

Teacher Journey Conference Proceedings

Mike Ellis, Program Chair, TD-SIG

Three weeks after Barack Obama's visit to Hiroshima last spring, TD SIG was there to promote teachers' professional development through the sharing of narratives of growth. June 19, 2016 was the fifth annual Teacher Journeys Conference, and our first collaboration with Hiroshima JALT.

The event began with an interactive plenary by Hiroshima legend David Paul. David asked the conference's 40 attendees to choose stories for him to recount from his exciting career as a teacher and teacher trainer. These stories ranged in content from developing trust over a game of shogi, to lamentations on the profit motive in education.

David's talk was followed by 15 presentations over five sessions. The presenters came from various levels of schools spread out all over Japan to relate their experiences as lessons of teacher development. Memorable topics included the negotiation of identity as a non-native native teacher, and the benefits a back injury can have on teaching practice. We are thrilled that some of these stories can be shared further in this publication.

Thank you to Hiroshima JALT for all of their hard work in this successful partnership, and to the YMCA for hosting the mini-conference. We hope to bring Teacher Journeys back to Hiroshima one day.

Please look out for information on Teacher Journeys 2017 (<https://sites.google.com/site/teacherjourneys/>), which will take place in Kobe this spring. Until then, happy journeying!

Mike Ellis

TD SIG Program Chair

