

Welcome and Overview

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Condition of Education

- In 2008, public school enrollment is expected to reach 49.8M students
 - 34.9M in Pre-K to Grade 8
 - 14.9M in Grades 9 to 12
- School enrollment is expected to hit new highs each year from 2008 to 2017
 - Total enrollment in 2017 of 54.1M
- From 1972 to 2006, Racial/Ethnic Minority enrollment increased from 22% to 43%

Who Are English Language Learners?

- Between 1979 and 2006, the EL population
 - Grew from 3.8M to 10.8M students
 - i.e., from 8.5% to 20.3% of students
- Comprised one of the fastest-growing groups
 - Growth in number - 184% vs 19.5% overall
 - Since 2000, 14.2% growth EL in vs 1.8% overall
- Expected to be 30% of students in 2015
 - Over 400 different home languages are represented
 - Spanish is the predominant home language (72%)

Who Are English Language Learners?

- Largest and fastest growing EL learner populations are
 - Students who immigrated before Kindergarten, and
 - U.S. born children of immigrants
- EL students are at-risk for poor educational outcomes
 - EL learners in Grade 4 were 1/4th as likely to score proficient or above in NAEP Reading and 1/3rd as likely in Math
 - EL learners are also less likely to score proficient on State tests

State of Research

- Shortage of empirical research on EL learners
 - NRP (2000) found 450 studies / NLP found 17 studies using experimental or quasi-experimental designs that addressed questions about instruction
- However, this situation is changing
 - Journals, Grant Applications, Tech Reports, Practice Guides
- Two recent reviews:
 - National Literacy Panel for Language Minority Children and Youth (August & Shanahan, 2006)
 - Center for Research on Excellence and Diversity in Education (CREDE) synthesis (Genesee et al., 2006)

About CREATE

- CREATE
 - A National Research and Development Center
 - Funded through the U.S. Department of Education
 - Institute of Education Sciences (IES)
 - National Center for Education Research (NCER)
 - Our mission is to address specific challenges in the education of EL learners in the middle grades (Grades 4-8)

About CREATE

- CREATE is a partnership of researchers from several institutions:



