

NUFS Workshop 2015

Newsletter No. 4

Workshop in August

Date: August 8-9, 2015, 14:30-17:00, 9:00-11:30

Venue: Lakeside Iruka (Inuyama, Aichi)

Advisors: Kazuyoshi Sato, Nancy Mutoh (NUFS),
Robert Croker (Nanzan University)

Title: Mid-term presentation on action research

The number of participants: 18



1) What did you learn from this two-day workshop?

- I have learned that near peer role is important. It was very productive. I have learned so much and it seemed that we produced more as we discuss and share ideas.
- I learned what 2nd year students are doing. Their theoretical background clarified what I am doing now. Other students' activities inspired me a lot. I can develop my class with many small and efficient ideas.
- I learned that everyone is making efforts and doing their best. I really got energy and felt so happy just by attending and sharing.
- I learned about various methods that people are using to help improve students learning in the classroom. I also learned about how to better improve my own data and how I should present it.
- I learned how I should organized presentations. I also learned what Junko san does at her lessons. Because I sue the same book as her, I feel I have lots of information from her. Especially speaking/writing performance test.

2) How would you like to change your AR from now on?

- I need to focus on fewer goals and resist the urge to try every new technique and generate new data. I also need to better link my theoretical background to these refined goals, and concentrate more on summarizing studies than restating known or established theories.
- I need to focus more on one aspect of my teaching and research more on task-based learning. I also want to focus on adding more speaking activities into my research with assessment so that I can see how my students are progressing.
- I didn't have much time to work on AR in the first time, but I think I had a good start. I got useful advice after my presentation. I want to spend more time on AR in the next term and get more extensive reading books suitable for my students.
- More pair work, peer editing and students centered class using rubric, and sharing clear goal with students.



3) Other comments

- I think 2nd year MA students should have much longer time for their theoretical background. 5 minutes is not enough.
- This was an incredible useful trip. I am improving my life as a teacher and a person through what I am learning. Thanks to all involved.
- Thank you so much for an amazing conference! The venue was lovely. I would have benefitted from having a clear format for presenting my theoretical background. Friday was too late and I over-prepared.
- It was great for me to have a glimpse of the procedure of Action Research. I've got a lot of homework to do during this summer vacation.
- I enjoyed this trip because it gives me access to a lot of other teachers ideas that will help me improve.



Workshop in September (Scheduled)

Date: September 12, 2015, 10:30-14:30 (Workshop), 14:30-17:00 (AR session)

Venue: NSC College, A-31

Title: “Language Classroom for Genuine, Meaningful Communication: Learning Processes that nurture Human Quality”

Instructor: Takashi Miura (Shizuoka University)

Please send an email to Chihaya (chiha143@nufs.ac.jp) to participate in this workshop.