FUTUREd - Proposal for Collaborative Peer-Reviewed Journal

Proposed Title: FUTUREd: Future Trends in University Teaching and Research in Education
FUTUREd: 大学教育と教育研究の将来動向

1. Overview

Our vision is to launch an annual, peer-reviewed journal titled *FUTUREd: Future Trends in University Teaching and Research in Education*. This publication will serve as a dynamic academic platform for faculty, researchers, scholars, instructional designers, and language-teaching professionals across disciplines and institutions to share original research, innovative practices, and critical reflections on the evolving landscape of higher education in the digital age.

With a focus on the transformative role of emerging technologies—including artificial intelligence, data analytics, immersive learning environments, adaptive pedagogies, and innovations in language instruction - *FUTUREd* aims to foster global dialogue on how teaching, learning, and institutional structures are being reshaped.

Our mission is to advance knowledge, inspire innovation, and empower educators and policymakers to lead the transition toward more inclusive, responsive, and future-ready educational systems.

2. Rationale for the Journal

The rapid evolution of artificial intelligence, digital learning environments, and data-driven pedagogies has fundamentally altered the landscape of higher education. While these innovations offer transformative potential, they also raise complex questions about access, equity, ethics, institutional adaptation, and the future of teaching and learning.

Despite growing interest in these topics, there remains a need for a dedicated, interdisciplinary platform where scholars can critically examine emerging trends, share evidence-based practices, and engage in global dialogue about the future of university education.

FUTUREd responds to this need by offering a peer-reviewed publication focused exclusively on the intersection of pedagogy, technology, and educational transformation - providing timely, accessible, and impactful insights for educators, researchers, and policymakers. Given its location in Japan and relevance across Asia, *FUTUREd* also welcomes contributions exploring innovations in language learning and teaching, especially those involving AI-supported instruction, digital communication tools, and multilingual pedagogies.

3. Target Audience

FUTUREd is designed for a broad academic and professional audience, including:

- University faculty and instructors

- Educational technologists and instructional designers
- Researchers in pedagogy, AI in education, learning sciences, and applied linguistics
- Academic administrators and policy makers
- Graduate students conducting research in higher education innovation
- Forward-thinking educators at all levels, whose innovations and research have implications for postsecondary learning
- Language-teaching professionals, especially those working in English as a Foreign Language (EFL) and digital language learning environments

The journal appeals to those interested in exploring how new technologies are reshaping curriculum design, assessment methods, student engagement, and institutional strategies - with special attention to innovations that support multilingual learners and cross-cultural communication.

4. Scope and Themes

FUTUREd welcomes scholarly contributions that explore, critique, and reimagine university education in the context of technological change. Topics may include (but are not limited to):

- Artificial Intelligence and machine learning in teaching and learning
- Digital pedagogy and online/hybrid instruction
- Adaptive learning systems and personalized education
- Ethics, bias, and equity in educational technologies
- Institutional responses to technological disruption
- Faculty development and digital literacy
- Student-centered learning and experiential technologies (e.g., VR/AR)
- Innovations in language learning and teaching, including AI-assisted instruction, digital communication tools, and multilingual pedagogies
- Global perspectives on educational transformation

We especially welcome submissions that reflect diverse cultural and educational contexts, particularly from Asian countries where digital transformation and English language education are rapidly evolving.

5. Editorial Structure and Responsibilities

Below is the proposed editorial board structure and the responsibility of each role:

- Editor-in-Chief: Oversees editorial vision, manages submissions, and coordinates the review process.
- Managing Editors: Responsible for coordinating the submission and review process, communicating with authors, and overseeing publication deadlines.
- Associate Editors: Supports manuscript handling, coordinates reviewers, and contributes to special issues.

- Advisory Board (per edition): Includes distinguished scholars, external experts or members of university administration who provide guidance on thematic focus and journal direction.
- Peer Review Panel: A panel of reviewers from various universities selected for their expertise in specific subject areas. Each article will be reviewed by at least two peer reviewers from different institutions.

6. Publication Plan & Timeline

FUTUREd will publish one volume annually, consisting of multiple peer-reviewed articles. Each issue will be published both online and in print format (ISSN application scheduled for March 2026).

Proposed Annual Timeline:
- April - July: Call for papers and submission period
- August - September: Initial editorial screening and assignment to reviewers
- October - December: Peer review and revision process
- January - March: Final editing, layout, and publication

All content will be made available via open access, ensuring wide visibility and accessibility to educators and researchers worldwide.

7. Peer Review Process

All submissions will undergo a double-blind peer review process to ensure quality, rigor, and relevance. Manuscripts will be evaluated based on:
- Originality and significance of the contribution to Education.
- Methodological soundness (for empirical work) or theoretical coherence (for conceptual pieces).
- Clarity of writing and accessibility to a multidisciplinary audience.
- Alignment with the journal's scope and mission.

Authors will receive detailed feedback from at least two independent reviewers before final editorial decisions are made.

8. Submission Types

To encourage diverse forms of scholarship, *FUTUREd* will accept the following types of submissions:
- Research Articles (empirical studies)
- Conceptual/Theoretical Papers
- Case Studies (institutional or classroom-level innovations, including language teaching)
- Policy Analyses
- Critical Reflections or Position Papers
- Book Reviews (on relevant titles in education and technology)

We especially encourage case studies from secondary-level educators and language-teaching

professionals who are experimenting with AI, digital tools, or innovative pedagogies in real-world classrooms.

9. Long-Term Vision

In the long term, *FUTUREd* aims to become a leading voice in the discourse on educational transformation. We envision expanding to biannual publication, developing thematic special issues, hosting annual symposia, and fostering international collaborations among institutions and scholars. Ultimately, we seek to build a vibrant, inclusive, and intellectually rigorous community committed to shaping the future of education through research, reflection, and innovation - with particular attention to the integration of technology, language learning, and cross-sector educational reform.

