Renewing Vocation for English Language Teaching through Podcasting and Digital Storytelling

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Inservice ESL teachers engaged in organized professional development programmes are often encouraged to reflect critically on the linguistic and methodological dimensions of second language teaching. In recent years, the affective dimension of teacher development has attracted increasing attention. Teachers are encouraged to re-examine such issues as what it means to be a second-language teacher, how they personally experience the language that they are teaching, the value of their work for society, the joys and pains they are deriving from second language teaching, and their own passion for teaching. The widespread use of journal keeping and blogging reflects this emerging emphasis. This presentation is an introduction to two multi-media activities, namely podcasting and digital storytelling, that have good potential for helping ESL teachers rediscover and renew their vocation for English Language teaching. Both involve teachers reflecting on and narrating significant insights and incidents from their teaching career. Both involve the teacher’s own voice. In this presentation, I will outline my attempts in using such activities with preservice and inservice ESL teachers, illustrating my ideas with podcast episodes and digital stories created by the teachers. (183 words)