

Friday 5 June

2:20pm - 3:00pm

Room: Block Y, Room Y403

Presentation Title: Promoting learner responsibility for revision in the second language classroom

Presenter / Co-presenters:	Lee Atkinson, Hiroshima Bunkyo Women's University
Presenter's Email:	latkinson@h-bunkyo.ac.jp
Theme:	Autonomy in the classroom
Presentation Type:	Paper presentation

Abstract

The process approach to English as a second language (ESL) writing is generally characterized as recursive. As such, revision is an integral component of this process. However, second language writers often demonstrate difficulty reviewing and revising their work. As a result they often become dependent on their teacher and/or peers for feedback. Instead of being passive recipients of feedback learners can be given control over the initiation of feedback through self-monitoring. Self-monitoring not only increases autonomy in the learning of writing; it allows the composition to become interactive with students directing the feedback process to address their own needs. In practical terms, it requires students to write marginal annotations about the difficulties they encounter in their evolving compositions, to which a teacher or peer responds in writing. This paper will present an overview of how self-monitoring was incorporated into a first year academic writing course at a university in Japan. It will provide practical examples of how learners were encouraged to take greater responsibility for reviewing their writing and the difficulties encountered in the adoption of such an approach.

Biodata

Lee Atkinson has taught English to speakers of other languages in Hong Kong, Australia and Japan. She is currently teaching English at Hiroshima Bunkyo Women's University in Japan. Her research areas of interest include: second language writing, autonomy and CALL. She has a Masters of Education in TESOL and is currently completing her Doctor of Education.