



What Makes for Quality Education for English Learners in the 21st Century?

What Needs To Be Included and What Actions Can We Take:
Lessons Learned from the Past and New ideas for Today

Open Space Report: Dallas

Establishing a Current Research Agenda: Looking towards the Future

As a convener, we would like you to put together a short report from your group describing the following:

1. **Names of group members: Facilitators-** Judith Marquez (marquez@uhcl.edu), Annette Torres Elias (atorres@txwes.edu)
Note Taker- Ruth Guevara (ruth.guevara@unt.edu)- Lisa Anguiano (lisaa@springisd.org), Gerardo Rosas (Gerardo.rosas@ed.gov) Rosa Guerra (rosa.guerra@ed.gov), Adriana Rodriguez (adrianarodriguez@dcccd.edu), Carolyn Langham (c.langham@sbcglobal.net), Sheryl Santos (sjeryl.santos-hatchet@unt.edu), Rafael Lara (Rafaela-lara@tamu.edu), Beverly J. Irby (edu_bid@shsu.edu), Paula Hooper (phooper@exploratorium.edu), Jorge Garcia (Jorge.garcia@thompsonschoools.org)

2. **Issue/Topic/Activity**
This group discussed the importance of establishing a current national research agenda that takes into account what we already know regarding best practices and effective programs/methodology, looks at areas of need, and centers on collaboration between school districts and institutions of higher education.

3. **Highlights of Discussion/Recommendations/Next Action Steps**

Development of a national research agenda

This agenda needs to reach out into the classroom teaching community

- Mapping of current research projects at universities and community colleges so they can collaborate at the local and national level (we need an effective mechanism for collaboration)
- Create opportunities for academicians and practitioners to get together to discuss a cohesive and efficient national research agenda
- Collaboration and mentoring between senior faculty and junior faculty (i.e in understanding the culture of academia and the process of 'getting published' in top journals that are read by the mainstream like AERA, JERA, widely known researchers such as Collier and Thomas mentoring junior researchers)

Foster research collaborations between higher education institutions and school districts

Make research available to school districts, teachers, parents and communities- many do not have access to 'research journals' (website, ERIC etc.)

Developing and mentoring of new scholars (such as past Title VII fellows programs)

- Funding for developing scholar programs, strategies that foster sharing and collaboration

Research priorities:

Learning modes/styles of this generation of students (i.e. technology, etc.) How to incorporate effective practices for the technology savvy generation at all levels elementary secondary and higher ed
Elements of 'knowing and doing' gap (i.e. we know about the transfer of knowledge and skills between native and second language but we do not know enough about how to help teachers foster this transfer efficiently

Biliteracy- transfer, early intervention, bilingual assessment issues

Challenges and opportunities:

No seat at the table for the university or for ELL issues

Schools do not have access to research journals

Need to get research into the right hands

Need effective mechanisms of collaboration

Where are our students in comparison to the world (i.e. science and math)

The research agenda needs to be developed with input from the school districts

There has been some mapping of research agendas at some universities, but there needs to be mapping across universities.

How can OELA help: Provide opportunities and resources to plan a national research agenda as described above with collaboration among institutions and districts.

Contact info:

4. Available Resources

5. Follow-up requests

6. Please type in this report in one of the laptops and hand in this sheet. Thanks!