

2019 Learner Development SIG Committee Review

for

The Learner Development SIG AGM Sunday 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM, Room 1103

The SIG's annual general meeting is a valuable occasion for SIG members and officers to review together the SIG's activities in the last year, make plans for the coming 12 months, and raise questions for discussion that members of the Learner Development community have. Please come along and take part in planning LD grants, activities, events, and publications for 2020.

Click here for [the 2018 LD SIG committee review](#) and here for [the minutes from the 2018 LD SIG AGM](#). And if you would like to read reports from 2011 to 2018, you can find them [here](#).

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1. Co-coordinators - Koki Tomita & Yoshio Nakai (submitted by Koki)

What your goals were in 2019

- Promote the LD SIG to the bigger public including non-JALT members. We need more teachers and practitioners who teach at the compulsory education. This is necessary not only for the LD SIG but also JALT to diversify our perspectives by interacting with people who hold different perspectives from teachers working in university contexts.
- Smooth communication among SIG officers

What you / your team did 2019

- To achieve the first goal, we have tried two new promotional platforms, Sensei Portal and Twitter, by collaborating with Gretchen and the Tokyo Get-Together team to encourage new members to join a series of SIG activities. We mainly used Twitter for Get-togethers heldts in Tokyo. Sensei Portal has been used to promote our events to new members or participants, especially Japanese high school and junior high school teachers who don't belong to JALT.
- For the second goal, I was hoping to introduce Slac or different communication tools to encourage spontaneous communication among SIG officers. However, consulting with SIG coordinators and SIG officers at the past EBMs, I have realized that current email based communication is effective for the LD SIG given the time and effort taken for transitioning to another communication platform. Attended the EBMs, and shared our successful SIG activities and practices in the hope that it contributes to the development of other SIGs and Chapters.
- Attended Tokyo Get-Togethers and took photos of our meetings. I hope this can lead to further promotion of the LD SIG.

Something that was satisfying

- Participating in activities with positive, encouraging and hard-working officers is always a pleasure and satisfaction to me.
- Contributed to bits and pieces of LD SIG activities including Tokyo Get-togethers, CCLT, *Learning Learning* translation team, attending the EBMs. This allowed me to grasp the whole picture of SIG activities.

Something that was challenging

- This year was challenging for me in many ways. This is the first year for me to coming back to the teaching world after a serious illness that I experienced last year. Also, I started a new job last April. So, definitely balancing job, life events and SIG roles were a challenge.
- While we constantly gain presenters to LD forums at JALT associated conferences such as Pan SIG, JALT CALL, and the International Conference, I feel that a number of members are not participating local events anymore. As Ken wrote in his report for the Tokyo Get-Together, our local activity, especially the Get-togethers, is a great platform for sharing teaching ideas and practices, but it has been losing people over the past years. I often wonder about the

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causes of the decline. Is that due to the way of promotion, content, or frequency? It will be amazing that we can talk about this at the AGM and reconstruct our local events.

- The effect of promotion by using different types of SNS has been minimal.
- Communication among officers. Since we have a wide breadth of SIG activities (e.g. *Learning Learning*, LD Journal, Get-togethers, grants, web management, and treasury, forums, and membership etc), keeping some LD SIG activities under the radar was difficult.

What you would like to do in 2020

- Communication: Setting up a SIG calendar, online officers' meeting (per month) to check progress and development of SIG activities.
- Find successors for the co-coordinator positions and pass down our torch.

Envisaged expenditures for 2020

Travel fares and hotel charge which allow successors to join future EBMs in February and June. ¥60,000.

2. Treasury Team - Patrick Kiernan (submitted by Patrick)

What your goals were in 2019

To learn the ropes, submit monthly reports on time with as few mistakes as possible.

