

Editorial Note

On behalf of Professor Leslie Barratt, the editor-in-chief of THAITESOL JOURNAL, it is my great honor to write an editorial note for Volume 31, Number 1 (June). There are four research articles in this volume as the following.

Thanomporn Laohajaratsang examines a selection of academic articles, existing evidence, and early indications of newly-designed Learning Management System (LMS) tools/functions, and then analyzes and synthesizes the concepts to form a thorough description of the components within the concept of next-generation LMS used in Thai higher education.

Donald Patterson discusses an “American-style” English-language university department in Japan and the challenges it faces by identifying issues related to social capital and social equity, and at a broader national cultural level, using Hofstede’s cultural dimensions theory to identify contrasting elements between American and Japanese approaches to higher education.

Vo Phuong Quyen explores Vietnamese EFL university students’ perceptions that revealed their positive attitudes towards cultivating intercultural competence activities. To minimize students’ internal challenges, simple intercultural activities should be addressed first and more extensive ones could be then developed. The course should be redesigned based on the constructive alignment with regard to consistency among teaching objectives, teaching and learning activities and learning assessment in accordance with intercultural competence dimensions.

Thanatchaporn Triwittayayon and Nopporn Sarobol investigate factors enhancing English speaking ability, also the most influential factor affecting speaking ability among Thai high school students who had received awards from a national speech competition to guarantee their English speaking ability and 10 English teachers who had taught those students or trained them to participate in the competition. The factors were their language learning styles, age, attitudes, family support, personality, exposure to the language, and their English teachers, while personality and their exposure to the language were the most influential factors.

THAITESOL JOURNAL is now indexed on Thailand Citation Index (Tier 2) and always welcomes state-of-the-art research and academic articles to enhance English teaching and learning in Thailand and beyond. Enjoy reading.

Associate Professor Singhanat Nomnian, Ed.D.

THAITESOL JOURNAL Editor