



MULTICULTURAL AND BILINGUAL BOOKS FROM COHORT 1 KICKOFF EVENT

Network



Missouri State
UNIVERSITY

MARCH 2018

Welcome to our new iELT-Ozarks Project newsletter. We will be publishing a newsletter twice annually. Here you will find updates on our program and learn what is going on with the students, faculty, and staff at Missouri State University.



Faculty Spotlight

Meet Dr. Angela Bell. She started with the iELT-Ozarks Project in August 2017, and she has been an asset to our team. She teaches many of the courses in the online program.

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Benton Elementary Field Trip

Benton Elementary third grade students and teachers came to Missouri State University's campus to visit with iELT-Ozarks Project faculty and staff and learn what college life is like from current MSU students.

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What is the iELT-Ozarks Project?

The overall goal of the Improving English Language Teaching in the Ozarks (iELT-Ozarks) Project is to provide access to affordable, customizable, state-of-the-art English language teacher training to better the educational outcomes of the language minority student population within the Ozarks region.

The Missouri K-12 ELL Endorsement provides a 30-hour graduate-level experience for in-service teachers in Missouri. Additionally, there is an extended service learning project coupled with teacher inquiry that focuses on educators' felt difficulties and the systematic implementation of current best practices.



CALL FOR PROPOSALS!

MIDTESOL Travel Scholarships

Current cohort students interested in giving a presentation at the regional MIDTESOL Conference in Kansas City September 2018 are invited to submit ideas. iELT-Ozarks will award up to 5 travel grants to cover costs of the conference, travels, and meals for presenters.

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Cultural Proficiency Workshop

Current cohort 1 students, Project Advisory Board members, and iELT-Ozarks Project faculty and staff are invited to attend a full-day workshop at MSU about promoting cultural proficiency. This professional development workshop is funded by the iELT-Ozarks Project and will take place August 29, 2018.

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Cohort 1 Updates

by Alexis González

Cohort 1 of the iELT-Ozarks Project is made up of thirty K-12 in-service teachers from the McDonald County (4 teachers), Monett R-1 (9 teachers), Neosho R-5 (8 teachers), and Springfield R-XII (9 teachers) public school districts. Here is a look at what the first cohort has been up to over the last year:

- In spring and summer last year, selected applicants were notified and completed applications to the graduate college at MSU.
- In August 2017, the cohort members met face-to-face with iELT-Ozarks Project faculty, staff, and school district administrators for a kickoff/orientation event in Monett, Missouri.
- From August through mid-October 2017, cohort 1 took its first course – English 691: Introduction to Linguistic Theory.
- From mid-October through December 2017, cohort 1 took its second course – English 688: Sociolinguistics for Language Teaching.
- In January 2018, cohort 1 started its second semester of the program with English 695: Principles of Second Language Acquisition.
- In the middle of March 2018, cohort 1 will start its fourth course – English 605: Methods of TESOL.
- Year 1 of the iELT-Ozarks Project will conclude summer 2018 for cohort 1 with English 690: Grammatical Analysis.



iELT-Ozarks Project faculty and staff, Monett, Neosho, and Springfield public schools' administrators, and cohort 1 students gather for a kickoff/orientation event August 2017.

- Cohort members are learning about how to better identify needs of their English learners while gaining and applying theory behind second language acquisition.

LOOKING AHEAD – COHORT 2

Thirty cohort 2 applicants are currently admitted to Missouri State University and will begin iELT-Ozark Project course work January 2019.

In the meantime, they will be working on gathering grant intake documents and assessments in preparation to begin their studies.

“Each class I gain a lot of new knowledge and I am able to take the strategies I need and apply them immediately.”

– Kari Cox, 5th grade teacher at Monett Intermediate (Cohort 1)

iELT-Ozarks Faculty Spotlight



Dr. Angela Bell with her family

Dr. Angela Bell grew up in Virginia and began her career as a high school Spanish and English teacher in North Carolina. She has a B.A. in Spanish, an M.A. in educational leadership, curriculum, & instruction, and a Ph.D. in teaching and learning, with a focus on ESL.

After meeting her husband, Anthony, she moved to Texas and taught middle school newcomers. Anthony joined the Air Force, giving Angela the opportunity to work in many different places, including Florida, Georgia, North Dakota, Colorado, Virginia, Montana, and Belgium. She has been an educator now for over 22 years in multiple contexts: a K-8 Spanish, science, and ESL teacher; an ESL consultant and trainer for numerous districts in the U.S. and Belgium; an Intensive English Program (IEP) and GED teacher; and an instructor and assistant professor in TESOL and education programs.

