

May 19, 2022

27th Biannual ISLS Newsletter

by International Society of the Learning Sciences



27th Biannual Newsletter

Theme: Equity and Justice

Introduction to the Newsletter

Welcome to our 27th Biannual ISLS Newsletter! This newsletter is focused on the upcoming Annual Meeting ISLS2022. In our “Get with the Program/s” segment, we bring you some important updates and information about some of the events, academic and social, planned for ISLS2022. We look forward to a vibrant and inspiring meeting and hope to virtually see many of you on the two platforms of the meeting - Whova and Gather.Town. Please also stay tuned for additional information through our mailing list as we near the conference start date.

We are also pleased to publish your ISLS humor, in our special segment “ISLS Witticisms”. Thank you to those who played along, and we hope these provide you with a stress-relieving chuckle.

Yours truly and always listening,
ISLS Communications Committee.

In this issue...

Statement from the President
ISLS 2022 Annual Meeting
Education Committee
Equity and Justice Committee
Publications Committee
Journal of the Learning Sciences
ijCSCL
Your ISLS Witticisms

Statement from the President

Contributed by Oskar Lindwall



The second annual meeting of the learning sciences starts in just a couple of weeks. Jun Oshima, Toshio Mochizuki, Yusuke Hayashi, the program committee co-chairs of the two conferences, and all the other co-chairs have done a fantastic job in preparing for the meeting. The program promises an exciting conference with many great sessions and presentation. The program also offers several social activities and opportunities for networking. I especially encourage all new members to join the new member session at the first day of the conference. The format of the conference is similar to the one used at last year's online meeting in Bochum. This means that we need to accommodate to different time zones, and that the local organizers have some really long days ahead of them. Although this also means that some presentations must be given at early mornings and late nights, I am confident that the organizers have provided us with the best possible solution given the current circumstances.

As my term as President is ending, I would like to express my gratitude for the opportunity to serve our community and to collaborate with such a fantastic set of colleagues. It has been a privilege to follow the hard work of our different committees, editors, and conference organizers from the inside. Our committees are a great way for the membership to get involved in the work of the community. If you are not involved already, we invite you to consider serving, and to approach the leadership of the committees if you are interested in getting involved. At the closing of the ISLS Annual Meeting, I will assume the role of Past-president, Joshua Danish becomes the new President, and Ravit Duncan moves into the role of President-Elect. Victor Lee, who has been on the board since 2015 will transition off as Past-president and as a board member, but the different initiatives that he has started will remain central to the society for years to come. I would especially like to thank the Secretary, Jasmine Ma, and the Executive Officer, Susan Goldman. For many years, they have been essential to the workings of the society, and I cannot imagine how I would have managed this year without them. I am looking forward to seeing you at our upcoming meeting!

Oskar Lindwall
2021-2022 ISLS President

ISLS 2022

Contributed by Jun Oshima & Toshio Mochizuki

Get with the Program/s

The two Program Committees together with the Local organizing Committee (LOC) has put together two wonderful programs for the ICLS and CSCL conferences, which are now available on the conference website (<https://2022.isls.org/program/>) and on the Whova platform. In the meantime you can explore the 9 pre-conference workshops featuring facilitators from universities across the globe and on a wide variety of current and innovative areas- check them out here: <https://2022.isls.org/pre-conference-workshops/>. These are free with conference registration!

In this segment we would like to highlight four aspects of the ISLS2022 Annual Meeting: 1) the Gather.Town conference venue- a space to meet and socialize throughout the meeting; 2) there are two main time zone blocks for presentations conducive to members in Asia/Americas and Asia-Europe/Africa; 3) special events throughout the conference, and 4) local events in Hiroshima for those who would like to join in-person. We also have a few pointers for making the annual meeting productive and welcoming for everyone.

