



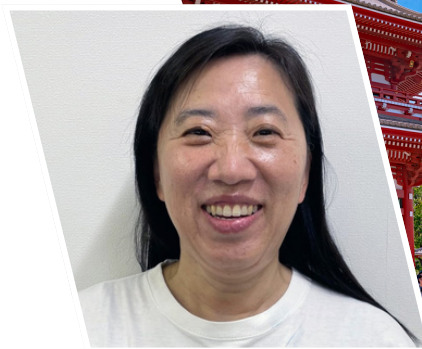
2025

TITLE

Service Learning as Part of Lifelong Learning: “Doctors of the World” as a case study

Speaker: Akiko Mera & Joseph Dias

Presentation Type: Workshop



Abstract

Service learning is a pedagogical approach that integrates academically relevant service activities into a curriculum. Since international non-profits often use English as a lingua franca, placements can offer students a setting where they must use English to accomplish concrete objectives, which could involve fundraising, advocacy, or direct contact with beneficiaries. Such experiences have the potential to shape their future career and vocational choices. The co-presenters will explain the sorts of collaborations that are possible between teachers and such organizations. Workshop participants will have ample opportunities to discuss how these kinds of collaborations might be possible in their particular teaching setting.

Biography

Akiko Mera is the current Executive Director of Medecins du Monde Japan. In this role, she works to ensure access to health for all. She is firmly committed to empowering communities and creating open dialogues with different constituencies. In that capacity, she has been active with grassroots organizations both nationally and internationally to raise awareness, advocate and mobilize for food security and access to health.

Joseph Dias coordinates the Integrated English Program for the English Department of Aoyama Gakuin University in Tokyo. Originally from Silicon Valley, he is passionate about guerrilla gardening, photography, and marine videography.