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TITLE:

PANSIG PERCEPTIONS: A THEMATIC ANALYSIS OF GRANT REPORTS

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PRESENTATION TYPE: PLENARY

Abstract

Grants allow practitioners and scholars from a wide range of contexts to attend conferences, but what do recipients actually get out of attending? This presentation highlights findings from a qualitative study of written reports submitted by recipients of the PanSIG Transportation Grant, examining how they perceived the conference and what value they drew from it. Rather than surveying or interviewing participants directly, the researchers applied a hybrid thematic analysis to the existing reports. Three themes emerged: community and belonging, understood through the lens of communities of practice; identity, drawing on Norton's framework of investment; and professional development. Findings suggest that for many recipients, the grant did more than remove a financial barrier, opening pathways to peer networks, a sense of belonging, and professional identity work. The presentation closes with implications for conference organisers and grant committees, and invites attendees to reflect on what we all take away from the conferences we attend.

Biography

Chelanna is an English language instructor at Reitaku University, Chiba and Director of Program for the Japan Association for Language Teaching. She holds an M.Ed in TESOL from the University of British Columbia. Her research interests are in student autonomy and language teacher identity through a queer lens.