



**WELCOME!**

**TAMIU SECOND ANNUAL**

Bilingual Education Conference

Saturday, Sept. 16, 2023

# 2023 Committee Members



**Dr. James O'Meara**  
Dean of the College of  
Education



**Dr. Gilda Y. Martínez**  
Chair of Bilingual  
Education Conference



**Dr. Christian Faltis**  
Chair of the Department of  
Educational Programs



**Dr. Sergio Garza**  
Instructional Assistant  
Professor



**Dr. Gilberto Soto**  
Professor of Music and  
Guitar



**Dr. Erica P. Guerrero**



**María Arámbula**



**Celia Taboada**



**Dr. Carmen Pompa**

**Jessenia Hernández - Emily Lujano - Allayza Ugarte**

# Keynote Speakers



**Dr. Norma E. Cantú**



**Dr. Patricia  
Sosa-Sánchez**

## Our Mission

We aim to promote advocacy for educational equity and academic excellence for bilingual/multilingual students globally and improve instructional practices for linguistically and culturally diverse children. We aim to provide bilingual educators with high-quality professional development opportunities to meet the needs of bilingual/multilingual learners.



**Pre-Registration/  
Continental Breakfast**  
Student Center Ballroom  
7 - 8 a.m

# Introduction of Keynote Speaker



## **Dr. Gilda Y. Martínez**

Chair of Unidos Para Texas  
Bilingual Education Conference

**Student Center Ballroom**  
**8:10 - 8:30 a.m.**

## **Keynote Speaker**

"Quien hable dos idiomas vale por dos:  
A Personal Testimonio"



## **Dr. Norma E. Cantú**

Trinity University at San Antonio

**Student Center Ballroom**  
**8:30 - 9:30 a.m.**



# Session 1

9:45 - 10:35 a.m.



# ***Session 1*** 9:45 - 10:35 a.m.

## **Session:** *Developing Effective Reading Groups for Emergent Bilinguals*

**Presenter:** Michele Garza and Basilia Vela, United Independent School District

**Location:** Student Center 225, Capacity 40

**Audience:** Elementary

**Description:** The objective is to help Emergent Readers develop greater control over the Reading process through the development of Reading strategies to assist in decoding and construct textual meaning.

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## **Session:** *Bi-Literacy, Mindfulness, and Writing*

**Presenter:** Dr. Bernice Sanchez, Texas A&M International University

**Location:** Student Center 230, Capacity 50

**Audience:** Secondary

**Description:** The following presentation focuses on SEL mindfulness standards and writing activities that provided SEL support and motivation to practice writing in informal settings that support writing for communicative purposes in academic environments for bi-literacy learners.

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## **Session:** *Social Media Awareness*

**Presenter:** Juan Luis Perez, United Independent School District

**Location:** Western Hemispheric Trade Center 104, Capacity 45

**Audience:** Parents and All Levels

**Description:** In this presentation we introduce the opportunities and challenges that come with social media in our digital world. We review the latest trends and real-world cases in which social media has impacted our daily lives.

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## **Session:** *¡Padres, agarren la onda!*

**Presenter:** Irma M. Barragán, Texas A&M International University

**Location:** Student Center 231, Capacity 50

**Audience:** Parents and Elementary

**Description:** A talk for bilingual teachers to think outside the box and help them establish strong parental involvement with ELL parents so that your class will become "la onda!"

# **Session 1** 9:45 - 10:35 a.m.

**Session:** *Making Connections through Language, Mindset, and Breath work*

**Presenter:** Dan Silva, United Independent School District

**Location:** Western Hemispheric Trade Center 103, Capacity 45

**Audience:** Elementary and Secondary

**Description:** Our current teacher world moves at a fast pace. There is a daily agenda with tasks to complete and kiddos to teach. At times we need a reset to decompress. This presentation will include fun strategies to bring awareness on the importance of staying balanced mentally, emotionally, physically.

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**Session:** *¡Buenas con el sol! Language and Culture Scaffolds to Achieve Equity!*

**Presenter:** Dr. Julissa Liendo, United Independent School District

**Location:** Student Center 236

**Audience:** K-12/ Undergraduate Students

**Seating:** 186 people

**Description:** Participants will examine the interrelatedness between language development and our Hispanic culture and shed light on what type of scaffolds we need to provide in today's classrooms. Participants will engage in a discussion on equity and its implications on student learning.