Angela is an active member of TESOL International, where she is a former Teacher Education Interest Section Chair. She also continues to write on practices such as

educator collaboration, family engagement, and best practices to serve ELs and their families.

Currently, Angela lives in Montana; however, the Bells have another move approaching this summer. When she is not teaching, Angela enjoys traveling, spending time with her family and friends, and playing with her two golden retrievers. The Bells also have an exchange student from Spain living with them this year.

Angela loves teaching for the iELT-Ozarks project because she interacts with excellent teachers who share her enthusiasm for ELs and their families.

Cultural Proficiency Workshop

by Merica Clinkenbeard

iELT-Ozarks Project in conjunction with Missouri State University's Agency for Teaching, Leading, and Learning will host **Promoting Cultural Proficiency to Boost Outcomes for All Students.**



CAL CENTER FOR APPLIED LINGUISTICS

José Medina with the Center for Applied Linguistics will be presenting on Wednesday, August 29, 2018 in the Crystal Ballroom of Kentwood Hall, 700 E St Louis St, Springfield, MO 65806.

Participants will explore stages along a continuum of cultural proficiency that represent ways of perceiving and responding to differences, recognizing other perspectives, balancing values, and creating a culture of mutual respect. They will consider action steps to advocate for equity and inclusion within their classrooms and schools. Participants will be able to recognize the diversity of their students as well as their community, define cultural proficiency and analyze each stage of the continuum, identify the elements of effective practices of cultural proficiency, and analyze their individual and their school's level of cultural proficiency to identify methods for increasing cultural competence.

Registration, breakfast, lunch, parking, and materials will be provided by the iELT-Ozarks Project for cohort 1 members and the Project Advisory Board.

A Visit from Benton Elementary

by Jennifer Lale

On December 6, 2017, five classes of third-grade students, their teachers, and chaperones went on a field trip to the Fantastic Caverns. Cohort 1 member and Benton Elementary teacher Sean Wilson asked if the group could come to campus before returning to Neosho to eat their lunch and to see a large university campus. We enthusiastically said yes!

The children's arrival was electric--they were eager to share what they had learned at the Caverns but were even more excited to be at Missouri State. Each iELT-Ozarks staff member was given a group of students with which to share some insight into secondary education and what college has to offer. Each leader was also paired with an MSU student who got to talk about her own college experience and choices.

Lily Cozad, a senior public relations manager, had a wonderful time with the kids, saying, "Thank you so much for having me! Literally--this was one of my favorite experiences! All the third graders were so cute, if you ever need people for things like this again, please let me know!" As one of the group leaders, I felt the same way and was impressed by the kids' smart questions. They had a lot to say and it was a pleasure to be able to provide them with some answers about their academic possibilities.

After a whirlwind lunch and a group photo, the students got back into the buses and returned to their school. In response to the visit, Mr. Wilson reported, "Their eyes got real big when they saw the size of the buildings! For some of these kiddos, this was the first time they had stepped foot on a college campus. We really want to expose them to options and a future story. This was a spark for some that will eventually turn itself into a roaring fire for future learning."



MIDTESOL Travel Scholarships

by Alexis González

The annual MIDTESOL (Mid-America Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages) conference is the regional conference for all teachers, coaches, administrators, and college students who are interested in learning how to better serve their English Language Learners while meeting likeminded individuals from all over Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska.

We would like to invite all cohort 1 students to submit a proposal idea for the conference. This could be a poster session, an Ed Tech demonstration, and/or an individual or group presentation. The iELT-Ozarks Project faculty and staff are also willing to partner with any interested students to submit a joint proposal and present together. If a proposal is accepted for the conference, iELT-Ozarks Project will provide five travel scholarships of up to \$500 each to cover the cost of MIDTESOL membership, conference registration, lodging at the conference hotel, meals, and travel to and from the conference.

We strongly encourage all our students to attend the conference and learn about what is going on in the field of TESOL across the Midwest and to network with colleagues. This year the conference is in Kansas City, Missouri taking place Friday and Saturday, September 28-29, 2018.

If you are a cohort 1 student interested in proposing an idea to develop with iELT-Ozarks Project faculty and staff or an individual or group interested in presenting an idea you have, please email us at ielt-ozarks@missouristate.edu.