1. Gather.Town - Be there or be square

Those of you who participated in ISLS2021 may be familiar with the wonderful Gather.Town (GT) virtual gardens inspired by Botanical Garden of Ruhr University Bochum constructed for that meeting; the space was truly beautiful. GT allows people to move around and see others in the space, when you move closer to someone else they are able to hear you when you speak, much like in real spaces. You can find spaces designated as “private” in GT and have conversations among a small group of people. It is a great place to have all those extra-curricular meetings we cherish where one can catch up with old friends and colleagues or meet up with new ones. It mimics, as best it can, those in-between spaces and interactions at meetings that are missing from virtual meeting rooms.

This year several organized events will take place in GT, but the space is open at all times to all those who registered for the meeting. Poster sessions and structured symposia will be held there so attendees can “physically” move between posters and visit multiple presenters. Other events (see special events below) will also be held in GT.

2. Time zones

General sessions will begin from 1 pm HAST/ 4 pm PDT/ 7 pm EDT/8 am JST (next day)/ 9 am AEST (next day) for Asia-Americas friendly presentations, and from 4 pm JST/ 9 am CEST/ 12:30 pm IST for Asia-Europe/Africa friendly presentations. Note that sessions in JST and AEST start in the morning of day 2, whereas sessions for the Americas start the evening of day 1. Each session will be approximately 80 minutes, and there are three consecutive sessions for the Asia-Americas friendly time zone and two consecutive sessions for the Asia-Europe/Africa friendly time zone. Poster presentations will be held every morning and evening in Japan Standard Time (JST).

- Japan Standard Time- (JST)
- Australia Eastern Standard Time (AEST)
- Hawaii-Aleutian Standard Time (HAST)
- Central European Summer Time (CEST)
- Pacific Time (PDT)
- Eastern Time (EDT)

- Indian Standard Time (IST)

3. Local Events in Hiroshima

If you would like to join the annual meeting in Hiroshima in person, you may come there! Local events will have lunch for reflection (sharing the studies presented in the morning sessions), and some local short tours toward a workshop to discuss the Learning Sciences contribution to peace and justice there. For more details, please visit -<https://jsetsig06core.wixsite.com/isls2022-events>. For those of you who are fully vaccinated (including booster) and coming from countries/regions whose visa exemption arrangements with Japan have been temporarily suspended you can obtain a short-term visa to visit Japan from June 2nd to June 14th. This requires some assistance from the LOC. Visit the “How to Apply” page, <https://jsetsig06core.wixsite.com/isls2022-events/contact>, to learn more and begin the process. In order to obtain your visa that is required for every visitor, please visit the application form on the website to contact the LOC as soon as possible so you may get some documents from us that are necessary to apply the visa at the Japanese Embassy or Consulate in your region!

4. Special Events

ISLS2022 will also include a variety of special events:

- New Members Sessions (Day 1): New or “newer” to the society? We welcome all the first-time and recent members of the ISLS Community to this session. The Membership Committee will provide some tricks-of-the-trade for having a productive Annual Meeting! There will also be an opportunity to share your work through poster presentations and meet with some of the wonderful mentors in our community. Visit <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/isjapan/687918> to upload your poster presentations by May 20th, as well as to register for the NMS!
- Meet the Editors: Want to publish your LS research? Editors from several journals sponsored by or related to the ISLS Community will provide information about their journal and about publishing in general. Represented journals include: Journal of the Learning Sciences, International Journal of Computer-Supported Collaborative Learning, Instructional Science, Information and Learning Sciences, Journal of Learning Analytics.
- Committee Spotlights: Ever wonder what the various ISLS committees do for you? Representatives from the multiple committees will introduce their charge, current efforts and initiatives, and ways to get involved. ISLS committees include: Membership, Publications, Education, Communication, Technology, Equity & Justice, and the International Learning Sciences Students Association.
- Student Research Crossover Party: Looking to meet other students? ILSSA (International Learning Sciences Student Association) will host a get-together for students where you play some games, meet other students, and generally relax in good company.
- Early Career Spotlights: Want to see where the field is going? We will spotlight a number of talented early career scholars in this session. You can learn about their current work, their journey, and their future plans. Wonderful opportunity to learn with and from the next generation of scholars in our field.
- Cultural events: Want to learn more about local culture and practices? Join a variety of events from the traditional theatrical dance “Kagura” developed as a form of pray (opening session) to Japanese “Radio Taisou” workouts (daily before the sessions begin) to learn and enjoy.

