligent team of proofreaders and translators. Thanks go to Andy Barfield, Sayuri Hasegwa, Tomoko Fujita Kawachi, Aiko Minematsu, Masuko Miyahara, Fumiko Murase, Kayo Ozawa, Etsuko Shimo, Richard Silver, Alison Stewart and Mayumi Takizawa. Thank you also to Hugh Nicoll for uploading this issue to the LD SIG Website. If you would like to be involved in *Learning Learning*, please let us know. New members, new ideas and new ways of doing things are what keep the SIG alive and kicking!

We hope you enjoy reading this issue: we certainly enjoyed putting it together. As mentioned in the last issue we will now say our fond farewells as we take a backseat role in *Learning Learning*, and the editorial baton is passed on to the next editors: Fumiko Murase and Monika Szirmai.

Best wishes, From the Coeditors
Glenn Magee & James Underwood
At the SIG’s Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the JALT International Conference in Hamamatsu in October 2012, we were pleased and privileged to have 27 people in attendance, many of whom reaffirmed their willingness to do something within the SIG, while others volunteered to join the committee for the first time.

At the time of going to press there are over 40 committee members working in various teams, ensuring the SIG runs smoothly from month to month and planning special events such as the Tohoku Outreach Weekend in March, SIG grants and the 20th Anniversary Conference in November. We would like to thank everybody who has made the period since the conference so productive. Please see the SIG website <ld-sig.org/about/> for details of who organises the SIG’s many different activities - and for the minutes from last year’s AGM. As always, you are welcome to join the committee yourself:

As ever, there are people who have moved on from their committee positions. In the summer, our membership chair, Rachelle Jorgenson, returned to Canada. Rachelle had worked hard with the membership team to establish an efficient and effective way of communicating with members, and we would like to thank her for all her hard work. From JALT2012 Gretchen Clark took over as membership chair and is now responsible for keeping you informed of your membership renewals, something which has attracted the attention and praise of many within JALT. Programme Chair Bill Mboutsiadis has also just returned to Canada after a dynamic 18 months in that role. During that time, as well as keeping you updated with various events and helping to organize them, Bill was an energizing figure who brought many new members into the SIG. Most significantly of all, Bill led - together with the help from Alison Stewart, Cory Koby, Mike Nix, and Sayuri Hasegawa - the recent LD SIG Outreach Weekend in Tohoku, more details of which you will find in this issue of Learning Learning. We are very grateful to Bill for everything he has done for the SIG these past
action-packed 18 months. Ian Hurrell has recently taken over from Bill and is already working on the organisation of this year's SIG forum at JALT2013 in Kobe. A very warm welcome to Ian!

The SIG’s programme of events this year includes forums at the JALT CALL Conference in Shinshu, led by Hugh Nicoll, and the Pan-SIG Conference in Nagoya, led once again by Jim Ronald. Local get-togethers are continuing in Hiroshima and Tokyo. In Kansai the get-togethers are building up steam where a joint event with Kobe JALT in February was followed by an event at Ritsumeikan High School in Kyoto in March. Thank you to Michael Wilkins, Gretchen Clark, Ellen Head, Philip Shigeo Brown and Greg Rouault for collaborating so energetically on the Kansai get-togethers. Each of the LD SIG local get-togethers is different in character, but they all offer active spaces for practitioner discussion, as well as for personal and professional development. If you have yet to join one but are interested, please check the website for the details of the next planned events (ld-sig.org/get-togethers/).

As part of the continuing website development, led by Hugh Nicoll (thank you, Hugh, for keeping things so up to date), Chika Hayashi and Alison Stewart have begun a series of monthly conversational updates called “Talking Points”. Please see (ld-sig.org/) for more details. Information about the LD SIG Grants for 2013 is also available on the website. This year the SIG Grants team of Kay Irie, Martin Mullen and Stacey Vye have tweaked the grants so that the SIG can continue to offer support to new and aspiring teacher-researchers, more experienced researchers and people who are simply curious about what the SIG does. Applications for grants for the autumn can be made through to June 20, and more details can be found on the website at (ld-sig.org/grants2013/).

For publications Masuko Miyahara has been leading efforts in this area, helped by Steve Paydon, Tim Ashwell, Aiko Minematsu and Alison Stewart. There are two book projects in development at the moment: Collaborative Learning in Learner Development and Learner Development: Different Cases, Different Interests. More details of both can be found via the website at (ld-sig.org/publications/).

