

Wednesday 3 June

3:20pm - 4:00pm

Room: Block Y, Room Y303

Presentation Title: Building bridges to a cross-cultural business world

Presenter / Co-presenters:	Susan Anderson, Griffith University
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Theme:	Developing life-long learners
Presentation Type:	Paper presentation

Abstract

Students of foreign languages are limited in the amount of 'real world' opportunities to use the target language. Business Japanese has been taught at the third year level for many years and the content of these courses includes job interviews, the preparation of a Curriculum Vitae, and units focussed on introducing the language and cultural aspects of specific business settings such as an office, an hotel front desk, a reception desk and in a shop setting. In 2008, these courses have moved beyond the classroom into the 'real world' in an attempt to prepare students for a bilingual, cross-cultural career and to expose them to language learning opportunities 'beyond the classroom'. The project takes tertiary students of Japanese into local business contexts at to put into practice their classroom learning and extend their language learning to the 'real world'. In doing so, students are offered a bridge of both linguistic knowledge and workplace skills to allow a smooth transition from student life into the business world or workplace.

Biodata

Susan Anderson is a Lecturer in Japanese at Griffith University, Gold Coast. Susan has taught at all undergraduate levels of Japanese as a foreign language and supervised Master's Degree projects in this area. Her research interests include second language learning, reading in a foreign language and language learning and use strategies, especially in relation to the development of reading comprehension proficiency in a foreign language context. She is in the final stages of her Education Doctorate entitled "Learner strategy instruction and student up-take of strategies in a Japanese as a second language context".