

Thursday 4 June

12:00pm - 12:40pm

Room: Block Y, Room Y303

Presentation Title:

Can a Self Access Learning Center Really Help Language Learners?

Presenter / Co-presenters:	Sripathum Noom-ura, Language Institute, Thammasat University
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Theme:	Developing life-long learners
Presentation Type:	Paper presentation

Abstract

When a Self Access Learning Center (SALC) was set up at Thammasat university, teachers worked hard to encourage students to practice their English skills there. Aiming to make students see the benefits of using the center, the researcher conducted a study to compare the achievements of SALC users with non-users in learning an English course. After it was made clear to them that their decision would by no means affect their grade result of the course, 58 students volunteered to be SALC users and 66, non-users. When the course ended, the data were collected and analysed from the pretest-posttest results, the investigation of the students' log books, and the students' responses to a structured interview. Although the study found that the achievements of SALC users and non-users were not significantly different, the value of both groups as autonomous learners could be observed and teachers were recommended to find ways to nurture such desirable attitudes.

Biodata

Sripathum Noom-ura, an Assistant Professor of the Language Institute, Thammasat University holds an M.A. in Applied Linguistics and a Diploma in Teaching English as a Second Language (Dip. TESL). Her main interests are teaching ESP courses in the area of science and technology and conducting classroom research.