

Special Interest Groups

ELL Secondary Education Special Interest Group

Friday, February 24, 2017 ■ 2:10 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. ■ Meeting Room: Cortez Ballroom

Differentiated Instruction

Chair: Dr. Jobi B. Lawrence, Iowa Department of Education

2:10 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Positioning English Learners at the Core of the Core: Academic Success through Differentiation

Shelly Fairbairn, Ph.D. and Stephaney Jones-Vo, M.A.

This practical half-day workshop is delivered by veteran ESL educators, teacher educators, and authors, Shelley Fairbairn and Stephaney Jones-Vo. These presenters provide groundbreaking guidance and resources from their two books: *Differentiating Instruction and Assessment for English Language Learners: A Guide for K-12 Teachers* (2010) and *Engaging English Learners through Access to Standards: A Team-based Approach to Schoolwide Student Achievement* (2016).

Part One of the workshop focuses on the development of an "EL Lens" with which to analyze EL-specific data to inform instruction. This process allows educators to understand key considerations in examining traditional data and emphasizes the essential nature of including non-traditional data in order to tailor teacher actions and expectations to students' instructional levels.

Against the backdrop of an accurate understanding of students, Part 2 illuminates the process of differentiating standards-based instruction and assessment across language development levels. The presenters model and guide participants in the process of scaffolding and assessing content learning, while simultaneously increasing language proficiency.

Based on authentic student scenarios from the authors' practice and several user-friendly templates, both of the workshop segments focus on specific aspects of the differentiation process for English learners. Hands-on application activities tied to provided scenarios and teachers' own contexts, as well as interaction with colleagues, make the strategies come alive. As a result, teachers can confidently implement new data-driven strategies upon return to their classrooms.

3:40 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Continuation of previous session

Shelly Fairbairn, Ph.D. and Stephaney Jones-Vo, M.A.