Registration

Early registration closed last week; we hope you were able to take advantage of the reduced rates. As you noticed, the society introduced a new fee structure for the Annual Meeting registration that reflects our ongoing efforts towards equity and justice. The new fee structure is geared towards making participation in this event more affordable to members from Middle or Low Income countries and those earlier in their scholarly careers. We have also provided information about what these fees

pay for in terms of the various aspects of a virtual conference- you can read more about it here: <https://www.isls.org/news/isls-annual-meeting-registration-fees/>.

Merchandise

ISLS2022 has merchandise! You can get t-shirts, tank top, or a tote bag. Check out the ISLS2022 society6 site - <https://society6.com/isls2022>

A Few Important Points to Keep in Mind

The Annual Meeting offers a space to share research, meet colleagues, and become better acquainted with the society. For many of our members, participating at these meetings is exciting but can also be stressful--especially if they are newer to the field, multilingual and English not their first language, are contending with visible or invisible disabilities, or are from communities (nationally or globally) that have been, and continue to be, marginalized as people and as thinkers. Please listen to others with an open mind. Query with kindness and grace, from a position of one who wants to understand. Be mindful of the impact of your words rather than your intent. Be caring and careful.

The virtual spaces we are using in this meeting privilege particular ways of being and interacting. We must be mindful of how they may invisibilize, hinder, and silence some in our community, and we need to actively work against it. Attend to which voices are being heard and which are not, attend to how much space you are taking up, attend to silencing language and behavior, and if you see something say something.

Last, but not least, to those of us who are in mentorship roles by virtue of expertise, seniority, or what have you- please do your part to support the development of those who are newer. Be present. Attend poster sessions and learn about new ideas. Many presenters at poster sessions are students and early career scholars, show up for them, listen, learn, and mentor. Hang out at Gather.Town, join the various planned social events, and get to know colleagues--old and new. We are a growing community and we benefit the most when everyone participates. Virtual conferencing may not be your favorite way to engage in a conference, but for some, it is the only way they can participate safely and fully. A huge benefit of a virtual conference is that it expands who gets to attend, share their ideas, and learn. Take advantage of the virtual space to make connections you might not otherwise have ever made! A lot of thought, time, and effort went into the planning of this meeting, let's make the most of it because we can and because we should.

Education Committee

Contributed by Crina Damsa & Julia Eberle

The Education Committee proudly announces several activities at the upcoming conference as well as ongoing projects to advance its overall mission of mentoring the professional needs of the ISLS members and for supporting, through its activities, the integration of new members into the Society:

- Following a long standing tradition, a Doctoral Consortium, an Early Career Workshop, and a Mid Career Workshop are part of the 2022 Annual Meeting. We congratulate the scholars who have been selected for participation this year! You can meet the promising young scholars and learn about their work at the Early Career Spotlight Session (sponsored by NSF) scheduled on Thursday, June 9th or later via the ISLS social media accounts.
- If you want to learn more about the Network of Academic Programs in the Learning Sciences (NAPLeS), its member programs, and how your program can join the network, meet us at the NAPLeS open house session, scheduled on Friday, June 10!

- For those who have been missing the personal discussions at the conference, we recommend the new Humans of the Learning Sciences Podcast-Series. In the first episode, host and developer Mon-Lin Monica Ko talks with Dr. Joe Curnow about how she discovered the Learning Sciences and found her niche in the field. Dr. Curnow is currently an assistant professor at University of Manitoba and studies the learning that happens as people participate in social movements. The podcast-series is available on [Apple podcasts](#), [Anchor](#), and [Spotify](#) and is supported by the Learning Sciences Research Institute at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC).
- The initiative on “teacher education and the learning sciences” has recently sent out a survey to explore the ways that learning sciences, ideas, and other resources are being utilized in Teacher Education courses and professional development experiences. The data is currently being analyzed in order to generate some new ideas for how the learning sciences and teacher education can interface. We thank everyone who has participated in this survey!
- If you want to learn more about these initiatives and projects under development or consider contributing to the Education Committee, just get in touch, e.g. at the Committee Spotlight or the Committee Meeting during the conference. New members and new ideas are always welcome, no matter of seniority level!

