

Mahboubeh Rakhshanderhroo
JALT 2025 Award for Early Career Excellence

Letter 1

I am writing to nominate Dr Mahboubeh Rakhshandehroo for the Early Career Excellence Award.

Mahboubeh is a tireless researcher with a formidable network and an already prolific body of publications focused on Japanese education and beyond. She is committed to contributing to her academic community, organizing countless events and talks through her role as Team Coordinator (and previously Symposium Chair) of the Integrating Content and Language in Higher Education (ICLHE) East Asia regional group. Mahboubeh has also contributed to organizing JALT events over the years.

Mahboubeh has engaged in an array of international and local joint research projects addressing diverse issues including COIL, NNES teachers, EMI, working with diverse students, and internationalization in Japanese higher education. These themes are united by Mahboubeh's passion for lifting up marginalized and diverse perspectives and for advancing a truly global, solidaristic mindset amongst her students and colleagues alike.

Beyond her passion for these concerns, it is essential that I mention Mahboubeh's powerful presence as a speaker and educator. Her positivity and joy shine through in all of her interactions with colleagues and students, as she walks the talk of building supportive communities and networks in the field and beyond. I recommend her wholeheartedly for the Early Career Excellence Award.

Dr. Yaya Yao

Letter 2

I am pleased to nominate Mahboubeh Rakhshandehroo for the JALT Award for Early Career Excellence in recognition of her impressive contributions to the field of language teaching in Japan. Recently appointed as an Assistant Professor at Doshisha Women's College of Liberal Arts, Mahboubeh brings a wealth of experience and scholarship that is remarkable for someone early in their academic career.

Mahboubeh has dedicated the past ten years to teaching both children and adults in Japan, consistently demonstrating her commitment to the advancement of English language teaching. Through her extensive expertise, she has published nearly 20 articles, many appearing in prestigious international, peer-reviewed journals, contributing significantly to the improvement of ELT in Japan.

Her scholarly work has been cited over 150 times by international researchers, underscoring the broad impact and recognition of her research. Mahboubeh's contributions span diverse areas within ELT, including English-Medium Instruction student support, Global Englishes, Intercultural Competence, Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL), and Sustainable Internationalization. This wide-ranging influence reflects her commitment to addressing evolving challenges in language education on both local and global scales.

Mahboubeh's early career achievements exemplify excellence and promise transformative implications for the field, making her an ideal recipient for this award.

-Shawna Carroll

Letter 3

I am honored to nominate Mahboubeh Rakhshandehroo for the JALT Early Career Excellence Award. I have known her for about three years. Although we first connected and communicated through online platforms, I first met her when she attended a symposium at my university as a guest speaker.

Through observing her research career and achievements, I can confidently say that she is a passionate researcher who is deeply committed to contributing to academia. She has also served JALT as an active

member for many years. Mahboubeh has been highly successful in building international collaborations and co-authoring with scholars from diverse contexts and backgrounds. She is an accomplished scholar who has published in high-impact journals and made her voice heard by a broader academic audience.

Given her outstanding publication record and numerous presentations at both international and national conferences, I wholeheartedly nominate Mahboubeh for the JALT Early Career Excellence Award. She is a highly deserving candidate whose contributions to English language teaching research have been significant and far-reaching. I wish her every success!

-Lasni Buddhibhashika Jayasooriya