

FD 委員会イベント報告

University of Tsukuba
Center for Education of Global Communication
CEGLOC Faculty Development Committee



Year Report (January-December 2023)

The FD committee logo represents the 9 languages taught at CEGLOC: Chinese, English, French, German, Korean, Japanese as a foreign language, Japanese as a first language, Russian, and Spanish.

Mission statement

“The CEGLOC FD Committee provides a multilingual platform where faculty can cooperate and get training in issues 1) related to education and teaching practices in order to meet the challenges of educating students and 2) related to research in order to support professional growth.”

Vision statement

1. Mini-conferences: We organize workshops, roundtable discussions, seminars and lectures in order to facilitate faculty growth in scholarship and teaching.
2. ‘Colleague to colleague’ orientation: We offer seminar sessions to assist new faculty in understanding university structure and culture.
3. Faculty learning communities: We facilitate the formation of group research projects for scholars with shared interests.

Positions from April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024

Anubhuti Chauhan	Chair
Rafaël Poiret	Vice-chair, Secretary, and Publicity coordinator
Murod Ismailov	Treasurer
Ruth Vanbaelen	English report editor and Survey coordinator
Mizuho Imada	Japanese report editor
Bruno Jactat	Website coordinator
Hiroaki Hatano	Website Japanese editor
Andrés Tutor de Ureta	Publicity coordinator
Saki Suemori	CLIL coordinator

The committee can provide logistical support when faculty affiliated with CEGLOC plans to hold an FD related event at CEGLOC. For more information, please contact the Chair: ceglocfdcommitteeevents@gmail.com.

Our website with access to upcoming and former events can be found here:

<https://b24-n3d8tg.bitrix24.site/#>

The Japanese version of this report can be found in the “Journal of Japanese Language Teaching” Volume 39.

List of FD events

1. New Faculty Welcome Event
2. 5th KAKENHI Seminar in English
3. The Benefits of Online Extensive Reading

FD Event 1, 2023

Title: New Faculty Welcome Event
 Date: May 23, 2023, 10:00-12:00
 Venue: CEGLOC CA301, University of Tsukuba
 Organizer: CEGLOC FD Committee

Overview

Since April 2020, and this due to the Covid-19 pandemic, CEGLOC FD Committee events have been held online and sporadically in a hybrid format. This event was the first to be organized solely in-person after three years. The goal was to welcome new faculty members at CEGLOC, and to provide them with information on the use of some of the online administrative tools provided by the University. The main language was English, but the Q&A sessions as well as the socializing parts were conducted in Japanese and English.

Program

The Head of CEGLOC, Professor Masaki Ono welcomed all the participants and expressed his conviction that the new faculty will contribute to a fresh input in the classes taught at CEGLOC. This was followed by three speakers introducing the respective tools and concluded with time for informal exchanges between the participants.

1. “MANABA: Tips and Tricks for a Smooth Experience”

Ass. Professor Bruno Jactat made suggestions for the effective use of the Learning Management System “manaba.” Audience questions involved the most practical method to add comments and feedback on student assignments.

2. “TWINS: Some basic points”

Ass. Professor Anubhuti Chauhan introduced TWINS and walked everyone through syllabus editing, confirmation of student lists, grades input and class surveys. The distribution of grades was discussed by the participants.

3. “The FAIR system for budgeting: a fairly simple guide”

After a short break, Assoc. Professor Murod Ismailov offered insights in FAIR from the point of view of the use of research funds, creating the necessary documents for business travel, and how to proceed with purchased goods once they arrive.

During the coffee break and the informal exchanges at the end of the event, new and not so new faculty mingled and got to know each other.

Survey takeaways

The Welcome Event was attended by 23 participants. Of these, seven completed the post-event survey. Overall impressions were positive with the mention that an event like this would be great to have the moment new faculty start their contract. Suggestions for future events included research project presentations by CEGLOC faculty and information on grants. The latter will be addressed in the next event of the CEGLOC FD Committee, namely the 5th KAKENHI Seminar in English.

