

# Special Interest Groups

## Instructional Technology Special Interest Group

Thursday, February 23, 2017 ■ 4:10 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. ■ Meeting Room: Governor's Lecture Hall

Social media and the dual Language Learner: Promises and Challenges

Chair: Eurvine Williams, Pacific University

---

4:10 p.m. – 4:40 p.m.

### **Social Media and ELL's: Technology as a Resource**

*Yolanda Salgado Ph.D., University of The Permian Basin*

The explosive use of social media has become a way of communication for many of us, specifically with the new millennial. Not only do we stay in touch with friends and family through face book, but with Snapchat, Instagram and twitter to name a few. With technology, many other websites are available at the click of a button. With this personal focus and attention on ways of communicating today, new challenges arise for teachers; how do they keep the student engage? What about your language challenge student? Come and learn ways to enhance student learning using today's technology to keep students engaged and learning

4:45 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

### **Technology and the Promise of Social Media in Bridging the Achievement Gap for Minority and English Language learners.**

*Patricia Watson E.D., Illinois State University*

The use of computers alone will not work well for closing achievement gaps if the performance of minority and English language learners is related to availability. Research suggests that schools in low-income neighborhoods are more apt to employ computers for drill and practice sessions than for creative or innovative projects. Economically disadvantaged, or English language learners also bring less knowledge to their encounters with computers. To truly spark curiosity and engage the interests of youth today, we must change our perspective. We need to embrace a new form of literacy and learn to communicate through different media. Social media is a powerful tool that educators can use to access the learning potential of these youth. Social media may be annoying to some, but it has both advantages as well as disadvantages in minority and ELL classrooms.

5:20 p.m. – 5:50 p.m.

### **Cyberbullying Victimization and Mental Health Outcomes of English Language Learners**

*Maria Avalos, Ph.D., University of the Permian Basin*

Children as young as seven are posting abusive and damaging comments about their peers on social networking websites. Because of the current political climate, it is expected that there will be a rise in cyberbullying of minority and English Language Learners, leaving them at higher risk of developing mental health problems including depression, anxiety and increasing the chances for self-harm. In this session, participants will review current literature on cyberbullying of ELL students, examine the emotional and mental effects of cyberbullying, and explore potential mental health interventions for school counselors.

5:55 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

### **The explorative use of Social Media and Communication Software to Enhance Dual Language Learning**

*Eurvine Williams, Ph.D., Pacific University*

The impact of the Semantic Web, on Dual language learning is promising but yet to be fully determined as the related communication and social media software continue to develop. Teachers involved in dual and bilingual programs must have a rudimentary understanding of the educational benefits of this growing area for English language learning. This paper provides an opportunity to explore social media and communication applications as a means of support, engagement and motivation for dual Language learners. The use of multiple intelligences and the manipulation of metadata suggests possible implications on language learning. Converting metadata into meaningful information will allow dual language learners to personalize learning and the construction of knowledge powered by social media applications.