Equity and Justice Committee

Contributed by Shirin Vossoughi & Kris Gutiérrez

The ISLS Equity and Justice Committee has been convening regularly since its inception in 2021. During this time period, the committee has developed its [charge](#) through dialogue with the ISLS board, committees and members, organized key routine practices and sub-committees to carry forward initiatives and goals that expand equity and justice in the society, and sustained close communication with the broader ISLS leadership around key ideas and challenges. The current sub-committee structure of the E & J committee includes four key strands: 1) An emerging speaker series organized around equity in a global context; 2) internal educational initiatives to support the thinking and learning of the society around equity and justice; 3) addressing barriers to participation in ISLS; and 4) expanding mentorship models and practices to support the next generation of learning scientists. The committee has also been working closely with Maxine McKinney de Royston and Leema Berland as the leads of the Wallace Foundation fellowship and initiative in order to mutually support one another in resonant work.

Central to the development of the E & J committee has been a model of work that seeks to avoid some of the common pitfalls that are sometimes associated with diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives. This includes the risks of offloading E & J work to a named committee in ways that constrain the deeper purposes of building capacity amongst all board and society members to meaningfully engage with issues of equity and justice across our work as scholars, educators, mentors and partners within various communities. Our work also includes concerted efforts to situate equity and justice in their global contexts and understand the nuances and complexities of how these issues take shape within and across cultural communities. This has involved serving as a thinking partner with multiple ISLS committees and members to bring forward and work to address key issues of equity and justice in our society, and in the field more broadly. We look forward to continuing this collective work.

Equity and Justice Committee co-chairs will be sharing more about this work on Thursday, June 9th as part of an ICLS symposium on “Regional and socio-epistemic heterogeneity in the learning sciences: Supporting transnational dialogues on equity and justice.”

Publications Committee

Contributed by Sherice Clarke & David Stroupe

The Publications FAQ, a resource that provides insights into the ISLS publications policy that is aimed at supporting scholars to publish their work. The Publications FAQ provides some answers to copyright related questions, including when authors need to ask permission from ISLS, how to ask for permission, why ISLS is not using creative commons licenses and many more. We recirculate the Publications FAQ at this time to refresh ISLS members' awareness of this resource. Please find the Publications FAQ on the ISLS website: <https://www.isls.org/publications-faq/>

The ISLS Publications Committee will host asynchronous Office Hours throughout the ISLS 2022 Annual Meeting for attendees to ask questions about publications related matters. If you've ever had questions like, "what happens if I want to publish part of my ICLS conference paper in another venue? or... what are the copyright policies of the society and what do they mean for you?" then come to Office Hours and chat with us. Stay tuned and join us on Whova and the ISLS community page.

Journal of the Learning Sciences

Contributed by Susan Jurow & Jianwei Zhang

The Journal of the Learning Sciences team is working on a few initiatives that we hope will expand learning sciences research and further support our ethical development as scholars.

This spring, we published a thoughtful and creative Special Issue on "Learning in and through the Arts" co-edited by Drs. Erica Halverson & Keith Sawyer (<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/hlms20/31/1>).

We have a new Call for Papers for a Special Issue on the ecologies of interdisciplinary learning, led by Drs. Lina Markauskaite, Baruch Schwarz, Crina Damşa, and Hanni Muukkonen. Their aim "is to create an integrated theoretical, methodological and empirical platform for advancing interdisciplinary learning and highlight the main lines for future work so that researchers, designers, and practitioners can more rigorously and holistically address the issues of interdisciplinary learning." Please take a look at the call and share your work as relevant!