FD Event 2, 2023

Title: 5th KAKENHI Seminar in English
Date: July 18, 2023, 9:30-11:30
Venue: CEGLOC CA305, University of Tsukuba
Organizer: CEGLOC FD Committee, University of Tsukuba
Support: URA and the Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences

Overview

Yearly, the CEGLOC FD Committee organizes an event to provide information on how to secure grants. This time, the focus was on the reviewers' point of view, actual writing tips, and basic administrative information. Participation eligibility was limited to faculty of the Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences and CEGLOC.

Program

The CEGLOC FD Committee Chair, Ass. Professor Anubhuti Chauhan served as moderator and the Vice-chair, Ass. Professor Rafaël Poiret welcomed the participants.

Professor Yukari Yoshihara of the Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences kicked off the event with her talk titled "A Few Pieces of Advice from a Past Reviewer: Reviewing disciplines other than my own." She emphasized the importance of keeping applications accessible for non-experts because reviewers often have different fields of expertise. Another point of advice was to carefully check the "Review Section Table" to choose which domain the applicant's research falls into.

Next, Dr. Sari Jammo, a researcher at the Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences followed with "Challenges and Writing Tips for Early-Career KAKENHI Applicants: Apply, you are capable." He also highlighted a writing style with the reviewers in mind. More specifically, he suggested a clear writing style using tables and figures, with brief and lucid explanations as opposed to long and general paragraphs.

Assoc. Professor Ruth Vanbaelen of the Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences provided "Basic Administrative Information on Grant Applications" with several links to extra information regarding grant-finding and application-writing support, such as the possibility to check past applications, a service provided by the Research Support and Research Promotion Office of the Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Finally, URA staff was present for short consultations that will lead to more in-depth support.

Final remarks

In total, 19 faculty members participated. During the Q&A, questions on the

use of bold and underlining, and tables or flowcharts were clarified, as well as concerns regarding which grants to apply for in specific career stages.

The post-event survey was completed by 12 persons. Everyone was (extremely) satisfied with the presentation content. This event was held in-person and half of the survey respondents valued this format highly, while 33% would prefer a hybrid event.

The materials used by the speakers are available on the CEGLOC FD Committee's homepage.

FD Event 3, 2023

Title: The Benefits of Online Extensive Reading
 Date: November 28, 2023, 10:00-11:25
 Venue: CEGLOC, CA305, University of Tsukuba
 Organizer: CEGLOC FD Committee, University of Tsukuba

Overview

Online extensive reading means much more than students being able to read graded readers on their computers or smartphones whenever and wherever they want. It can put powerful tools like vocabulary lists, character lists, audio-on-demand, and book ratings, right at their fingertips. Additionally, online extensive reading allows teachers to monitor and track their students' reading progress including which books their students have selected, how many words they have read, and even their reading speed. In this presentation, the speaker Paul Goldberg, who developed Xreading, a website for extensive reading and extensive listening, gave a demonstration of the system and explained how teachers can get the most out of using online extensive reading in their classes.

Mr. Goldberg emphasized that his plea for more extensive reading is not an argument for getting rid of intensive reading nor practicing skills like grammar. Well-rounded language learners combine all.

During the talk and the Q&A session, some of the following questions were raised. Firstly, if the starting point of extensive reading is vocabulary knowledge, how is knowledge regarding context such as cultural background or other foreign concepts handled? Understanding words in one situation does not guarantee overall understanding. To mediate this, graded readers on certain topics such as Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are being developed. Also a question regarding feedback was raised. Mr. Goldberg shared that discussions with classmates are highly effective and enjoyed by many students. As for comprehension, lowering the level was suggested when the reader does not understand the story at hand.

The presentation was followed by a short presentation by Emiko Noda about the graded readers available at the Media Library of CEGLOC at the University of Tsukuba.

Program

10:00 Opening address by Ass. Professor Naheen Madarbakus

10:05 “The Benefits of Online Extensive Reading” by Paul Goldberg followed by a Q&A session

11:00 “CEGLOC Media Library Graded Readers: a short presentation” by Ms. Emiko Noda

Final remarks

While the participant turnout was low (8 participants), the overall feedback on the event collected through a short online survey was positive and survey respondents want to share the information with colleagues. Regarding the format, opinions were split between a face-to-face event like the current one, and having the choice between in-person and online participation.