

Keynote Abstract:

Defining the WHY: Benefits & Power of the Seal of Biliteracy

This talk delves into the transformative impact of the Seal of Biliteracy (SoBL), a language education policy adopted in all 50 states to recognize students who graduate from high school bilingual and biliterate. Drawing upon various research studies, Dr. Kristin Davin provides insights into the numerous benefits of the SoBL for students, including increased confidence, validation of cultural identity, and enhanced motivation. She also discusses research on the positive washback of the policy, sharing data on how the SoBL can increase enrollment in world language courses and improve instruction. This keynote promises to be an inspiring and informative session for teachers, administrators, and policymakers dedicated to advancing bilingualism and biliteracy.

Workshop Abstract:

Defining the HOW: The 5 P's Framework for Implementing the Seal of Biliteracy

Students across the United States can now earn a Seal of Biliteracy (SoBL) when they graduate from high school by providing evidence of proficiency in two or more languages. When implemented equitably, the SoBL has the potential to motivate all students to develop an additional language and can also strengthen ties to one's heritage. In this workshop, Dr. Kristin Davin shares a research-based framework for SoBL implementation that focuses on how to ensure equity and access for all students. The 5P framework includes: (a) defining *purpose*, (b) determining *proficiency assessments* to evaluate biliteracy, (c) designing *programs* to support language development, (d) working with *partners* to facilitate implementation, and (e) using strategies for *promotion*. Participants will leave with tangible ways to support SoBL implementation.

Bio:

Kristin J. Davin is professor and program director of Foreign Language Education at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. She earned her PhD from the University of Pittsburgh in Foreign Language Education and her MAEd in Foreign Language Education from Wake Forest University. Dr. Davin's research focuses on language teacher preparation, language assessment, and the Seal of Biliteracy. She was awarded the 2020 Anthony Papalia Award for Excellence in Teacher Education and the 2022 Stephan A. Freeman Award for Best Published Article in Language Teaching. Dr. Davis is the co-editor of *Foreign Language Annals* and the editor of the Perspectives column of *The Modern Language Journal*. Her research has appeared in many journals including *Foreign Language Annals*, *Modern Language Journal*, *Language Learning*, and the *Bilingual Research Journal*. She is co-author with Dr. Amy Heineke of *Promoting Multilingualism in Schools: A Framework for Implementing the Seal of Biliteracy*, published by ACTFL.

Title: Unearthing Joy in the World Language Classroom: Fostering a Culturally and Historically Responsive Learning Environment

Dr. Bridget Yaden will explore how world language educators can weave cultural and historical responsiveness into their teaching practices, cultivating spaces where language learning is not only rigorous but also joyful, inclusive, and meaningful. This keynote draws inspiration from Ghoddy Muhammad's framework of Culturally and Historically Responsive Education (CHRE) to reimagine joy as a core pillar in the world language classroom. Cultivating joy in our organizations (COFLT, WAFLT, and PNCFL) can help with teacher retention as well as inspire teachers as leaders in our profession. The session emphasizes the importance of centering our diverse identities, stories, and linguistic heritages while fostering deep engagement. Through this, the presentation aims to empower language educators to inspire joy in learning and ensure equitable access to rich, culturally relevant content for all students.

Dr. Bridget Yaden is Associate Provost and Professor of Hispanic and Latino Studies at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington. She is currently the Executive Director of PNCFL and was the 2020 ACTFL president and has served as president of WAFLT and PNCFL. She was awarded the 2016 Wilga Rivers Award for Leadership in Foreign Language Education (Postsecondary) from ACTFL.