



## TEVAL NEWS

News and announcements from the JALT Testing and Evaluation SIG

Volume 2-1: June 2016

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Welcome to the second volume of TEVAL NEWS, the first issue for 2016. TEVAL is happy to announce that we have strengthened our association with the Japan Language Testing Association (JLTA). We will be cosponsoring JLTA's annual conference this year, and JLTA will be offering in turn, special rates for TEVAL members who wish to attend or present at the conference. Please read the announcement below for full details.

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### PanSIG 2016 in Okinawa

If you missed it, PanSIG 2016 in Okinawa may have been the best attended PanSIG to date. There were 345 registered participants, including 28 from outside of Japan. In all, 11 countries and 37 Japanese prefectures were represented. TEVAL sponsored a presentation by Charles Brown outlining the process by which he created a revised general service list for the 2000 most frequent English words and a new Academic Word List. The presentation was well attended and well received.



PanSIG 2017 will be held at Akita International University, May 20-21. It has been proposed by the conference planning committee that deadlines for SIG forums and featured speakers be set earlier than the general call for papers, possibly as early as the JALT International Conference in November. TEVAL officers have not yet come up with a definite proposal for next year's PanSIG forum, and are open to ideas from members. Any member with a suggestion for a forum topic or speaker, please [contact a TEVAL officer](#), preferably before the end of August.

### Statistics Corner project

For the past 6 months, a TEVAL editorial team has been working with JD Brown to organize 9 years of Statistics Corner columns from *Shiken* into book format. We have now completed formatting and proofreading, added a foreword, table of contents, and index, and sent the manuscript to JD for a final check. It has shaped up into a hefty volume of 350 pages, and the proofreaders all agree that when the thematically arranged columns are read sequentially, it makes an enjoyable read as well as a useful reference. There is still work to be done, but we are on track to have the book listed on Amazon.com and a free printed copy for all current TEVAL members in time for the JALT conference in November.

## PROMS 2016 Xian, China – Call for papers

The annual meeting of the Pacific Rim Objective Measurement Society (PROMS), the preeminent symposium for Rasch measurement in Asia, will be held August 1-3 in Xian, China. Pre-conference workshops introducing Rasch theory and software will be held July 30-31. Proposals for individual presentations are currently being accepted. Deadline for submission is June 30. For more details, please visit the PROMS website: <http://confchina.com/index.html>.

## The 20th Japan Language Testing Association Anniversary Conference (JLTA 2016)

### Call for Papers (Deadline: June 14)

The Japan Language Testing Association (JLTA) invites presentation proposals for its 20th anniversary conference. We look forward to receiving your proposals related to the conference theme, and to language testing and assessment in general. This year's conference will be co-sponsored by the Japan Association for Language Teaching (JALT) Testing and Evaluation Special Interest Group. Members of JALT TEVAL SIG can participate in and present at the conference in a similar manner as JLTA members can.

At this year's conference, the keynote speech and the symposium will be presented in English. We are also expecting presenters from our partner association, Korea English Language Testing Association (KELTA). We welcome proposals for presentations to be given in English.

Presenters will each have 20 minutes to present their papers; this will be followed by 10 minutes for discussion. Note that each participant can present multiple times, but only once as the paper's first presenter.

**Dates:** Workshops on Saturday, September 17. Symposium, presentations, and keynote speech by Gary Ockey of Iowa State University on Sunday, September 18.

**Venue:** Tokai University, Shonan Campus (4-1-1 Kitakaname, Hiratsuka-shi, Kanagawa 259-1292).  
[http://www.u-tokai.ac.jp/english/access.html#Anc\\_Shonan](http://www.u-tokai.ac.jp/english/access.html#Anc_Shonan)

**Theme:** Between Validity and Practicality of University Entrance Exams Based on Communication Skills: The Possibility of Reform.

**Fees:** Student, **JLTA Member, JALT TEVAL SIG Members: 1,000 yen**. Non-JLTA-members: 3,000 yen. For additional details, see the conference website: <https://jlta.ac/>

### Submission Guidelines

Those wishing to present papers should send the information listed below by e-mail to Kei Miyazaki [keimiyazaki67@gmail.com](mailto:keimiyazaki67@gmail.com). The subject line of the e-mail should read:

"JLTA 2016 Submission\_First Presenter Name" (e.g., "JLTA 2016 Submission\_Richard\_DAVIDSON").

Note that each participant can present multiple times, but only once as the paper's first presenter. After the review process, notification of acceptance will be sent to the contact persons via e-mail. Note that all information should be included in the text of the e-mail and no files should be sent as attachments.

JLTA will send applicants a letter of receipt via e-mail within 7 days of their submitting JLTA presentation proposals. In case a reply is not received from JLTA within 7 days, applicants are requested to send an inquiry to the JLTA Secretariat.

Please include the following information:

- 1) Presentation title
- 2) Names and affiliations of all presenters: The name should be given in English, in the order of first name followed by surname (e.g., Richard DAVIDSON).
- 3) A 400-word (or 800-Japanese-character) abstract
- 4) Name of contact person and his/her e-mail address
- 5) Any equipment required for the presentation (Please choose from the list below)
  - No equipment required
  - Projector (for computer)

\*If the presenters wish to use a projector, they should follow the procedures listed below:

- (a) Presenters should bring a PC. There will be an audio terminal connector (for PC connection through a stereo mini plug) and a D-sub 15-pin cable (for audio) in the presentation room. Mac users should bring their own Mini Display Port to VGA Adapter;
- (b) Presenters must take responsibility for connecting their PC to the projector;
- (c) Presenters should bring handouts as an alternative in case of technical failure.

Presenters may either be JLTA members, JALT TEVAL SIG members, or non-members. Please specify in the email if you are a TEVAL member. Non-members will be required to pay 3,000 yen (in addition to the Attendance Fees). This rule applies to all presenters on the program. The fee can be paid at the conference registration desk on the day of the conference. It is possible for presenters to obtain JLTA membership after their paper has been accepted. For further details, please contact the JLTA Secretariat.

Notifications regarding the acceptance or rejection of proposals will be sent no later than July 17, 2016 via e-mail.