What you / your team did 2019

Kept records of SIG expenses

Something that was satisfying

Completing the annual end of year report and moving into a new financial year

Something that was challenging

Taking on the job of treasurer in the first place and setting up the bank account (actually not that bad)

What you would like to do in 2020

Keep things as convenient and smooth as possible for those for those using SIG funds

I missed the JALT treasurers' workshop last year for personal reasons so if there is another one I would hope to attend

Envisaged expenditures for 2020

Occasional bank charges for withdrawals and posting forms, though now I am aware of this, will hopefully keep both of these to an absolute minimum so that money can be used for actual SIG activities

3. Membership Team - Ann Flanagan (submitted by Ann)

What your goals were in 2019

- Want to send out a questionnaire to the LD SIG members to see how we can improve our SIG and make it stronger.
- Try to increase the number of members who attend the Kansai Get Together Group.

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- Revise Welcome, 2 month renewal and 1 month renewal letters.
- Continue regular mail-outs, list updates, and personal communication when necessary.
- Set a goal of how many members we would like to have join our SIG by a certain date.
- Promote the LD SIG at different events.

What you / your team did 2019

See below.

Something that was satisfying

See below.

Something that was challenging

I was unable to fulfill my duties as membership chair every month. It would be good to have more than one person involved in the future.

What you would like to do in 2020

I am stepping down. The membership list is up to date, so Tetsuko Fukawa should have no problems. I will transfer the files later this week. It was a pleasure working with everyone these past few years. I'm sorry that I was unable to keep up with the membership duties this year.

Envisaged expenditures for 2020 - none

4. Grants Team - Kris Sullivan, Sami Yoshimuta & Kio Iwai (submitted by Kris)

What your goals were in 2019

Make any necessary changes (i.e. to grant advertising, application criteria, vetting procedures, etc) advertise the grants in a timely manner, vet in a timely manner, and be able to support as many of the SIG's members as possible through the awarding of grants.

What you / your team did 2019

We made some updates to application criteria and selection criteria based on our reflections and appraisals of other grants offered by JALT. All of this was up on the website and publicized quite early (December). Several reminders were sent out to members via the ML. We communicated with interested applicants, applicants and successful recipients making sure that all were aware of expectations as grant recipients (addressing a 2018 issue) and also about how to organize grant payments. We vetted applications and announced recipients (via the ML but not on the website yet). We updated past recipients and added links to their LL write ups on the website. We worked with Treasury to organize grant payments.

Something that was satisfying

Being able to support five members in their professional development. It was also nice that we got research and project grant applications this year, in addition to conference grant applications, after only getting conference grant applications in 2018.

Something that was challenging

Team members were often busy at differing times of the year which meant that we got behind in vetting and thus announcing the applicants. There was also some confusion about which team members would handle what, something common when communication is only via email and many

emails are being passed back and forth, and as a result there was a delay in actually giving the research and project grant recipients their grants. This will need to be taken into account when deciding the 6 month and 1 year points when they are meant to report on their progress and submit their final write-ups. Team member roles could perhaps be made clearer, and communication improved, but in the end everything seems to have worked out.

What you would like to do in 2020

We have talked about making an application template for grant applicants. Some applicants do not give a full enough budget explanation, so having a template might help here. Better coordination with the LL team also seems to be necessary. But this is all for the new team members to decide.

Envisaged expenditures for 2020

It would be nice to be able to give 5 grants of 40,000 yen each again in 2020 (total 200,000 yen).

5. Programmes Team - Blair Barr & Robert Morel (submitted by Blair Barr and Rob Morel)

What your goals were in 2019

(Blair) We were sure to get the call out for the PanSIG forum before the November JALT conference, as we were hoping that we would be able to get more participants in the forum at PanSIG. It seems to have helped significantly. PanSIG always has a deadline that follows relatively soon after the JALT conference, and due to change overs at the November conference, we were typically late getting out the call for presenters in the past.

Also, the JALTCALL Forum got a lot of interest, but that simply may be a result of being held in Tokyo. However, we also had more people attending. I specifically made a point of mentioning the tools being discussed in the title of the forum. In the past, we had a very general title, but that did not attract many interested attendees. We had assumed that is because people are looking to learn more about specific tools when they attend JALTCALL.

