

Notes on Contributors

MARCEL VAN AMELSVOORT, M.Ed. teaches at Kanagawa Prefectural College of Foreign Studies in Yokohama, Japan. His recent work is concerned with researching the use of educational technology and software that is available for free on the web, primarily including blogs, podcasting and content management tools.

NATHANIEL CARNEY is currently an Instructor of English at Kwansei Gakuin University's School of Science and Technology. Nathaniel received his M.A. in TEFL from Penn State University in the United States. His research interests include intercultural learning and the use of Web 2.0 technologies for collaboration among language learners.

ROBERT CHARTRAND has an MA in TESOL from the School for International Training, Brattleboro, USA. His current research interests include Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL) and using the iPod for language teaching. He is a co-creator of ELT Podcast. He lives in Fukuoka City and works full-time at the Kurume University Institute of Foreign Language Education.

MICHAEL COGHLAN is recognised internationally as an expert in the implementation of synchronous learning environments. He is a specialist in synchronous facilitation and the use of online voice technologies, and was part of the Australian Flexible Learning Framework's research team, *Beyond Text* (2005), and *Media on the Move* (2006). He is an e-Learning facilitator with TAFE South Australia. Michael is also co-founder of the Webheads community for like-minded ESL/EFL students and teachers.

WILLIAM GATTON has been president of DynEd Japan since its founding in 1993 and is a director of DynEd International. He previously worked with BBC English and Oxford University Press.

NICOLAS GROMIK holds a Master in Educational Counseling and a Master in Applied Linguistics, both from the University of Southern Queensland, Australia. Prior to working in

Japan, he taught k-12 French in Queensland. He then moved to Japan and worked in many prefectures teaching English at both Eikawa and public schools. At present he works at Tohoku University as a CALL EFL lecturer. His main research areas are learner autonomy and video production by university undergraduate EFL students.

JENNY ANG LU is currently pursuing her master's degree on English Language Teaching at the Graduate School of English at the National Taiwan Normal University (NTNU) in Taiwan, R.O.C. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Applied Foreign Languages and an Associate degree in Information Management. Aside from teaching English to adults, she also translates Chinese government documents and websites into English, assists in English learning coursebook production, and provides voice recording services for the accompanying CDs. She is interested in exploring the use of Podcasts in English language teaching, extensive reading, and promoting bilingualism. She was born and received her earlier education in Baguio City, Philippines. She will be spending a year in San Diego State University (SDSU) in California, U.S.A. in the upcoming school year to explore new research possibilities.

STEVE MCCARTY has been a regular faculty member in Japan since 1985, currently a Professor at Osaka Jogakuin College. He has been re-elected President of the World Association for Online Education every two years since 1998. His research areas include Asian studies, bilingualism, and e-Learning. He teaches content-based English as a Foreign Language courses, such as Bilingual Education and Computer Communication, and regularly lectures for the government to foreign technical trainees on Japanese People and Society. Since 1997 his Website of online publications has maintained a 4-star rating, very useful for research, from the Asian Studies WWW Virtual Library. He also maintains a mobile phone Website (since 2000), two podcasting blogs, and the YouTube Educational Group.

DAVID OCKERT, born in Michigan, has studied at the University of Texas, Austin and James Madison College at Michigan State University. Prior to his current position at the Kyoei Gakuen Private School Corporation he worked as a JET in Osaka. He has published *An Introduction to Effective Presentations: A Student Guide and Workbook Including Information for PowerPoint Presentations* (Kyoto: The Author Publishing House) and *An Introduction to Academic Writing: A Study and Workbook for Students* (Kyoto: tzeo Co. Ltd.). He presently

works as a Curriculum Developer in the Office of Institutional Planning and Development and his research interests include student motivation, learning strategies, pedagogical activities and the relationships between them.

TOSHIKAZU KIKUCHI, Ph.D. is a professor in the Department of British and American Studies at Nagoya University of Foreign Studies, Japan. He worked at Tokyo metropolitan high schools for 10 years and a college of technology for 14 years. He studied at Reading University in England in 1992 and Boston University in the U.S. from 1999 to 2000. His current interests include the practical use of mobile phones in m-learning and the attractive use of virtual humans in language learning.

BILL PELLOWE has been teaching EFL since 1989. He earned his MA in TEFL with distinction from the University of Birmingham (U.K.) in 1998. He has given close to 50 presentations, many of them related to using technology in the classroom. His current projects include ELT Calendar (an online database of workshops, seminars and conferences for language teachers in Japan, www.eltcalendar.com) and ELT Podcast (which contains several podcasts, including "The Teachers Lounge", featuring discussions among language teachers on various practical and professional aspects of teaching). Bill is currently a full-time teacher at Kinki University School of Engineering in Iizuka City, Fukuoka.

MICHAEL THOMAS Ph.D. is Associate Professor at Nagoya University of Commerce & Business in Japan. He is currently editing a book on Web 2.0 technologies entitled, *Handbook of Research on Language Acquisition Technologies: Web 2.0 Transformation of Learning*. He is a member of the IATEFL Learning Technologies SIG committee and editor of its publication, *CALL Review*.

MICHAEL VALLANCE Ph.D. is an Associate Professor at Future University, Japan. He has a Doctorate in Education from Durham University. He is the co-author of *Using IT in the Language Classroom* and co-editor of *Teaching English to ESL Chinese students*. His Website is: <http://homepage.mac.com/mvallance>.

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