The highlight of this year will surely be the 20th Anniversary Conference, Exploring Learner Development: Practices, Pedagogies, Puzzles and Research, to be held at Gakushuin University, Tokyo. Co-sponsored by the Junior Senior High School SIG and Teachers Helping Teachers SIG, the conference will be welcoming back SIG co-founders Naoko Aoki and Richard Smith as invited speakers who, together with Kensaku Yoshida of Sophia University, will be focusing on their current concerns and research to do with learner development issues. We hope that many SIG
members will take part in the conference: The Call for Proposals is open until May 31. Please see the conference website <ldsigconference2013.org/> for more details.

Many people have already made huge contributions to preparations for the conference, including Mike Nix and James Underwood who set up the dedicated bilingual website; Sayuri Hasegawa, Kay Irie, Aiko Minmetasu, and Fumiko Murase who created the Japanese dimension of the website; Alison Stewart who secured the venue, and Rob Moreau who has produced the conference flyers. An exciting aspect making this conference different from others will be the collaborations with various NGOs. Here we would also like to thank Colin Rundle and Caroline Ross who have already been in contact with various groups. In due course, many more people will need to be thanked, but the best way to thank them in person will be to attend what promises to be a very exciting two days in Tokyo in November. Please spread the word to colleagues and students, and sign up early in order to take advantage of the really low conference fees.

With our very best wishes for the new school year, on behalf of the Learner Development SIG committee,

Yesterday, 2012年10月、浜松で開催されたJALT国際大会での学習者デベロップメント研究部会(LD SIG)の年次総会では27人もの方々に出席していただき、光栄に思うと同時に、多くの方々から研究部会への活動にご協力をいただくことになり、皆さんに感謝申し上げます。

今号発行の時点でLD SIGでは40名以上の委員が各種委員会で活動しており、日々のSIGの円滑な運営のほか、3月の東北アウトリーチ・ウィークエンド、SIG助成金、11月の20周年記念大会などの企画を行っています。前回の総会
以来、SIGの活発な活動に貢献してくださったすべての方々にこの場を借りて御礼を申し上げたいと思います。SIGの様々な活動を企画する担当者の詳細および昨年の年次総会の議事録についてはSIGのホームページ<ld-sig.org/about/>をご覧ください。また、こうしたSIGの委員会活動にご興味がある方はいつでもご参加ください。各委員会はシャドーヴィング体制が整っているので責任者役を担う前に各委員会の業務について学ぶことができます。委員会活動への参加はいつでも可能ですので年次総会を待たずにぜひ積極的に参加してください！

今回も役員担当に異動がありました。夏には会員担当理事であるRachelle Jorgensonがカナダに帰国しました。RachelleはSIG会員と効果的で有効なコミュニケーションが取れるよう会員担当チームとの作業に尽力してくださいました。Rachelleの功績に感謝の意を表します。JALT 2012大会以降、Gretchen Clarkが会員担当理事を引き継ぎ、メンバーシップの更新について会員の皆様への連絡を担当しています。この点ではJALTにおいて多くの人に注目され賞賛の言葉をいただいているところです。プログラム担当理事のBill Mboutsiadisも、18か月に亘り精力的に任務を遂行したのち、カナダに帰国しました。在任中は、様々な会合について皆様に報告し、また、それらの企画に携わり、その熱心さで、多くの新しい会員をこのSIGに呼び込んでくださいました。なかでも、Alison Stewart, Cory Koby, Mike Nix, Sayuri Hasegawaによるサポートのもと、東北でのアウトリーチ・ウィークエンドの開催に導いてくださったことは、特筆に値します。この会合の詳細については「学習の学習」の本編をご覧ください。様々な活動が行われたこの18か月、BillがSIGのためにしてくださったことすべてに、謝意を表します。Ian HurrellがBillの後任となり、今年度神戸で開催されるJALT 2013大会におけるSIG Forumの企画に早速取り組んでいるところです。Ian、よかったこそ、一緒に活動していきましょう！

今年のSIGのイベントプログラムには、Hugh Nicollが中心となっている信州でのJALT CALL年次大会と、Jim Ronaldが再び中心となっている名古屋でのPan-SIG年次大会が含まれてています。また広島、東京では引き続き地域別集会が開かれています。

関西の地域別集会は、2月の神戸JALTとの共催イベントとそれに続き催された3月の京都、立命館高校でのイベントによって活気づいた
ています。Michael Wilkins、Gretchen・Clark、Ellen Head、Philip Shigeo Brown、そしてGreg Rouaultの関西地域別集会へのためにヘン精力的な取り組みに感謝します。