What you / your team did 2019

(Blair) Rob attended and led the preparations for the forum at PanSIG. I did the same for the forum at JALTCALL and JALT2019. We are both attending the forum at JALT2019.

The Active Learning theme for JALT2019 was extremely popular. We had nearly 20 presentations at first, before a few people dropped out due to outside concerns. We are thinking of continuing with this theme for PanSIG 2020.

Something that was satisfying

(Blair) As mentioned above, we had a lot of people interested in presenting and attending the forums this year.

Something that was challenging

(Blair) It seems to me that many people are not reading email anymore. I often would write an email with the details of the events, and then later would get questions asking some of the same basic details that were expressed in the original email. I am wondering if there are any better ways of communicating the details of the forums. Perhaps sharing a Google Calendar event? (I don't know how that would work for iPhone people though.)

We were not very successful at getting an academic write up on the forums after the events had taken place. Much of the feedback is simply expressing satisfaction rather than academic or practical

issues or applications.



What you would like to do in 2020

(Blair) Ideally, I would like to have a model of an interesting publication shared with the participants well before the event. This way they can have a good model to follow when it comes to contributing to the post-conference reflection. For example, I was very proud of the piece published about the forum at JALTCALL 2018. Also, I would like to improve my own level of communication with the publications team. I would like to have someone from that team on board with a Google Document even before the forums take place. This way we can get the reflection document out right after the forum finishes.

Envisaged expenditures for 2020

(Blair) We can't be certain at this point, as it depends on the venue for JALT2020. Our only big expense tends to be for poster boards at the international conference in November, but this year they have simply assigned us to the poster presentation room, so they have not charged us for that.

6. Publicity Team (Gretchen Clark) & **Illustrator** - Rob Moreau (submitted by Gretchen, Rob)

What your goals were in 2019 I (Gretchen) worked on increasing the SIG's social media presence through posting information about Tokyo Get Togethers, Call for Papers/editors for the next edition of the journal, and Forum details on Twitter and our Facebook page. If the SIG had organized any larger events this year, I would've posted information about them on Sensei Portal, ELT news and the JALT calendar. I used the announcements on the 'Id-news email list' for the content for these publicity items. Our twitter handle is: <at>JALTLDSIG Our email address is: jaltldsig<at>gmail<dot>com * Please let me know how to get the passwords to you for the above accounts and senseiportal.

(Robert) The goals for 2019 were to be able to provide any logos or other image-oriented publicity that was required.

What you / your team did 2019

(Gretchen) See above

(Robert) This year a new logo was developed for the CCLT conference, which will be held in December.

Something that was satisfying

(Robert) It is always a pleasure to be able to provide graphics when required.

Something that was challenging

(Gretchen) To be honest, in the beginning, I really didn't have a clear picture as to how I could help out. One example: the Grants Team knows the details of their work for the committee so it made sense for them to publicize their information on their own. If they had included me in their publicity efforts, I feel a lot of time would be wasted emailing back and forth as they told me what to write to the membership on Id-news. I think the system as it is now is efficient.

(Robert) There are times when, due to being busy, the graphics work does get delayed. It is very important to request any such work with plenty of time in advance in case of unforeseen difficulties.

What you would like to do in 2020 (Robert) If possible, I would like to continue in the same capacity

as now.

Envisaged expenditures for 2020 none?

7. Publications Team - James Underwood (submitted by James Underwood)

What your goals were in 2019

Our goals were to publish LL twice a year and one issue of the Learner Development Journal.

What you / your team did 2019

(James) I think the *Learning Learning* team did an excellent job of publishing two issues of *Learning Learning*. Although the Spring issue was published a little later than usual, due to the communication issues Andy mentioned below, we were able to publish the Autumn issue two weeks before the national conference.

The Learner Development Journal Steering group also did well to publish Issue 3 at the end of 2018. And keep Issue 3 moving closer to publication, while keeping the momentum going with a call for papers of Issue 4.

Something that was satisfying

It was great to work with a large team of editors and writers in publishing LL, many thanks to everyone who was involved.

