

Wednesday 3 June

2:20pm - 3:00pm

Room: Block Y, Room Y301

Presentation Title: Measuring language learner autonomy: A correlational study

Presenter / Co-presenters:	Fumiko Murase, Macquarie University
Presenter's Email:	fumiko.murase@ling.mq.edu.au
Theme:	Assessment in self-directed learning
Presentation Type:	Paper presentation

Abstract

This paper presents part of a project which aims at developing an instrument for measuring learner autonomy of Japanese university students as English learners. In this project, a Likert-scale type questionnaire, the Measuring Instrument for Language Learner Autonomy (MILLA), was developed and administered to Japanese students at several universities in Japan. Prior to the instrument design, the construct of learner autonomy was operationalised as a multidimensional construct which comprised four different components: technical, psychological, political-philosophical, and socio-cultural autonomy. Incorporating these four components into the questionnaire items, the MILLA was designed to measure the students' autonomy in terms of the four different components.

Following a brief description of the theoretical background of the project, major findings from this project will be shown. The main focus of discussion will be on if and how the four components of learner autonomy are correlated to each other. This correlational study may be of interest to the field because, although scholars are aware of interrelations among different aspects of autonomy, there has been little empirical research conducted to investigate the correlations. It is hoped that this study will contribute towards seeking a new perspective of learner autonomy.

Biodata

Fumiko Murase is currently a PhD student in the Department of Linguistics at Macquarie University. She holds a BA in Literature and an MA in Linguistic Science from Nanzan University, Japan, where she has taught English for six years. Her main research interests include learner autonomy in language learning, learner beliefs, and learning strategies.