

**Friday 5 June**

**2:20pm - 3:00pm**

Room: Block Y, Room Y305

**Presentation Title:** SLA, (Sexual) Identity and Autonomy

<b>Presenter / Co-presenters:</b>	Ashley Russell Moore, Kanda University of International Studies
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<b>Theme:</b>	Learner and teacher experiences
<b>Presentation Type:</b>	Paper presentation

### **Abstract**

This paper explores how a small group of Japanese gay men experienced their sexual identity across differing socio-linguistic contexts and the ways in which these experiences influenced their motivational investments in learning English as an international language. Considering identity as an experience borne out of the interaction between the individual and their surrounding socio-linguistic context, the study posits that the learners often felt uncomfortable with the possibilities of sexual identity prevalent in Japan. Thus, they invested in English in order to realise their desires to participate in an international community outside of Japan. The paper aims to better understand the various experiences of identity that a second language learner undergoes and explore how these experiences can shape and direct their motivation and autonomy. It also puts forward a holistic framework in order to first understand learners' various Ideal L2-Selves and then engage with and scaffold these Ideal L2-selves through the classroom and self-access materials.

### **Biodata**

Ashley Moore works as an English Lecturer at Kanda University of International Studies. He has previously taught in Kagoshima and Paris. He is interested in learner identity, motivation, critical pedagogy and testing.