

Thursday 4 June

12:00 - 12:40pm

Room: Block Y, Room Y408

Workshop Title:

More Learner Autonomy with Less Frustration

Presenter / Co-presenters:	Stacey Lousie Vye, Saitama University & Teachers College, Columbia Prof Nanci L. Graves, Kobe Steel & Teachers College, Columbia
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Theme:	Autonomy and teacher education
Presentation Type:	Workshop

Abstract

As teacher educators in an M. A. TESOL program in Japan, we find that studying the methodology of learner autonomy has steadily inspired teachers to conduct rigorous re-examinations of their institutional objectives, teaching materials and personal teaching styles, yet periods of frustration occur for these in-service EFL teachers at various teaching levels when they attempt to facilitate learner autonomy in a practical manner. Therefore, this workshop will first explore phases teachers go through to understand the underlying principles of learner autonomy. We will then consider how teachers analyse their unique contexts and decide how best to help their students develop a greater degree of autonomy and consequently become better able, as well as more motivated, to direct their own learning. Lastly, we invite participants to engage in a sample of learner-centered teaching strategy activities, including ways of exploiting assigned materials, incorporating multi-media, learner histories and project work to promote learner autonomy in the language classroom.

Biodata

Stacey Vye is interested in learner and teacher autonomy in language education and the interconnectedness between both constructs.

Nanci Graves has been teaching in Japan over 20 years and is currently at Kobe Steel in-house English training program. In addition, she has been teaching workshop and practicum courses at Teachers College, Columbia since 1988. Recently, she has been pursuing research in teacher and learner autonomy, reflection and motivation.