LD SIGの地域別集会にはそれぞれ特色がありますが、そのすべてが個人や専門分野での成長と実践者同士の討論のための活動の場を提供しています。もしこちらに興味があってまだ参加されたことがなければ、今後計画されているイベントの詳細是非ホームページ<ld-sig.org/get-togethers/>でご確認下さい。

ホームページの改善をHugh Nicollが担当していますが（Hugh、このように常に更新してくださってありがとうございます）、サイトでは林千賀とAlison Stewartが“Talking Points（話題）”として毎月の対話シリーズを始めました。詳細については、ホームページ（ld-sig.org）をぜひご覧ください。2013年度LD SIG助成金についても情報を提供しています。今年度の助成金チーム、入江恵、Martin Mullen、Stacey Vyeのほか、この分野に入って間もない意欲的な教師研究者、すでに経験の蓄積がある研究者、そして、研究部会の活動に単に興味を持ってくださる方への支援をこの研究部会が今後も続けていけるよう、助成金に微調整を入れました。秋の助成金への応募は6月20日までの受付ですが、ウェブ上（ld-sig.org/grants2013）にて詳細をご確認いただけます。

出版チームにおいては宮原万寿子がSteven Paydon、Alison Stewart、Tim Ashwellと共に出版プロジェクトを進めています。現在、二つのプロジェクトが進行中です。一つはCollaborative Learning in Learner Development (Tim Ashwell, Alison Stewart, 宮原万寿子, Steven Paydon編集)であり、もう一つはAndy Barfieldと峰松愛子編集によるLearner Development: Different Cases, Different Interestsです。詳細はホームページをご覧ください。（ld-sig.org/publications/）

今年度の一番の目玉はExploring Learner Development: Practices, Pedagogies, Puzzles and Researchと題された、20周年記念大会です。本学会は学習院大学にて開催予定で、中学・高校外国語教育研究部会及び教師による教師のための研究会との共催です。本研究会の創設者である青木直子氏とRichard Smith氏、更には上智大学の吉田研氏を招聘講演者としてお迎えし、学習者デベロップメントに関する最新の研究やテーマを取り上げる予定です。より多くのSIG会員の皆様のご参加をお
待ちしております。研究発表の申し込み締切は5月31日です。詳しくは記念大会ホームページ (ldsigconference2013.org/)をご覧ください。

20周年記念大会の準備のために多くの会員がすでに多大な貢献をしています。Mike NixとJames Underwoodは日英両語の大会ホームページの作成、長谷川さゆり、入江恵、峰松愛子、村瀬文子は大会ホームページの和訳、Alison Stewartは会場の確保、Rob Moreauは大会告知用の資料作成を担当しました。この大会が他の大会と異なる大きな点は、様々なNGOとの共同プロジェクトです。Colin RundleとCaroline RossはすでにいくつかのNGOと連携を取り始めています。大会の準備が進むにつれて、より多くの方の力を借りることになりますが、大会に参加すること自体が準備に携わった会員達に感謝の意を示す最高の方法です。来る11月、東京での盛り沢山な2日間に是非ご参加ください。大会の詳細を同僚や学生にもお知らせし、また大会参加費の割引を受けるためにもお早目の申し込みをお願い致します。

最後に今回、「学習の学習」の出版にたずさわった多くの方に厚く御礼を述べます。特に編集長のGlenn MageeとJames Underwood、そしてこの号の翻訳を手伝ってくださった入江恵、峰松愛子、村瀬文子、宮原万寿子にも感謝いたします。皆さんが同僚や友人と共に今号を楽しんでいただければ幸いに存じます。又、本研究部会の集まりやイベントで、多くの読者の皆さんとお話しさせていただける機会がありますよう願っております。

アンディ・パーフィールド
リッチ・シルバー
L D S I G研究部会 コーディネータ

**Past issues of Learning Learning**

Issues of *Learning Learning* going all the way back to 1994 are now available in PDF format here: <ld-sig.org/LL/archives.html>.

Many thanks to founding co-coordinator Richard Smith for scanning archival copies, many of which were originally printed on an old Risograph, collated by hand, and mailed in hard copy.

Also, thanks to the hard work of Mike Nix, the LD SIG’s first anthology of writing exploring learner and teacher autonomy within Japanese contexts: *Autonomy You Ask!* is now available in digital format, and can be found here: <c-faculty.chuo-u.ac.jp/~mikenix1/ldsigh/AyiA.html>