Something that was challenging

When work got busy it was sometimes challenging for me to keep in contact with everyone. Many thanks to Andy for weathering the storm and steering us towards publication.

What you would like to do in 2020

I would like to build on the success of this year and keep *Learning Learning* publishing on a regular schedule. It will be great if new editors could join the team and shadow the current members as Daniel, Sean, Andy and Chika had to step down due to work commitments. Many thanks for all the hard work they put into the previous issues, it was great to work with them.

Envisaged expenditures for 2020

8. Learning Learning Editorial Team - Andy Barfield, Tokiko Hori, Daniel Hougham, Ken Ikeda, Fumiko Murase, Yoshio Nakai, Hugh Nicoll, Sean Toland, Koki Tomita, & James Underwood (submitted by Andy, Hugh, & Ken)

What your goals were in 2019

(Andy) We wanted to produce two issues of *Learning Learning*, rotate the lead editor position among different members of editorial team, and be on time in getting each issue of LL to LD members. James and I were lead editors in 2019, and other editors will hopefully take this role / share this role in 2020.

What you / your team did 2019

(Andy) We produced two issues of *Learning Learning*. We learnt from [the 2019 Spring issue](#) that it is difficult to get much final editing done once the Spring semester has started. We managed to get the editing for [the Autumn issue](#) finished by mid-September, which helped with getting it published by mid-October. That leads to a good break before working on the next issue, which is important for the LL team to have.

Something that was satisfying

(Andy) I would mention: the number of new members of the SIG who have written for Members' Voices this year, as well as the range of texts (genres) that contributors over two issues have produced. That's been really satisfying as has the development of collaborative editing and responding among the editorial team, as this is where we learn together, in dialogue with writers, and I hope this long continues. As a team we've also got used to logging and updating regularly our work in a shared Google doc for Editorial Team Assignments and Notes for each issue of LL. This has helped us plan together and keep track of how things are going for each issue.

(Ken) Fumiko, Sean, and I served as grant report editors. I think we did an able job, encouraging the grant awardees to state their experiences and insights gained in tune with the vision set by the LD editorial community to write with an 'I' voice.

Something that was challenging

(Andy) We are all terribly busy in our own work commitments, but at times the lack of communication, while understandable, has been a little frustrating. Flies and ointments acknowledged, we accomplished a lot together as an editorial team with many many different writers.

I would also like to say a huge thank you to everyone on the editorial team this past year for all their work and collaboration, to James for being lead editor on the Spring issue and doing the layout for both issues, and to Hugh for being the webmaster for LL over both issues. A warm thank you to Daniel and Sean for all their editing too as they step back due to other commitments.

(Ken) Fumiko, Sean, and I worked quite often with the grant awardees on their reports. One lesson we learned as editors was to temper our respective levels of editorial compunctions on each awardee's report, becoming mindful of not overwhelming the writer. We also struggled not having timely communication with grant writers, as we aimed to have these reports to meet publishable standards in the newsletter.

(Hugh) Producing an issue of *Learning Learning* is always challenging, especially as we move from discussions of the issues themes, engage in collaborative communications with authors and other editors, and get the final drafts edited and proofed. There are always small errors to catch, even after multiple attempts to get the final version all-but-perfect for upload and publishing. That said, we are getting better at it, and in the last year our team efforts were generally successful. I will continue as an editor, occasional contributor, and web administrator (publisher) for the next year, but will need to step back from LL after the publication of LL27.2. Simply time for me to try to understand what retirement might be like.

What you would like to do in 2020

Envisaged expenditures for 2020

9. Learner Development Journal Steering Group - Tim Ashwell, Darren Elliott, Alison Stewart (submitted by Tim)

What your goals were in 2019

(Tim) In 2019, we were aiming to see Issue 3 of the LD Journal published, to move Issue 4 forward, and to get Issue 5 up and running.

