



**TITLE: Taking Your Show on the Road**  
**SPEAKER: MELODIE COOK**  
**PRESENTATION TYPE: PLENARY**

## **Abstract**

In this presentation, Melodie will explain her process for preparing for a presentation. From choosing a conference to apply for to preparing for the presentation, she will walk participants through the steps she takes. She hopes that prospective presenters will take away confidence in their ability to give effective presentations.

Showing examples of her past presentations as a jumping-off point, she will also talk about her strategy of using presentations as a first-step to dealing with data, issues with choosing conferences to apply to, recycling presentations for maximum coverage, and dealing with hecklers. She will also address the issue of female presenters' tendency to undermine their knowledge and encourage participants to support women at all stages of their academic journey.

Finally, she will give advice, based on research, on how to ensure presentations are accessible to neurodiverse audiences.

## **Bio**

Dr. Melodie Cook teaches at the University of Niigata Prefecture. She holds a PhD in Applied Linguistics from Macquarie University. Her current research focuses on neurodiverse teachers of English in Japan. Her past research has focused on gender representation in textbooks, non-Japanese English faculty participation in the entrance exam creation process, non-Japanese families raising children in

Japan, neurodiversity and schooling in Japan and teacher engagement with technology in Japan. She is currently the Book Reviews Editor for JALT Journal.