



***Proceedings* of AsiaCALL2013 the 12th International Conference of
The Asia Association of Computer-Assisted Language-Learning**

Khon Kaen University, Khon Kaen, Thailand

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Innovation and Renovation in TELL in Asia

Editor's Foreword

AsiaCALL2013, the **12th International Conference of AsiaCALL** was hosted by Khon Kaen University, Khon Kaen, Thailand. Again, it was a very successful conference and AsiaCALL, the Asia Association of Computer Assisted Language Learning, is grateful to the host university for organising this event. Special thanks go to Conference Patron, Dean, Associate Professor Dr. Kuntida Tuwamsuk, and Conference Organiser and President, Assistant Professor Phiphawin Srikrai and her team of colleagues and students at Khon Kaen University.

Each year, AsiaCALL members meet in different countries. The conference brings together early and established scholars and teachers who exchange constructive research on the uses of technology to enhance the learning of languages. The scholars come from all over Asia and beyond, including Australia, Africa, North Africa, the Middle East, the USA and Europe. The 2013 conference involved presenters from approximately 20 countries.

The publications included in these ***Proceedings*** capture a range of perspectives linking innovation and CALL/ TELL. They also reflect the issues which organisations, scholars and language teachers face in their professional contexts, policy environments and budgetary constraints. The discussions and research presented in these ***Proceedings*** show researchers testing tools for knowledge management in their specific contexts of practice, experimenting with their novelty and assessing their impact on the students and on their own teaching practices.

Among the tools described by the researchers were mind maps; webquests in English for Specific Purposes; website building applications used to teach a variety of relevant skills; simple and yet extremely innovative strategies for working with video and sound in order to improve comprehension, listening and pronunciation of ESL students; original, generative online solutions developed to expand vocabulary and its use by the engineering students.

Other papers focused on the stakeholders. This included students, policy-makers, governments. Regarding the students, researchers looked at the different skills and attributes that appear to be characteristic of successful ESL students studying at a distance. Another paper looked at the perceptions of the stakeholders regarding the use of technology in education, specifically in Malaysia.

Having just returned from the International Conference on Language Teaching organised by the University of Technology, Mara UiTM, Kedah campus in Penang, and having given a workshop on the use of technology in ESL classrooms in Kedah, I felt that while the results of that study resonated with my recent experiences in Malaysia, there is still much work to be done to share and build on mutual experiences and insights informed by local contexts and concerns.

The use of mobile technology and social networks for teaching English was engaged by scholars from China. The popularity of social sites in China is growing, and the idea of English as an Asian Language without a doubt is a relevant area for study and experimentation. The spirit of the “new learning” culture was also present in my own publication. There I propose a definition of “new learning” and ways for embedding our teaching in this culture which embraces everyone, including our students, whether we wish to acknowledge this, or not.

Not all conference presentations were submitted for publication. With time we will see more submissions. One aspect that needs closer attention is the relationship that we as teachers and researchers create between our workplace environment and the broader community. Increasingly, schools and other educational institutions recognise their role as partners in the community which they serve, at the local and global levels. Projects expanding on this area of study can teach us a lot about learning and using a target language in order to make a difference.

The *AsiaCALL OnLine Journal* (ACoj) thanks all contributors to the current *Proceedings*. The theme of the next conference, to be held at the National Changhua University of Education, Changhua City, Taiwan, is “Building capacity and CALL: practices and challenges”.

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Chief Editor

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