What you / your team did 2019

(Tim) In March, we put out a Call for Theme and Editors for Issue 5 of the Journal to be published in 2021 and decided in May to go with the proposal from Andy Barfield, Oana Cusen, Yuri Imamura, Riitta Kelly, and Jussi Jussila for an issue provisionally entitled “*Engaging with the Multilingual Turn for Learner Development: Practices, Issues, Discourses, and Theorisations*”. We kept in touch with the Issue 4 editors, Sabine Little and Michelle Golledge, as they worked with contributors to produce first drafts on the theme of supervisor/supervisee relationships. Alison is the designated contact person for Issue 4. Meanwhile Darren, the designated contact person for Issue 3, has been liaising with the Issue 3 editors, Jim Ronald, Christina Gkonou and Yoshio Nakai, to help finalize papers for a projected publication date in December.

Something that was satisfying

(Tim) It was fantastic to see Issue 2 of the Journal published at the end of 2018. Masuko Miyahara, Patrick Kiernan and Chika Hayashi deserve huge credit for guiding the project and the final collection of papers about qualitative research and learner development will be of immense use to people embarking on qualitative research for the first time and those wishing to reflect even more carefully on the methods they already employ.

Something that was challenging

(Tim) As always, it has been a challenge to try to steer the Journal in the direction it was originally intended to go (see: <https://ldjournal.wordpress.com/aims-and-scope/>)! Maybe the name, “Journal”, was a mistake and has led some people to assume that what we are seeking to develop is a traditional academic journal when, in fact, we have always hoped that the Journal would break new ground and be an open, secure and welcoming environment in which less experienced writer/researchers can explore their interests. Perhaps over time the Journal will settle more into the original conception of a highly collaborative, supportive, exploratory venture where the writing itself explores new modes and possibilities.

What you would like to do in 2020

(Tim) We need to see Issue 4 through to publication in late 2020; we need to support the Issue 5 editors; and we need to find a new team to take on Issue 6. In addition, we would like to find someone (or two) who could shadow members of the Steering Group with an eye to replacing some of the old fogies (like me) next year.

Envisaged expenditures for 2020

None envisaged.

10. Learner Development Journal

Issue 3 - (Christina Gkonou), Yoshio Nakai, & Jim Ronald (submitted by Jim Ronald Jim)

(Jim) After getting a bit lost and getting found, with its total of ten papers plus our Introduction, Issue 3 is getting close to completion, a little behind schedule. The deliberately non-typical style of LDJ has been a struggle, but that struggle has been an education, and we are still learning.

Issue 4 - (Sabine Little) & (Michelle Golledge) (submitted by Sabine)

(Sabine) Issue 4 of the Learner Development Journal has progressed beyond the peer review stage, and author teams either already have submitted their revised submissions, or are in the process of doing so. We are entering the stage of standard reviews, with multiple author teams opting for the open review system.

Issue 5 - Andy Barfield, Oana Cusen, Yuri Imamura, Jussi Jussila, & Riitta Kelly (submitted by Andy)

(Andy) We put together a "[Call for Inclusive Practitioner Research and Reviews for Issue 5 of The Learner Development Journal \(LDJ5\)](#)" on the theme of "*Engaging with the Multilingual Turn for Learner Development: Practices, Issues, Discourses, and Theorisations*", and sent this in late September to various lists (LD-news, AUTO-L, IATEFL Research SIG, and Fully Inclusive Practitioner Research Network (FIPR)), with a deadline of Monday 13th January 2020.

LDJ5 focuses on two types of writing - narrative accounts and practice-related reviews, with publishers generously providing review copies of seven different books. We will send out the Call again a couple of times ahead of January and are looking forward to seeing what proposals come in for LDJ5. More to follow later ----

11. Web Maintenance Team - Hugh Nicoll (main LD website), Darren Elliott (LD Journal website) (submitted by Hugh, Darren)

Hugh Nicoll (LD website)

What your goals were in 2019

My primary goals, more or less unchanged over 20+ years, are to maintain and update the SIG website in a timely fashion, and to maintain the SIG's mailing lists. I had also discussed moving the LD-SIG site from my server account to the JALT site, but have found it difficult to set aside the time to manage that task.

