

From the Editor-in-Chief

I am Shigeki Mayama, taking over as Editor-in-Chief from Dr. Katayama starting with this volume of the Asian Journal of Biology Education (AJBE). Dr. Katayama has led AJBE for 20 years since it began in 2002, passionately contributing to advancing biology education in Asia through the journal. I aim to continue his work, working to expand the reach of this journal, and I'm excited to collaborate with AABE members and AJBE readers.

Since last year, we've assigned DOIs to all papers, making them accessible to the public through J-Stage (<https://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/browse/ajbe/list/>). J-Stage, run by the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), is an electronic journal platform that facilitates the publication of journals. Bibliographic data of articles on J-Stage are sent to databases like Google Scholar, allowing global access to papers published in AJBE.

Starting from vol. 15, individual papers are released on J-Stage as "Online First" before being published in a single volume. This gives authors the advantage of early publication. Consequently, the individual papers featured in this vol. 15 have already been published on J-Stage, including one opinion, three country reports, one practical report, and one miscellaneous.

Over the past two years, manuscripts contributed to AJBE have undergone peer review by individuals, including Editorial Board members and the following: Professor Hiroaki Asaga (Meiji University, Japan), Ms Kwan Mei Yam (The Chinese University of Hong Kong, HKSAR), Dr. Sonia D. Jacinto (The University of the Philippines, Diliman, Philippines), Professor Takeshi Katayama (Takasaki University of Health and Welfare, Japan), and Professor Robert Wallis (Federation University, Australia). I express my sincere gratitude for their dedicated efforts in critically reviewing the manuscripts.

To elevate AJBE into a premier journal, we encourage submissions from our readers. The overall quality of the journal is enriched by a substantial number of manuscripts and the vibrant discussions that occur during the peer-review process. I enthusiastically welcome submissions to AJBE in all fields related to biology education and environmental education. I appreciate everyone's cooperation and support in this endeavor. Thank you.

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