Partner Districts



Presentations and Publications

iELT-Ozarks Project faculty and staff place a strong focus on professional development. From conferences to journal articles, here is an update of presentations and publications from the past year.

Recent Presentations

TESOL March 2017 – Seattle, WA

Dilemmas and Best Practices in Freshman Composition

→ A presentation by Hellman, A. B.

Enriching the IEP Classroom through Co-Teaching and Colleague Collaboration

→ A presentation by González, A., Pettijohn, C., & Morrison, J.

Gauging the Effect of TESOL Expertise on Learner Outcomes

→ A colloquium by Freeman, D., Reynolds, D., Honigsfeld, A., Dove, M., Smith, D., Lawrence, J., Watts, T., Dutro, S., & Hellman, A. B.

Partnering with Parents to Foster Literacy Development of Young ELLs

→ A presentation by Bell, A., Grant, L., Frye, B., & Yoo, M.

Preparing TESOL Educators to Address the Needs of Refugee Students

→ A colloquium by Custodio, B., Zacarian, D., Haynes, J., Brown, S. E., Kasper, J., Baecher, L., Kennedy, J., Scott-Conley, L., & Hellman, A. B.

Program Design in Teacher Professional Development

→ A colloquium by Hellman, A. B., Ernst-Slavit, G., Ardasheva, Y., Morrison, S., Nutta, J., Mihai, F., Purmensky, K., Davis, L., & Reynolds, K. M.

MIDTESOL September 2017 – Kansas City, MO

A Theory of Change in TESOL Professional Development

→ A poster session by Uribe-Zarain, X., & Hellman, A. B.

ELL Parents as Classroom Volunteers: Strategies and Activities

→ A presentation by González, A., Bell, A., Rojas-McWhinney, J., Hellman, A. B., & Uribe-Zarain, X.

Teachers' Stories from Cultural Crossroads: Journeying with Newcomer Refugees

→ A presentation by Morrison, J., McBride, L., & González, A.

NPD November 2017 – Arlington, VA

A Blueprint for Program Evaluation: The iELT-Ozarks Project

→ A poster session by Hellman, A. B., & Uribe-Zarain, X.

Recent Publications

Opportunity to Teach: Push-In and Pull-Out Models of English Learner Instruction

→ An article in *Journal of Education and Culture Studies* (Volume 1, Number 1, 2017) by Baecher, L., & Bell, A.

Professional Development for Educators to Promote Literacy

Development of English Learners: Valuing Home Connections

→ An article in *Reading Horizons* (Volume 56, Issue 4, Summer 2017) by Grant, L., Bell, A., Yoo, M., Jimenez, C., & Frye, B.

Teaching/Developing Vocabulary at Diverse Age Levels

→ An article in *The TESOL Encyclopedia of English Language Teaching* (2018, Ed. Liantas, J. I.) by Hellman, A. B.

Teaching/Developing Vocabulary at Diverse Linguistic Levels

→ An article in *The TESOL Encyclopedia of English Language Teaching* (2018, Ed. Liantas, J. I.) by Hellman, A. B.

Teaching Lexical Chunks

→ An article in *The TESOL Encyclopedia of English Language Teaching* (2018, Ed. Liantas, J. I.) by Hellman, A. B.

Teaching Prepositions of Location

→ An article in *The TESOL Encyclopedia of English Language Teaching* (2018, Ed. Liantas, J. I.) by Hellman, A. B.

Teaching Tiered Vocabulary

→ An article in *The TESOL Encyclopedia of English Language Teaching* (2018, Ed. Liantas, J. I.) by Hellman, A. B.

Upcoming

TESOL March 2018 – Chicago, IL

Designing Professional Development for Pre- and In-Service Educators

→ A colloquium by Ernst-Slavit, G., Hellman, A. B., Ardasheva, Y., Morrison, S., Uribe-Zarain, X., Rojas-McWhinney, J., González, A., & Bell, A.

Developing Literacy in NC ELLs with Limited or Interrupted Schooling

→ A presentation by González, A., Morrison, J., & McBride, L.

Preparing Educators to Engage Families Constructively

→ A colloquium by Dyson, L., Bell, A., Ciechanowski, K., Lukens, L., Wei, M., & Zacarian, D.



iELT-Ozarks Project Faculty and Staff presenting about family engagement at the 2017 MIDTESOL conference. From left to right: Alexis González, Dr. Jennifer Rojas-McWhinney, Dr. Ximena Uribe-Zarain, Dr. Angela Bell, and Dr. Andrea Hellman.