10. Copyright and Access Policy

To ensure that knowledge is shared widely, ethically, and sustainably, *FUTUREd* will adopt an open access publication model with Creative Commons licensing.

All content published in *FUTUREd* will be protected under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (CC BY 4.0). Under this license:

- Authors retain copyright of their work.
- Articles are made freely available online upon publication, ensuring maximum visibility and impact.
- Readers may share and adapt the material for any purpose, even commercially, as long as an appropriate attribution is given.
- No permission is required from the publisher for reuse, provided the original work is properly cited.

This approach aligns with global trends in academic publishing and supports the journal's mission to promote open scholarship, accessibility, and educational equity.

11. Submission Guidelines

- Abstracts should be 250-400 words each, in English.
- Each manuscript must have 3-6 keywords.
- Manuscripts should be between 4,000–7,000 words including references.
- Formatting must align with the journal's style guide (APA).
- All submissions must be made on MS-Word using the journal's template.

Submissions will initially be screened by the Managing Editor for relevance and adherence to guidelines. After acceptance each article will undergo a double-blind review by two reviewers from different institutions, coordinated by the Editorial Board.

Reviewers will provide feedback on originality, methodological rigor, clarity, and contribution to the field and the Editorial Board will determine the final publication status: Acceptance, Minor Revisions,

Major Revisions, or Rejection.

Peer Review Process

Step 1: Submission

Authors submit article proposals (abstracts) based on the journal's themes and guidelines. Submissions can include research papers, case studies, literature reviews, and essays. Each submission is managed by the Managing Editor.

Step 2: Initial Screening

The Editorial Board conducts an initial review to ensure submissions meet the publication's guidelines (topic relevance, length, format, etc.). Submissions that pass this first screening are assigned to a managing editor.

Step 3: Reviewer Assignment and Double-Blind Review

Managing editors will communicate with authors, when necessary, and assign it to two reviewers from the Peer Review Panel through a double-blind review process, where the identities of both reviewers and authors are concealed. The managing editor is responsible to make sure that the manuscript submitted for review has the author(s) information redacted, to avoid identification. This structure ensures impartiality and fair evaluation of content.

Step 4: Review and Feedback

Reviewers evaluate the article based on a standardized evaluation form that covers:

- Originality and relevance to the journal's themes.
- Rigor and clarity of methodology.
- Quality of analysis and depth of insight.
- Contribution to global studies and intercultural understanding.

Reviewers provide feedback and recommend either Acceptance, Minor Revisions, Major Revisions, or Rejection. Feedback is constructive and aimed at improving the article's quality and relevance.

Step 5: Revision and Resubmission

Authors revise their manuscripts based on reviewer feedback. The Managing Editor ensures deadlines are met and may request an additional round of reviews if substantial revisions were needed.

Step 6: Final Decision

The Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editors review all submissions and make a final decision for publication. Articles that meet all requirements are approved for publication in the March issue (Another date to be added as soon as the Journal becomes biannual).

Step 7: Proofreading and Publication

Accepted articles undergo final proofreading for grammar, formatting, and adherence to citation standards. The completed journal is then prepared for publication.

12. Marketing and Distribution Strategy

The journal will be accessible via its website managed by the editorial board, with options for open access and downloadable formats (PDFs). Authors are free to distribute printed copies to their peers and physical copies can be bought by libraries and strategic partners.

13. System Requirements for Journal Implementation

During initial implementation, *FUTUREd* will be managed (and published), by Lakeland University Japan (LUJ). The initial hosting and ISSN registration will be covered by LUJ, but as the journal grows, we anticipate the following costs:

- domain and hosting platform
- use of a robust delivery platform (Open Journal System might be an option)
- indexing and registration in services like CrossRef (for DOI numbers)

Therefore, to keep the journal open access and bias free, we encourage small donations.

Copyright and Licensing Statement for *FUTUREd*

Copyright Policy and Open Access Statement

FUTUREd: Future Trends in University Teaching and Research in Education is committed to promoting **open scholarship, broad accessibility, and global engagement** with research on educational innovation.

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- Authors retain copyright of their work.
- Articles are published as open access, meaning they are freely and immediately available to readers worldwide.
- Readers may share and adapt the content - even commercially - as long as they give appropriate credit.
- No permission is required from the publisher for reuse, provided the original source is properly cited.

This open-access policy ensures that knowledge is shared widely and ethically, supporting innovation in teaching, learning, and research across institutions and borders.

Why We Use CC BY 4.0

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What This Means for Authors

By submitting to *FUTUREd*, authors agree to publish their work under the **CC BY 4.0 license**. However:

- You retain full ownership of your work.
- You are encouraged to share your article via institutional repositories, personal websites, and social platforms.
- Proper citation must always accompany any reuse of your work.

If you have any questions about this policy or need clarification, please contact the editorial team at apassos@japan.lakeland.edu.

The PDF of the Journal will have the following notice at the bottom of the last page.

Poster for the first CFP.

FUTUREd – Author Publication Agreement

Title of Work: _____

Author(s): _____

Date of Submission: _____

As the corresponding author, I confirm on behalf of all co-authors that:

1. This work is original and has not been published elsewhere in any form.
2. All authors have approved this version of the manuscript and agree with its submission to *FUTUREd*.
3. The content complies with ethical standards in research and publication.
4. We agree to publish this work under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (CC BY 4.0) , which allows others to share and adapt the work for any purpose, even commercially, as long as appropriate credit is given.

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Corresponding Author Name: _____

Email Address: _____

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For OJS:

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