

# Teacher Journeys Conference Proceedings June 2017

*Mike Ellis, Co-Program Chair, TD-SIG*

We were absolutely thrilled to bring Teacher Journeys back to Kansai on June 11, 2017. This was the sixth annual Teacher Journeys Conference, and our first collaboration with Kobe JALT. The conference took place at Konan University's CUBE campus in Nishinomiya, just outside Kobe. We began with a featured presentation by Dr. Atsuko Watanabe of Bunkyo University. Atsuko encouraged us to consider the meaning and purpose of reflective practice, setting the perfect tone for the rest of the day. In total there were sixteen presentations across four sessions. In particular, topics such as building a "second skin" to protect against challenges in the classroom and learning to teach within constraints resonated deeply with me personally. In the afternoon featured presentation, Dr. Ken Tamai of the Kobe City University of Foreign Studies shared observations throughout his own career on the promotion of reflective practice in Japan. In total, there were about 50 attendees, and all seemed to leave the conference stimulated and even energized for Monday morning. We'd like to express our gratitude to Kobe JALT for making this conference a success, and to Konan University for graciously hosting us. Check out further updates from TD SIG about Teacher Journeys 2018, which will take place in Tokyo at Rikkyo University this June 3. We hope to see you there!

Conference Web site: <https://sites.google.com/site/teacherjourneys/>







From top:  
 EFL Teacher Journeys programs and name tags; Kobe Port Tower view; Presenter Anna Loseva; Presenter Robert Lowe; Plenary speaker Atsuko Watanabe; Plenary speaker Ken Tamai