We are working closely with the ISLS Publications committee and ijCSCL to pilot a "mentoring for publication" program that will focus on supporting early career scholars and researchers from majority countries to publish their research.

We are also developing a set of explicit norms around reviewing articles so that we can ensure that our reviews are constructive, supportive, and respectful. A practice we hope to support is inviting reviewers to ask themselves before submitting a review: How would I feel if I received this review (especially as a scholar who may have less power in the field)?



And last, let's give three cheers for our Reviewers of the Year 2022! Thank you for showcasing thoughtful and respectful practices as JLS reviewers!

Luke Conlin – Salem State University, U.S.A.

Sugat Dabholkar – Northwestern University, U.S.A.

Colin Hennessy Elliot – University of Colorado, Boulder and Utah State University, U.S.A.

Danielle Keifert – University of North Texas, U.S.A.

Chandra Orrill – UMass Dartmouth, U.S.A.

Antti Rajala – University of Oulu, Finland

Ben Rydal Shapiro – Georgia State University, U.S.A.

Katie Headrick Taylor – University of Washington, Seattle, U.S.A.

Eli Tucker-Raymond – Boston University, U.S.A.

ijCSCL

Contributed by Lenka Schnaubert & Freydis Vogel (ijCSCL Special Issue Guest Editors)

ijCSCL – Special Issue

After almost two years of intense work, we are very proud to announce the first open-call special issue being published in the Spring issue of the International Journal of Computer-Supported Collaborative Learning (ijCSCL) with the title *Integrating Collaboration Scripts, Group Awareness, and Self-Regulation in Computer-Supported Collaborative Learning*.

This has been an extraordinarily exciting experience for all of us in the most difficult of times and we would like to thank all authors, co-authors, reviewers, the Springer team, and particularly the ijCSCL chief-editors Carolyn Rose and Sanna Jäverlä. Without the immense collaborative effort and time everyone committed to spend on this project, the successful and timely publication of the Special Issue would not have been possible. - Kudos to you and Thank You so much!

With this Special Issue, we want to raise awareness to the potential of more integrative, interdisciplinary, and international approaches to CSCL research. Thus, we decided for a topic that integrates three vital CSCL topics: Collaboration Scripts, Group Awareness, and Self-Regulation. It seemed to be timely to approach research groups in the three fields to put together a Special Issue showcasing the emerging projects integrating these topics. Read more about the rationale, the included papers, and the contributing authors in our guest-editorial here:

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11412-022-09367-9>

Another important goal of this Special Issue is to represent the kaleidoscopic variety of different perspectives on these CSCL topics. In parallel to the commonalities of integrating the three CSCL topics (Collaboration Scripts, Group Awareness, and Self-Regulation), the collection of studies represents the existing CSCL lenses regarding the subject perspective (e.g., computer science, education, psychology) as well as research groups from diverse location around the globe (Chile, Germany, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, UK, US) and the broad spectrum of CSCL methodologies. With gathering this collection of exciting research papers, we hope to inspire future CSCL research, fruitful exchange, and the integration of diverse perspectives on core topics in the CSCL field.

We wish you an exciting and inspiring time when reading this first open-call Special Issue of ijCSCL!

Your ISLS Witticisms

Contributed by the Communications Committee

We asked for jokes and you delivered... a little bit. We know this community can do better. We are therefore sharing three changing-the-lightbulb jokes with the hope of getting a trend started. You can continue sending us more endings and we will add them to the next newsletter or maybe, just maybe, feature them at the meeting. Submit other endings, or entirely new jokes here: www.isls.org/newsletter/

Q: How many embodied learning scientists does it take to change a lightbulb?

A: None. You don't change the light bulb. The light bulb changes you.

Q: How many learning scientists does it take to change a lightbulb?

A: None, because learning scientists don't like to change.

Q: How many DBR iterations does it take to change a lightbulb?

A: We'll let you know when we're done conjoketure mapping!