

TEMPLE TESOL SPEAKER SERIES EVENT!

Classroom Assessment for Multilingual Learners: Challenges, Controversies, and Compromises

Dr. Margo Gottlieb
Co- Founder & Lead Developer for WIDA

Tuesday, October 25th, 3:30 PM via zoom:
<https://temple.zoom.us/jv/dr.swavelzoomroom>



Assessment for multilingual learners seems riddled with conflict where teachers are often forced to make concessions that compromise equitable instructional practice. Issues seem to constantly arise where there is theoretical and evidence-based justification for both sides, such as whether the natural fluid interaction between the shared languages of bilinguals during translanguaging should be considered a bonafide pedagogical and assessment stance or not. Teachers need to be well-informed, as answers to these questions have consequences that shape classroom policy and determine whether assessment is a gate-keeper or a door-opener for their students (Bachman, 2008). This talk addresses some of the assessment dilemmas that educators face in their role as advocates for multilingual learners and their families. It poses the duality of situations that is ever present in classrooms and offers a rationale for making sound assessment-related decisions. The overall purpose in comparing competing views is to envision how classroom assessment can become more teacher-guided (Earl, 2003) and student-driven (Berger et.al, 2014) with particular attention to multilingual learners' languages and cultures. In contemplating responses to these challenges, pre-service and in-service teachers have opportunities to weigh strategies and select those that most correspond with their belief systems.

BIO: Margo Gottlieb, Ph.D., is a teacher, teacher educator, and scholar. She is co-founder and lead developer of WIDA at the Wisconsin Center for Education Research, University of Wisconsin-Madison. She has authored, co-authored, or co-edited over 100 publications, including 30 books and guides. Her most recent books include *Assessment in Multiple Languages: A Handbook for School and District Leaders* and its companion, *Classroom Assessment in Multiple Languages: A Handbook for Teachers* (Corwin, 2022, 2021). She is currently working on the 3rd edition of her assessment best-seller.

