

The Proceedings of
Teachers Helping Teachers
Learning Applications for a Developing Nation in the 21st Century

Lao-American College
Vientiane, Laos
March 20 - 25, 2007

Edited by
Brent A. Jones

With the cooperation of
Japan Association for Language Teaching (JALT)

Introduction

We are delighted to offer this collection of papers based on presentations delivered at Teachers Helping Teachers (THT) events during 2007, mainly at Lao-American College in Vientiane. The 2007 schedule included conferences in Vientiane, Laos (March 20-25), Hue, Vietnam (May 17-21) and Dhaka, Bangladesh (August 25-26).

These proceedings were prepared as a resource for participants, host institutions and other interested parties who may not have been able to attend. The number of THT presenters and participants continue to grow and the relationships formed at these events continue to blossom. We hope that the success of this year's events will continue to stimulate interest in future events and act as a springboard for further professional development and cross-cultural cooperation throughout the language teaching community in each of the countries.

Brent A. Jones
Editor

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Preface - THT 2007 Proceedings

By William M. Balsamo

In August THT has completed its third year of presenting quality seminars in developing countries. Our program this year was very ambitious and began in Laos at the Lao-American College in March. Seventeen teachers volunteered to participate in the seminar and represented eight countries. This was our first time in Laos and its success laid the foundation for an ongoing relationship and expanded program with LAC.

In May we returned to Hue, Vietnam at the University of Foreign Studies. Considering the time of year with teachers fully engaged in teaching at their home universities it was truly amazing that we were able to get twelve volunteers to present at the seminar. Our association with Hue University of Foreign Languages is especially valued as the prestige of the college is highly esteemed both within Vietnam and abroad.

Finally in August we returned for the third year to Bangladesh where our programs all began. The program in Bangladesh was varied and involved three separate seminars presented in immediate succession. Our first venue was at St Joseph's Secondary School where the participants consisted of the entire family. St. Joseph's is a prestigious high school in Dhaka.

This was followed by a seminar at Presidency University organized by BELTA (Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association) and concluded at NAEM (National Academy for Educational Management.) In spite of flooding, student demonstrations and military curfews the three programs in Bangladesh were well attended and greatly appreciated reflecting the resilience of both THT volunteers and local native teachers.

We anticipate further growth in the years to come and ambitious expansion. Our goal is to establish ongoing relationships with all of the institutions with which we work and to continue with our purpose in presenting quality seminars to further international understanding and professional growth.

As we look to our program for 2008 we hope to return to Laos, Vietnam and Bangladesh with additional programs which may include intensive Japanese language classes and mini-courses given by individual teachers over a period of one week on topics ranging from literature to speech writing to PowerPoint presentations.

The papers contained in these proceedings reflect only a portion of the more than one hundred presentations given at all three seminars. These proceedings would not have been possible without the dedication efforts of Professor Brent Jones and the generosity of Kobe Gakuin University who helped us to publish these works. These papers document our work and hopefully will become an ongoing addition to our programs.

Welcome back THT Year II

Ginny Van Ostrand, Co-director

Lao-American College and Chansavanh

The Lao-American College (LAC) extends to all presenters and support staff our deepest appreciation for your contributions and participation with us all.

Last year was our first year to participate in the THT program. Our acceptance into THT meant a very great deal to both students and staff. From the volunteers, many of whom had never been in Laos before, developed some on-going friendships and special collaboration. We hope for more the same again this year.

Additionally, this year we have extended invitations to other institutions and the Lao Ministry of Education to join with us all time permitting. However, only LAC teaches subject matter in English as well as English language skills at this time.

Our feeling is that THT not only provides valuable new ideas and techniques, it also is a stimulus for better understanding between and among teachers and students around the world. One of our own staff subsequently participated in the THT program in Vietnam. We encourage more such interaction.

In the future, we hope for more suggestions for implementing subject matter, using English as the language of instruction, and technology in the classroom. In our rapidly changing world, we in the least developed countries are heavily impacted by demographic explosions, climate changes, and ever-increasing need for more relevant education to keep in step with increasing global complexities and developing technologies. Sadly, available resources and funding do not keep pace with rising demand and cost, and education for teachers.

THT offers inspiration and supportive services for most teachers, most especially for those of us who are in the poorer countries. We thank you, the selfless volunteers who share your experience with us.

A slogan of the United Negro College Fund in the USA states that, “a mind is a terrible thing to waste!” Adherence to that universally accepted belief is why we all teach, must continually improve our techniques, and rise to the challenges of providing more and better education!

