MULTILINGUAL SPECIAL EDUCATION: Perspectives and Practices to Transform Learning Landscapes

Day One: Thursday, May 11, 2023

8:00 am - 1:00 pm PST / 9:00 am - 2:00 pm MST / 10:00 am - 3:00 pm CST / 11:00 am - 4:00 pm EST

Transforming Learning Landscapes - Exploring Woodlands Ecology

Centering the Learner: Our Being, Our Knowledge, Our Potential

Dr. Socorro Herrera & Dr. Robin Morales Cabral

This session will provide participants a roadmap for situating past, current, and future evaluation and practice. The culturally and linguistically diverse learner will be centered through a historical lens, with questions posed focused on IDEA and the caveats/challenges in the interpretation and application for effective practice with diverse populations. Key research-based practices will be highlighted using video and student artifacts that illustrate how to reach CLD learners from a biography-driven perspective. Participants will engage in discussion surrounding what it takes to move beyond fossilized ways of doing and move toward advocating or re-imagining equity for all learners.

Interactive Panel:

Transforming the Ecology for Neurodiverse Multilingual Learners

Dr. Socorro Herrera, Dr. Robin Morales Cabral, Cristina Sánchez López & Theresa Young

MULTILINGUAL SPECIAL EDUCATION: Perspectives and Practices to Transform Learning Landscapes

Day Two: Friday May 12, 2023

8:00 am - 1:00 pm PST / 9:00 am - 2:00 pm MST / 10:00 am - 3:00 pm CST / 11:00 am - 4:00 pm EST

Welcoming Bilingual Learners with Disabilities

John Hilliard will introduce *Welcoming Bilingual Learners with Disabilities into Dual Language Programs: Research Implications for programs and practice. Sponsored by Paridad, this session* highlights a white paper developed for the National Dual Language Forum. The paper includes research and guidance for creating inclusive programs and effective practices for multilingual learners with special education needs. The author-presenters will focus on unpacking the principles of intervention and characteristics of learning environments that have been recommended for multilingual learning spaces with a focus on dual language contexts. Time will be taken to explore how these principles are universally applicable across a variety of inclusive program models.

Children's Capacity for Dual Language Learning: The View from Science

Dr. Fred Genesee will address questions that parents and educators often ask about raising and educating bilingual children with developmental disorders and other learning challenges. He curates key findings amidst the recent explosion of relevant research to answer questions about the bilingual experience of children with learning challenges and what this means for parents and educators who care for them. Dr. Genesee will address participant questions.

Transforming Program, School & Classroom Landscapes for Multilingual Learners with Disabilities

Cristina Sánchez-López and **Theresa Young** will summarize characteristics of inclusive programs and practices that welcome multilingual learners with disabilities into all of our classrooms. They will highlight critical features of inclusive programs based on converging research across a range of language learning program models, and approaches to special education. Theresa and Cristina will explore characteristics of interventions that have been found to support students with disabilities, while focusing on how these practices are made especially effective for multilingual learners with disabilities. As practitioners, they will feature examples of strategies, practices and resources for participants to explore, reflect upon, and consider for use in their contexts.

Reflecting on our Learning Environments

Discussion with Participants in Dual Language / Bilingual / Immersion / French Immersion / Multilingual / ESL- EAL Settings

Q & A with Authors: John Hilliard, Dr. Fred Genesee, Cristina Sánchez-López & Theresa Young