What you / your team did 2019

In 2019, I continued to wear two primary hats as a SIG officer, maintaining the web site, mailing lists, etc. and working with the LL Editorial team to edit, proofread, and publish our two issues of *Learning Learning* (26.1 and 26.2) in a timely fashion. I also coordinate with other officer teams in making sure that news announcements regarding conference events, grants proposal deadlines, Get-togethers, etc. are announced in our newsletters, mailing lists, and published on our Facebook page.

Something that was satisfying

Keeping things more or less on track throughout the year.

Something that was challenging

Keeping up and juggling personal and professional aspirations is an ongoing challenge: nature of the game (?)

What you would like to do in 2020

Find a new lead IT person to help me move the LD-SIG web site and mailing lists to the jalt.org server, and step down as primary web administrator. I've been doing this job for the SIG for 25 years or so. I also need to coordinate with Paul Collett (jalt.org lead developer & web administrator) and with Darren to integrate the ld-sig.org site and the LD Journal site, and move them to the jalt.org domain.

Envisaged expenditures for 2020

I received two lump sum payments in 2018 and 2019 to cover the costs I've shouldered in hosting the LD web site these many years, but it is well past time to move to the jalt.org site. I suspect Darren and I may need some technical help in integrating the LD & LDJ Wordpress sites, but need to check with Paul Collett on timing and technical issues. It would be good for the SIG if we could get this done in the next two months. Tech support estimate: ¥20,000 (max). Web support reimbursement request (2019) ¥6,000 (6 mos. Hosting on the ld-sig.org domain I currently maintain)
+ 1 year ld-sig.org domain renewal (¥2,111) paid 10/31/19

Darren Elliott (LD Journal website)

What your goals were in 2019

What you / your team did 2019

Something that was satisfying

Something that was challenging

What you would like to do in 2020

This is a very low key maintenance job. The only goal I have is to move the website off my own personal wordpress suite onto the LD-SIG managed site, once the whole LD-SIG site is set up on the JALT server.

Envisaged expenditures for 2020

None

12. Kansai Get-Togethers - Gretchen Clark (submitted by Gretchen)

What your goals were in 2019 We had hoped to team up with Kyoto JALT and run another student conference like 'Kansai to the World' but this plan was postponed for several reasons. I ran the Programming for Kyoto JALT so it would be natural for me to wear two hats for this event, however, there are other members of the Kyoto JALT Programming team who had other ideas for our chapter so I thought it better to support them and their aspirations this time.

What you / your team did 2019 Unfortunately, nothing.

Something that was satisfying

Something that was challenging I am heavily involved with Kyoto JALT so planning local Get Togethers was never possible for me. I stated this when I 'took over' this role at the AGM last year. At that time, my primary goal was to reprise the student conference with Kyoto JALT but that plan did not get off the ground for the above reason.

What you would like to do in 2020 I hope another local SIG member revitalizes this group. We were small, but mighty a few years ago under Agi Patko.

Envisaged expenditures for 2020 None, assuming the group uses a community center for meetings like we did in the past/ the group doesn't plan on hosting a student conference.

13. Tokyo Get-Togethers - James Underwood, Ken Ikeda & Ian Hurrell (submitted by Ian, James, and Ken)

Tokyo get-together report

What your goals were in 2019

(Ken) Hold meetings with other LD-SIG members, new and current, to discuss relevant topics and issues related to learner development, probing the need and possibility of holding our year-end conference Creating Community: Learning Together (CCLT) with a bonenkai. We've issued a call of proposals for this year's CCLT5 due Nov. 22nd.

What you / your team did 2019

(Ken) We held meetings on these dates from 14:30-17:00: February 10th, April 21st, May 26th, June 23rd, Sept. 29th, Oct. 27th, and have scheduled for Nov. 24th and Dec. 15th, which will be CCLT5. Attendance has fluctuated throughout the year from 3 to 10 participants.

Something that was satisfying

(Ken) Meeting and discussing with a few members each meeting.

