

NUFS Workshop 2013***Newsletter No. 4*****Workshop in August**

Date: August 3-4, 2013, 15:00-17:00, 9:00-12:30

Venue: Green Hotel Sangane

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

Title: Mid-term presentation on action research

The number of participants: 12

**Comments from the participants:****1) What did you learn from this two-day workshop?**

- This year we have more elementary school teachers here and I could learn a lot of teaching tips from them and it's good to know their teaching situation as a JHS teacher through this AR report workshop. It will be beneficial for my teaching from the second term.
- I learned a lot of things about other schools. It was a great opportunity for me to learn about other level schools. I teach in high school, but it is very meaningful to know and learn about JHS and elementary schools.
- I learned some useful information that I could use on my AR class. This gives me a hope to continue to improve my craft. It feels so good how the participants share their experiences that are beneficial to our professions.
- I learned that teachers share the same problems, concerns, limitations and difficulties in our respective English classes. But despite of these things, it's great to know that these things don't stop us from discovering solutions to our concerns. And I learned a lot of ways to collect and interpret data.
- Hearing all the AR presentations really showcased to me so much new knowledge and strategies that I can use in my classroom. I especially learned about processing the responses of my students on the open-ended questions.
- I learned that the new members are doing a great job. They are standing on the shoulders of their sempai.

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

- Based on the advice I got today, I'd like to do deeper research on what I have now.
- I will definitely pay attention to every detail that I have to work on. To start with, I need to come up with a good lesson plan that should have short or long term goal. On the survey part, I have to design a good set of questions that is authentic and appropriated to my students' level.
- I would like to continue developing communicative activities and include as much conversational strategies as I feel appropriate. I will also narrow down and create specific targets in terms of collecting data and interpreting them later on.
- Not only the numbers but also comments from students are very important information for my AR. I will try to ask my students about details such as reasons for the answers and will analyze it.
- My new board of education is working on connecting elementary and JHS education more directly. I would like to see how I can broaden what is happening in the elementary schools in order to make a smooth transition to the next level.
- As noted by Robert, the way that I present my data could be improved, so that will be my focus for next term.



Workshop in September (Scheduled)

Date: September 14, 2013, 10:30-14:30 (Workshop), 14:30-17:00 (AR session)

Venue: NSC College, A-31

Title: "The iPad in the Classroom"

Instructor: Tom Kenny (NUFS)

Please send an email to Chihaya ([chiha143\(at-mark\)nufs.ac.jp](mailto:chiha143(at-mark)nufs.ac.jp)) to participate in this workshop.