Texas Inst. for Measurement, Evaluation, and Statistics, Univ. of Houston

David J. Francis, Coleen D. Carlson



California State University at Long Beach

Jana Echevarria, Catherine Richards



Center for Applied Linguistics

Diane August, Deborah Short



Harvard University

Catherine Snow



University of California-Berkeley

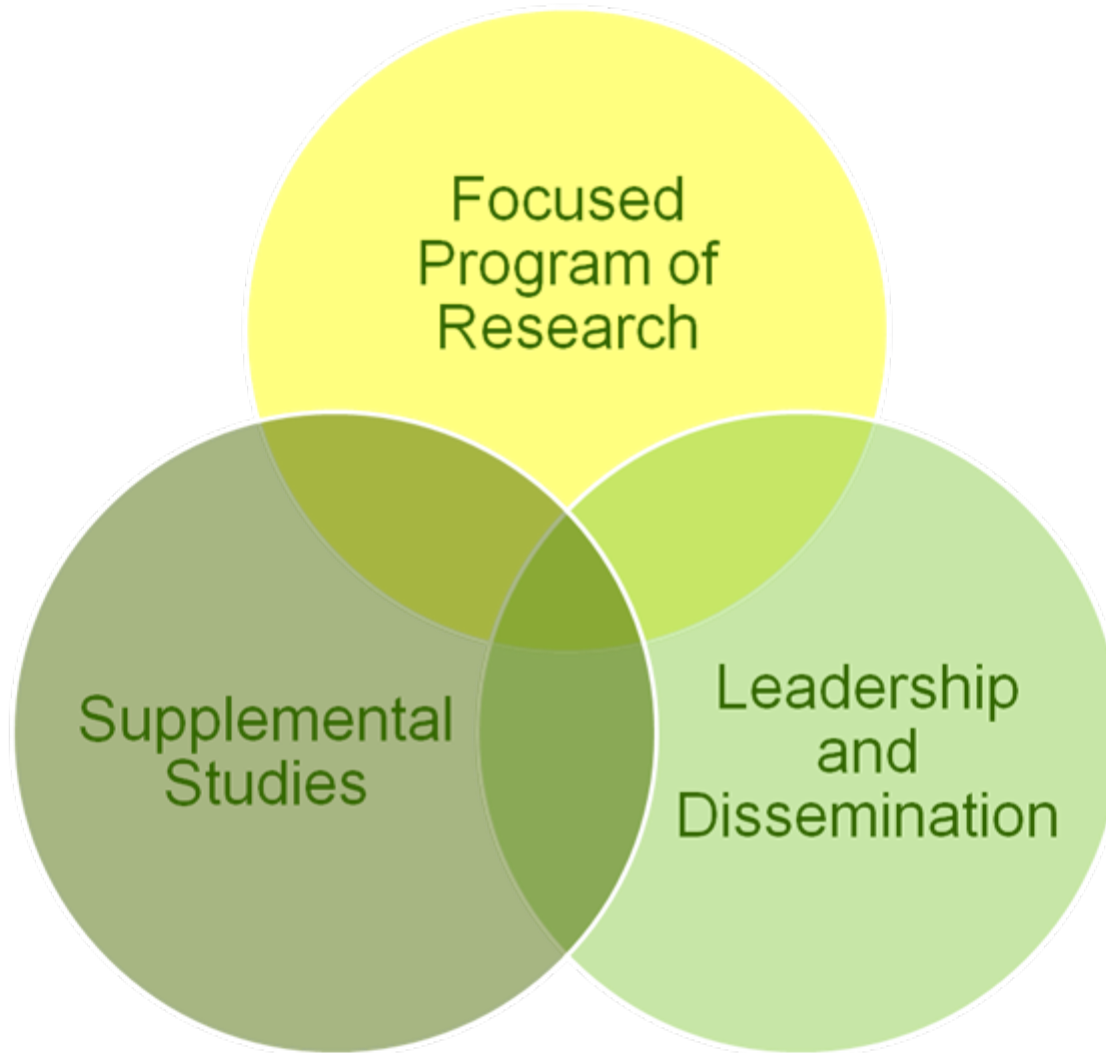
Elfrieda Hiebert



Meadows Center for Preventing Educational Risk, UT - Austin

Sharon Vaughn, Sylvia Linan-Thompson

Center Work Scope



Problem Focus

- Inadequate research base on Middle School EL learners
 - Short & Fitzsimmons (2006) *Double the Work: Challenges and Solutions to Acquiring Language and Academic Literacy for Adolescent English Language Learners*
- Inadequate knowledge base on effective practices regarding comprehension and vocabulary instruction
- Limited understanding of the features of instruction that facilitate EL learners content knowledge
- Need for more effective models for delivering instruction to EL learners
- Need for the dissemination of information on Effective Practices

Focused Program of Research

- Program of research to address challenges in the education of EL learners in the middle grades (Grades 4–8) in science and social studies.
 - Develop research-based interventions,
 - Test these interventions in controlled experiments/randomized field trials with classroom teachers
 - Combine them into a comprehensive package
 - Test effectiveness of the combined package in experiments/randomized field trials

Focused Program of Research

- Area 1: Enhancement to Instructional Practice and Instructional Materials
- General objective is to take interventions that have proven effective with non-EL students and provide enhancements that should make them more effective for EL learners
 - Teacher guided methods to enhance vocabulary and comprehension (August)
 - Peer Collaborative Group Work (Thompson and Vaughn)
 - School-wide Intervention for Academic Vocabulary (Snow)

Focused Program of Research

- Area 2: Studies of SIOP (Short, Echevarria, and Richards)
- General Objective is to rigorously test the SIOP model and to integrate our findings with those from Area 1 into an integrated instruction model
 - Studies Designed to
 - Test SIOP model when implemented with real teachers provided model lesson plans in Middle School Science
 - Studies to be carried out in multiple locations
 - Outcome focus is on concept formation in science and language and literacy development

Supplemental Studies

- Centers are also expected to conduct supplemental studies
 - Expected to be short in duration
 - Expected to be responsive to input from IES and the field
 - Areas put forth by IES and the field
 - School dropout
 - Professional development for content area teachers
 - Whole school interventions and reform efforts

Leadership and Dissemination

- Hosted a series of webcasts in collaboration with WestEd
- Electronic Publications
 - CREATE Website (www.cal.org/create)
 - CREATE Newsletter
- Professional Connections
 - Participation in professional meetings such as IRA, AERA, and the LEP Partnership
 - CREATE Conference

Conference Organization

- Theme: Supporting Content Area Learning in Science, Social Studies, and Mathematics
- Goals of the conference are to
 - Share information from our research
 - Share information from national scholars
 - Stimulate interaction among all participants

Speakers

- CREATE Team

- Snow, Hiebert, August, Vaughn, Linan-Thompson, Short, Richards, and Francis

- Invited Speakers

- Okhee Lee, University of Miami, Science

- Phil Vahey, SRI International, Mathematics

- William Schmidt, Michigan State, Mathematics

Conference Organization

- General structure of the conference
 - hear first from one or more speakers
 - break for small group interaction to discuss hand out materials and the presentations
 - These discussions will be aided by a group of individuals who are here to serve as facilitators

Conference Organization

- What we're hoping to accomplish in the conference presentations and breakout sessions
 - Stimulate interaction among everyone present
 - Identify and discuss specific actions that we might take in our educational units to promote academic success among our EL students

Conference Planning

- Elfrieda (Freddy) Hiebert (UC Berkeley)
- Alice Folkins (UC Berkeley)
- Ann Brown (TIMES / UH)
- Cate Coburn (CAL)

Contact CREATE

- Find out more about CREATE's projects and activities at www.cal.org/create.
- Subscribe to the email announcement list to receive regular updates from CREATE: www.cal.org/create/join.

References

- August, D.L., & Shanahan, T. (Eds.) (2006). *Developing literacy in a second language: Report of the National Literacy Panel*. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.
- Genessee, F., Lindholm-Leary, K., Saunders, W. M., & Christian, D. (Eds.). (2006). *Educating English language learners: A synthesis of research evidence*. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.
- Planty, M., Hussar, W., Snyder, T., Provasnik, S., Kena, G., Dinkes, R., Kewal Ramani, A., and Kemp, J. (2008). *The Condition of Education 2008 (NCES 2008-031)*. Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education.
- Short, D. & Fitzsimmons, S. (2006) *Double the Work: Challenges and Solutions to Acquiring Language and Academic Literacy for Adolescent English Language Learners*. New York: Carnegie Corporation.