Of particular distinction were our discussions on active learning, which led Tim Ashwell, James Underwood, and myself to produce our reflections on active learning published in *Learning Learning* Volume 26, Issue 2, which has been very well received by the larger LD community.

(Ian) Having taken some time off participating in LD SIG activities, it was nice to help out with organizing the get-togethers again in whatever small way I could. It was also nice to meet and discuss various issues with the other members.

(James) As Ken has mentioned before it was great to see our discussion with Tim and others to be formally written up and published in *Learning Learning* volume 26 Issue 2. It was also good to see some of the reflections from CCLT4 being published in *Learning Learning* volume 26 Issue 1.

Something that was challenging

(Ken) Continuity. Considering that the LD-SIG has a ready resources space, courtesy of my office, it's sort of sad that members aren't taking opportunity to come and share how they are viewing and implementing learner development in their respective environments, which is why community development is so vital. I realize lots of us have moved on and have different interests and priorities (particularly our families), but these Tokyo get-togethers provide that time and place for respite, reflection, and re-invigoration for moving onward.

The year-end CCLT5 mini-conference seems to have evolved to feature 'armies' of university students organized by their respective professors as a means to present their term projects. While it is the conference's policy to accept all proposals, accountability between students, their supervisors, and the conference organizers is a highly desirable must.

(Ian) Echoing Ken's comments, it has been a growing struggle to encourage people to attend the monthly meetings. It would be nice to hear from our members what they would like to use these meetings for and what would make the meeting a more rewarding experience.

(James) I agree with both Ken and Ian. We have experimented with giving the Get-togethers a focus for discussion: "Active Learning." And have given the participants a chance to give their input on CCLT5. But it is sometimes hard to organise things when we are not sure how many will members will come.

What you would like to do in 2020

(Ken) Continue these meetings, though the frequency in a year (at least 6, this 2019 year) is one to consider. Carrying on the theme of active learning (since it remains on the forefront of educational policy in schools in Japan) is one, as being on the outlook for other developing trends and interests.

(Ian) I would also like to continue the meetings, and I hope that I will have more time to take a more active role in organising and help encourage more participation in the meetings from our members.

(James) I would also like to continue the meetings and perhaps have an ongoing research project that could provide focus to the meetings. This could perhaps culminate presentations at the JALT national forum or CCLT6, or more...

Envisaged expenditures for 2020

(Ken) Less than 50,000 yen, for a future CCLT6. Barring an actual schedule conflict, I think we can hold our get-togethers in my department's big meeting room at no extra cost. Until this year, I had feared that my university entrance exams would take precedence on the dates of our get-togethers, so I scheduled other rooms on those dates, but it seems to have come to naught.

14. Committee Members at large - Lee Arnold, Mathew Coomber, Dexter Da Silva, Oana Cusen, Bill Mboutsiadis, & Mike Nix

Please feel free to make any observations or comments about how the committee has been doing this last year, and/or share recommendations or questions for the coming year.

Bill - Over here in Toronto, Canada I still enjoy keeping up with my favourite SIG and professional organization. Your work keeps me motivated to continue to be an action research practitioner in my profession. The LD SIG's past year's published work, conferences and get-togethers are all very impressive and interesting to read. Please keep me informed and connected. Remember you have a

friend across the pond in Toronto. All the best for the coming year.

Lee - While I'm late to the party, as is my wont, and I know I'm behind the curve as far as replying, I have not abandoned LD and wish to get back into the swing of it for 2020. As some of you may know, I had a major issue with lower back pain in late 2018 and overall, while I am better, I have never felt that I have truly recovered 100% from it - hence my absence from the get-togethers, to my regret - I currently am working six days a week and need to rest when I can, but will cut down to five from April 2020, which may help somewhat with me getting back into LD and back into active presentation, JALT conference participation (including CCLT!), and such.

I've always felt that LD is a great SIG and while I unfortunately can't make it to Nagoya this time, will follow and wish for the best for LD's endeavors.

Dexter -

Mike -

Matthew -

Oana -