

# EFL Teacher Journeys Conference Report

TED Program Chair

**Mike Ellis**

TED SIG is proud to report the success of the 2013 EFL Teacher Journeys Conference. This year's conference was the second annual, and the first for me as TED's new program chair. The full day conference was held on June 16 at the Kanda Institute of Foreign Languages in Kanda, Tokyo as a collaborative event with the Teachers College Columbia University Japan Alumni Association.

This year's conference theme was "Transformation". 52 presenters and attendees came to Kanda from places spanning all over Japan, from Kyushu to Kanazawa to Iwate. 16 presentations were held across five sessions throughout the day, plus two plenary sessions. In the morning plenary session, Andy Boon from Toyo Gakuen University spoke on "Journeys of Transformation", sharing his own journey as a professional teacher from its beginnings, and encouraging the audience to engage in transformative reflective practice. Dr. Deryn Verity traveled far from Pennsylvania State University to deliver the afternoon plenary, "Secret Agents of Change, or Life is a Cabaret", in which she discussed the importance of mentors in teacher education and development.

We'd like to thank Alastair from JALT's associate partner [englishbooks.jp](http://englishbooks.jp) for setting up a display with a wide selection of professional development books, along with everyone else who contributed to the conference's success. Please look forward to more information about the 2014 EFL Teacher Journeys Conference!