produce the best essays with the least mistakes, and would therefore receive higher score values than their Management Department comrades. This, however, was not the case.

To complete the study, the researchers selected a small number of high and low performers and conducted interviews in order to learn more about their background and how the differences may have occurred.

M013

Aug. 31/9:30-10:55/Bld1 R302

Performance-oriented Approach – Conducting Annual Oral Communication Festivals

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The JACET Oral Communication Study Group has conducted annual performance festivals for 15 years. Students taught by the SIG members gather and perform a variety of oral activities such as dramas and public speaking. Both teachers and the students comment on each performance; however, no competition is involved. Active performance is enhanced by empathetic audience. This synergy creates a great learning environment. The participants gain sense of achievement and confidence. They are also observed to keep motivation until well after the festival. Thus, the whole process including pre- and post- activities can be referred to as “Performance-Oriented Approach”.

This symposium features four speakers who have contributed to the festivals. They will discuss the processes and effects of the festival. Challenges in terms of preparation and management of the festival will also be discussed.

One discussion topic will be how this “Performance-Oriented Approach” is effective to students with only limited English proficiency. In particular, kinds of assistance necessary for leading them to their successful drama performance will be illustrated.

Another topic will be how the process of making drama is integrated to a regular class. The festival helps increase students’ vocabulary and cultural awareness and gives them the confidence to speak in a range of situations.

A typical process of making a drama of compiled scripts will be explained; the scripts are based on the participants’ own experiences and observations. The project has proved to enhance students’ awareness and insights into other cultures.

The speakers will argue for the festival, including preparation and follow-up activities, as a “Performance-Oriented Approach” although their purposes and procedures are distinctive. The symposium will include video clips of the festivals. Those who have interest in holding this kind of festival are greatly encouraged.