March 20, 2007 (Tuesday)

Time	Presenter	Topic
08:30 – 09:30	Ms. Ginny Van Ostrand	Welcome Message & Campus Tour
09:30 – 10:30	Mr. William Kay	Basic lesson preparation for EFL Classrooms
	Prof. Brent Jones	Instructional design & curriculum development
10:30 – 11:30	Ms. Kathy Riley	More than fun! Games for building community
	Dr. Patrick Dougherty	Creative writing in the EFL classroom: A grand student motivation
13:30 – 14:30	Mr. William Kay	Communicative storytelling
	Prof. Brent Jones	Automatic language growth: student attitudes and beliefs
14:30 – 15:30	Ms. Cindy Szamborski	Step by step confidence building in listening
	Prof. Ann Irish	40 or more suggestions, ideas, concepts and reminders for teaching English to Lao students
15:30 – 16:30	Ms. Kathy Riley	Ways with songs
	Dr. Patrick Dougherty	Pictures: tools for communication
18:00 – 19:00	Mr. William Balsamo	Creative group activities for ESL workshops
	Prof. Brent Jones	Business English activities for lower level students
19:00 – 20:00	Ms. Cecilia Silva	The “storied lesson” short stories in the classroom
	Prof. Ann Irish	Towards a vast, vital and vigorous vocabulary

March 21, 2007 (Wednesday)

Time	Presenter	Topic
08:30 – 09:30	Ms. Yuki Takahashi	Native and non-native speakers
	Ms. Cindy Szamborski	Guided writing: lightening the burden of the learner
09:30 – 10:30	Ms. Kathy Riley	Ways with film
	Dr. Patrick Dougherty	Native culture as a powerful tool for L2 acquisition
10:30 – 11:30	Mr. William Kay	Informative gaps activities: culture-travel theme
	Prof. Ann Irish	Grasping the main idea
13:30 – 14:30	Ms. Yuki Takahashi	Learning styles in and out of the classroom
14:30 – 15:30	Mr. Charles Kowalski	Storytelling in the language classroom
15:30 – 16:30	Ms. Cecilia Silva	Literature in the language class: group activities
18:00 – 19:00	Mr. Charles Kowalski	Being a teacher of peace
	Dr. Patrick Dougherty	Formal speeches: tools for improving communication
19:00 – 20:00	Ms. Yuki Takahashi	Motivational activities
	Mr. William Balsamo	Back to basics: using PC in the ESL classroom – pencil and chalk

March 22, 2007 (Thursday)

Time	Presenter	Topic
08:30 – 09:30	Mr. Charles Kowalski	Monster classes
	Dr. Patrick Dougherty	Graphic organizers: keys to effective communication
09:30 – 10:30	Ms. Cindy Szamborski	Learning vocabulary from speaking
	Mr. William Balsamo	Online college interviews with foreign students
10:30 – 11:30	Ms. Toshiko Onishi	Communicative activities
	Ms. Cecilia Silva	Working with the generative words in foreign language teaching
13:30 – 14:30	Mr. Colin Graham	Speak, talk, say, tell; “what’s the difference?”
	Mr. William Balsamo	Online reading lab for ESL students
14:30 – 15:30	Mr. Colin Graham	An introduction to British sign language
	Prof. Dennis Woolbright	Raising English ability through making speeches
15:30 – 16:30	Ms. Toshiko Onishi	Simple activities for slow learners
	Prof. Ronald Klein	Creativity exercise for creative writing
18:00 – 19:00	Mr. Chris Ruddenklau	L + R Teaching pronunciation
	Prof. Dennis Woolbright	Using drama in the classroom
19:00 – 20:00	Mr. Chris Ruddenklau	Sequencing thoughts in English
	Prof. Ronald Klein	More creativity exercises for creative writing

March 23, 2007 (Friday)

Time	Presenter	Topic
08:30 – 10:00	Prof. Ronald Klein	Teaching Asian English literature
	Mr. Roger Palmer	Building listening proficiency
10:00 – 11:30	Prof. Ronald Klein	The tennis way of conversation
	Mr. Roger Palmer	Creating a classroom culture of English: classroom instructor
13:30 – 14:30	Mr. Colin Graham	The corpus in the classroom
	Mr. Chris Ruddenklau	Reading the news
14:30 – 15:30	Mr. Colin Graham	Blooming materials
	Ms. Toshiko Onishi	Peace studies through English
15:30 – 16:30	Prof. Dennis Woolbright	Lateral thinking
	Mr. Colin Graham	Getting flash with flashcards
18:00 – 20:00	LAC Students	Cultural Performance

March 24, 2007 (Saturday)

Time	Presenter	Topic
08:30 – 10:00	Ms. Maggie Lieb	Teaching debate skills to intermediate and lower level students/Global citizenship education for East Asian students
	Mr. Colin Graham	Activities with news stories
10:00 – 11:30	Ms. Maggie Lieb	Listening through music: reducing anxiety and increasing enjoyment
	Mr. Roger Palmer	Participation and interaction in pairs and groups
Farewell Party		