AACE “Best Practices” Proposal

The Development of an E-learning Resource Database in Japan

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Abstract: The Amano Institute for Foreign Language Research (Dokkyo University, Japan) is engaged in a number of projects aimed at advancing the field of foreign language education in Japan. One of the projects in progress is the development of an online database of e-learning resources specifically aimed at teaching staff and students engaged in foreign language education in Japan. After briefly introducing the range of present ongoing projects at the Institute, this presentation will then showcase the e-learning database resource being developed, focusing on some of the e-learning resources presently identified and gathered, their practical applications to education in Japan, and how these resources have been practically implemented in the higher education classroom in Japan.

In our ever-globalizing world, the importance of foreign language education is widely acknowledged. In Japan, where foreign language education is perceived as the key to maintaining global economic competitiveness, this importance is reflected in the recent changes at all levels of education in Japan—the introduction of foreign language education in elementary school, the increasing emphasis on intercultural and oral communication skills in secondary school, and the revamping of language education programs and facilities at schools of higher education.

The newly-organized Amano Institute for Foreign Language Research (Dokkyo University, Japan) is engaged in a number of projects aimed at advancing the field of foreign language education in Japan. As a research fellow at the Amano Institute, the presenter is involved in a number of these present ongoing projects. One of the projects in progress is the development of an online database of e-learning resources specifically aimed at teaching staff and students engaged in foreign language education in Japan.

After briefly introducing the range of presently ongoing projects at the Institute, this presentation will then showcase the e-learning database resource being developed, focusing on some of the e-learning resources presently identified and gathered, their practical applications to education in Japan, and how these resources have been practically implemented in the higher education classroom in Japan.