



6th International Symposium on Academic Writing and Critical Thinking 2026

Thinking Outside the Bot: Creativity and Diversity Date: February 14, 2026 Venue: Nagoya University



Time	Featured Presentations (Location: Sand Theater, Common Nexus)	
10:15–10:30	Registration	
10:30–10:45	Welcome Remarks	Prof. Shin Nayatani (Director, ILAS / Professor, Graduate School of Mathematics, Nagoya University)
10:45–11:30	INVITED TALK	Prof. Satoko Shao-Kobayashi (Chiba University) From Audience to Creator: A Critical Approach to Racialized Representation in Media
11:30–12:15	INVITED TALK	Prof. Ryan Spring (Tohoku University) Using AI in the EFL Writing Classroom: A Balanced Approach?
12:15–13:45	Lunch Break	
13:45–14:30	FEATURED PRESENTATION	Dr. Solomon Leong (SOLOMON BLOEMEN) AI Bloom Where Humans Wilt? Exploring Floristry's Essence in an Algorithmic Age
14:30–14:45	Transition — Please move from the Common Nexus to Building A for Parallel Sessions	

PARALLEL SESSIONS 1 (14:45–16:15) — Location: Building A			
Time	Room A31: Academic Writing, Genre, and Research Communication	Room A32: Writing Pedagogy and Academic Practice	Room A33: Language Learning, Psychology, and Analysis
14:45–15:15	Story as Methodology: A Mixed-Genre for Creativity in Academic Writing Pauline Baird International College of Technology, Kanazawa	Sub-Text: Mission Creep and Writing Pedagogy Ian Maloney Sugiyama Jogakuen University	The Search for Authorial Identity in Academic Writing: Cultivating a Distinctive Voice in the Era of AI Robert MacIntyre Sophia University
15:15–15:45	Language is Necessary but not Sufficient: Knowledge and Creativity in Scholarship and Science Chad Nilep Nagoya University	Promoting Process over Product: Assigning Unconventional Bite-Sized Assignments as an Antidote to AI Dependence Joel Deacon Florida Institute of Technology	Pending
15:45–16:15	Moving Beyond the Gaps: Expanding Our Mental Models for Research Problems Nathan Hammlitsch Nagoya University	Pending	Evolving Writing Identity in a Japanese EFL Course: Voice, Agency, and Cultural Negotiation in Professional Genres Nooshin Goharimehr Nagoya University of Foreign Studies

16:15–16:30	Coffee Break		
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PARALLEL SESSIONS 2 (16:30–18:00) — Location: Building A			
Time	Room A31: Sociocultural Perspectives and Identity	Room A32: Technology, Media, and Communication	Room A33: Applied Pedagogy and Program Design
16:30–17:00	Re-examining the Case Study Method through Meta-Analysis: Bridging Research Gaps in Critical Thinking and Academic Writing Pedagogy May Oo Khin Nagoya University of Commerce and Business	Pending	Creative Paraphrasing Through Film Adaptation: A Modern Retelling of Jane Austen's Emma Khadijah Omar Kyushu University
17:00–17:30	From A to Zine: Can Literacy Skills Help Students Unlock Their Creative Potential? Adam Miller / Jessica Zoni Upton Nanzan University	Cultivating Creativity in the Age of AI: Practical Insights for Teachers and Learners Jason D. Gold Sagami Women's University	Summary of Current Services Offered at 7 Writing Centers in the United States Jon Harrison Nihon University
17:30–18:00	Pending	TEFL Composition as an Art of the Contact Zone: Leveraging Students' Linguistics Awareness and Creativity Bobby H. Nawbary Aomori Prefectural Oma Senior High School	Mei-Writing Spring Camp as a Novel Study-Abroad Program Paul Lai / Ryan Barnes Nagoya University
18:00	Symposium Close		19:00: Symposium Dinner at Shooters

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