

"Negotiating bilingual and bicultural identities of Japanese background students in Australia"

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"Who we are lies in the way we live day to day, not just in what we think or say about ourselves. Nor does identity consist solely of what others think or say about us" (Wenger, 1998: 151). Drawing on some of the findings from my research on the study behaviour of Japanese background students in Australia, I will consider how these students negotiate their bilingual and bicultural identities through "a lived experience of participation" in the Australian academic community. Focusing on "what the student highlighted as their study difficulties through what experiences and why", the study demonstrates how they subsequently managed the situation (negotiated their identity). I believe that experiencing a new culture in addition to their own would add another dimension and other possibilities to their academic life in Australia. Hence, how they behave in the Australian academic community is an important question to address.