

Wednesday 1 June

11:15am - 11:55am

Block Y, Room Y304

Presentation Title: Online publishing: Authentic writing opportunities for learners

Presenter / Co-presenters: Dr David Gardner, The University of Hong Kong

Abstract

This paper describes the use of live online journals established by the course providers to create an authentic writing environment for learners to work within. A range of six journals provides learners with choices of writing topics and audiences, and opportunities to learn about audience awareness and genre. Approximately 600 Year 2 university students write an article for one of these journals each year as part of their ESP course. In addition to being graded for the course, the best articles are submitted to the journal editors who decide independently which to publish. Maintaining high but achievable standards produces a challenging but accessible target and an authentic writing environment as well as an additional "qualification" for the cv of those who are successfully published.

Biodata

David Gardner is Associate Director of the Centre for Applied English Studies at The University of Hong Kong. He teaches English for Special Purposes/Academic Purposes to undergraduate and postgraduate students; and Research Methods to postgraduate students. His research interests are in the fields of self-access language learning and computer-assisted language learning.