

Dear Study Abroad SIG Members,

Happy 2019! I hope you're enjoying a good start to the year. Here's the latest SA SIG news!

1. Our Program Chair position is open. Duties involve coordinating SA SIG events such as finding speakers and arranging rooms to run the SA SIG Conference in September (tentative) and speakers at JALT-affiliated conference SA forums. If you are interested in helping in this capacity, send me an email at lyndell.nagashima@gmail.com by Sunday, January 20. SA SIG officers will vote for volunteered candidates and then notify members of the new Program Chair by the end of this month.

2. I'm seeking input for our SA forum at the JALT National in November. In recent years most plenary speakers have discussed their university study abroad programs. Therefore I would like focus on something different -- anyone currently doing or recently completed research to present findings related to SA topics. Please contact me with a brief explanation of your research and the data/findings you feel is relevant to our membership and study abroad in Japan.

3. In order to fulfill the SIG publication requirements and to stay in better contact with our members, we are starting a newsletter to be sent by email 2 or 3 times a year. If you are interested in gaining experience as an editor, contact me to be our new Newsletter Editor.

4. The Yokohama Chapter is running an SA-related event. For Tokyometro/Yokohama members, the details are below.

Jan 19, 2019: Study Abroad in Japanese Universities

Speakers: Alexander McAulay (YNU) & Toshiko Oda (TKU) from JALT Study Abroad SIG, plus a panel of students from Soka University, Tokyo Keizai University, and Yokohama National University.

Date: January 19, Saturday

Time: 15:30-18:30 Note this is later than usual!

Location: Big room, Yokohama Youth Centre (Google Maps). The Youth Center is in the basement under Kannai Hall (take the lift to the bottom floor). About 5 mins from Bashamichi and Sakuragicho, and even closer from Subway Blue Line Kannai station (come out exit 9, then walk past Starbucks).

Abstract: With universities giving more prominence to

internationalization, there has been an increased focus on the logistics and research opportunities related to Study Abroad programs. In this session, two university faculty members will talk about the Study Abroad programs in their respective university departments. There will be student co-presenters to talk about their experience as participants in these programs. The presentations will broadly focus on the three main phases of Study Abroad: pre-departure, during the sojourn abroad, and post-return.

For more info contact: yojaltpresident@yojalt.org

I look forward to hearing interest in the Program Chair and Newsletter Editor positions along with research to present at JALT SA Forum.

My best, Lyndell