

March 28th 2021 Get-together Report

In attendance: Ian Hurrell, Ken Ikeda, Ellen Head, Kshema Jose, Malavath Nikhil Naik, Gareth Barnes, Tetsuko Dunn Fukawa, Bala Prashanth Thumma, Robert Edward Shiffer II

Discussion topics in the meeting

Online learning

- Preparing learners (and educators) to survive extensive and intensive online engagement
- Meaningful Hybrid learning
- Developing digital literacy for both students and educators

Multiliteracies and 3rd age learner development

- Multiliteracies pedagogy, design thinking and intercultural competence.
- 3rd Age learner development and developing learner ecologies

Learner autonomy

- Developing autonomous learning skills for instructors learning to deliver one way lectures at a Japanese driving school.
- Thinking about the teacher's role in the classroom based on an interesting quote from Garrold Murray at the seminar organized by Kanda (RILAE). "It is necessary to erase yourself" i.e. the teacher should be as inconspicuous as possible for stimulating autonomy.

You can find notes from our discussions in the following Google Slides Document: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1u3VYpBQXGeGadBG4-rxYpGW5C_Lc_ivxXgQ4G54Bv_0/edit?usp=sharing

Useful resources shared in the Discussions

New Learning Online - An evolving body of research and thinking in the fields of multiliteracies, e-learning ecologies, semiotics, literacy, pedagogy, and educational technologies by Mary Kalantzis and Bill Cope from the University of Illinois.

- <https://newlearningonline.com/>

The Changing Dynamics of Online Education: Five Theses on the Future of Learning - An interesting article suggesting a possible rationale for the future of online learning

- https://www.researchgate.net/publication/344563462_The_Changing_Dynamics_of_Online_Education_Five_Theses_on_the_Future_of_Learning

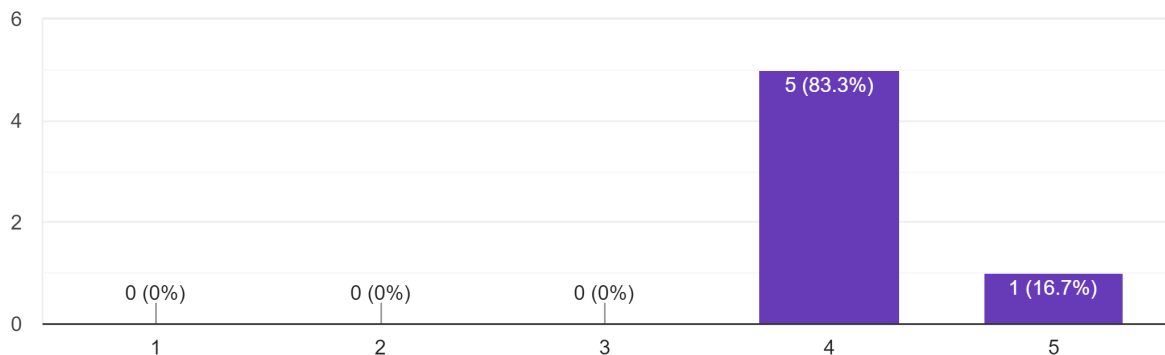
Shodhganga - A reservoir of theses from various institutions in India

- <https://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/>

Feedback Questionnaire results

How satisfied were you with your experience at the get-together?

6 responses



What was your purpose for attending the get-together?

- Share ideas about development research and get to know the LD-SIG members more.
- To interact with an international community interested in learner autonomy, and to know more about what's happening in the field in other countries.
- I had never attended one, so I wanted to join for the first time.
- To become part of a global Learning community and to learn more about Learner development.
- I am researching on Learner Autonomy and teacher development, your topic hit right on my area of research and your discussion topics are all related to my area of interest and thus led me towards attending the event.

Please write a paragraph about any useful insights you gained from the get-together

- It was a great opportunity to think in more detail about multiliteracies pedagogy and also to discuss our current situations and considering the variety of solutions we have applied to our situations over the last year. For my own research, it was very helpful to run through some of the ideas I've been working on and get some feedback - it really helps to get a fresh perspective! Thank you - I'm looking forward to the next get-together! Great work, organizers!!

- The best eye-opener was that almost anything we do as classroom practitioners, can if fine-tuned, promote learner autonomy in various degrees.
- I joined the breakout room where people talked about "multiliteracy/multimodality." I gained knowledge of the concepts.
- It was a very interesting and rare opportunity to talk with the participants who joined us from the English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, India and I gained many insights from their perspectives on multiliteracies. One comment that particularly stood out for me was when Nikhil mentioned that he has started using texts written by native Indians writing in English. This was fascinating for me as this ties in closely with the idea of world Englishes and the expression of cultural identity through a 2nd language. By using authentic written English materials, not translated but written by authors from the students own cultural background, the students may be able to better relate to the materials. I wonder whether this might be possible in Japan. Nikhil also shared a number of useful resources on multiliteracy pedagogy and this will be useful for a paper I am currently writing on a student-led seminar project I did with one of my classes last semester, so I would like to thank him for sharing and I hope that resource sharing can become a greater part of get-togethers in the future.
- I learnt about the educational situations in Japan and different events carried out by JALT. The breakout session was a satisfying experience for me as it provided me enough time to discuss my ideas with the group. I learnt about learning ecological, how cultural heritage and background effects our outlook on different things such as memes, using project based learning in the classroom and how all these aspects affect Learner autonomy.
- The varied discussions on multi-literacies, Learner autonomy etc. are very useful and enlightening.

What could we do to make the get-togethers more useful for you?

- Today's format worked quite well, I think. Going through the discussion, I realized how important it was to be prepared, and how little time we had to really answer people's questions.
- Possibly one way of dealing with this is for people to give a short explanation of the main ideas of their submitted topics (i.e. website links, reference for main ideas, etc.). I realize

it takes a bit more time to do this, however it would make the discussion smoother, and other members would be able to explore the topics in greater depth.

- Continue the discussion until the next get-together through discussion forums or Facebook, etc.
- It was already useful, so there is nothing to add. The moderator (Ian) was very attentive and welcoming.
- create a space to continue discussions between get-togethers
- I liked the way it went today, I would love to listen more from other participants about their work and ideas.
- Maybe stick to one topic or theme or related to the theme but not completely changing the topic to something else.