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**Session:** *Hacia la biliteracidad en Laredo, Texas: El sello global de biliteracidad*

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Christian Faltis and Dr. Zoraida Serrano, Texas A&M International University/ Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México- San Antonio

**Location:** Student Center 120

**Audience:** EC-12

**Seating:** 40 people

**Description:** ¿Qué podemos hacer como docentes para aumentar y desarrollar el español escrito para los maestros y estudiantes de educación bilingüe aquí en Laredo? Proponemos introducir un Sello Global de Biliteracidad, que enfatiza lecto-escritura y biliteracidad a todos los docentes que deseen ser maestros bilingües.





# Session 2

10:45 - 11:35 a.m.

# **Session 2** 10:45 - 11:35 a.m.

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**Session: *The Sound of Silence: A Vindication of Phonetics in the ESL Classroom***

**Presenter:** Dr. Manuel Broncano, Texas A&M International University

**Location:** Student Center 225

**Audience:** Elementary and Secondary

**Seating:** 40 people

**Description:** The phonological system is quite different in English and in Spanish. In his paper, Broncano will vindicate the gradual introduction of Phonetics as a key component of TESL at all levels, from elementary to college, and suggest a practical guideline to implement it.

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**Session: *Tecnología y Multimodalidad para Promover la Biliteracidad con Estudiantes Bilingües Emergentes***

**Presenter:** Dr. Juan Borda-Guerra, University of North Texas at Dallas

**Location:** Student Center 230

**Audience:** Elementary

**Seating:** 50 people

**Description:** Los asistentes a esta sesión recibirán información específica y estratégica acerca de cómo desarrollar lecciones que integren tecnología y multimodalidades para promover la biliteracidad con estudiantes emergentes bilingües. Se presentará un caso de estudio con ejemplos concretos usados en clase.

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**Session: *Unlocking the Question - Writing Strategies for Emergent Bilinguals***

**Presenter:** Guadalupe Aguiar and Yadira Martínez, United Independent School District

**Location:** Western Hemispheric Trade Center 104

**Audience:** Secondary

**Seating:** 45 people

**Description:** Participants will learn how to prepare emergent bilingual students to successfully unlock and respond TELPAS writing questions.

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**Session: *Music and Movement in the Bilingual Early Childhood and Elementary Classroom***

**Presenter:** Dr. Gilberto Soto, Texas A&M International University

**Location:** Student Center 236

**Audience:** Elementary

**Seating:** 186 people

**Description:** The objective of this presentation is to provide principles and strategies of how music and movement can be related to the needs of bilingual programs from early childhood to elementary school levels. This will be a mostly hands on presentation so be ready to sing, move and participate at all times.

# **Session 2** 10:45 - 11:35 a.m.

## **Session: *Issues in Bilingual Special Education: Implications for all Educators/maestros***

**Presenter:** Dr. Norma Guzmán and Gloria Rodríguez, Texas A&M University-Kingsville

**Location:** Student Center 231

**Audience:** Campus/ District Administrators

**Seating:** 50 people

**Description:** This session will provide an overview of the issue of Disproportionality in special education for CLD students with data from state and national level. The presentation will include historical context on disproportionality and implications for educators.

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## **Session: *Post-COVID Challenges for Bilingual Teachers: Transitioning from Online to Face-to-Face Teaching***

**Presenter:** Adriana Garza and Ana Lozoya, Texas A&M University-Kingsville/ Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD/Laredo Independent School District

**Location:** Western Hemispheric Trade Center 103

**Audience:** Secondary

**Seating:** 45 people

**Description:** The COVID-19 pandemic brought challenges and teachers had to adapt to teach from face-to-face instruction to online and remote learning in a matter of days. Moreover, they had to re-adapt months later to come back to "the new normal." This study highlights teachers' experiences throughout this process.

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## **Session: *Rural Superintendents' Research Project***

**Presenter:** Dr. María L. Vilorio, Texas A&M International University

**Location:** Student Center 120

**Audience:** Campus/ District Administrators

**Seating:** 40 people

**Description:** The Rural Superintendents' Research Project captures the unique challenges of rural school Superintendents in South Texas.



# LUNCH BREAK

Student Center Ballroom  
11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m.

# Introduction of Featured Speaker



## **Dr. Gilda Y. Martínez**

Chair of Unidos Para Texas  
Bilingual Education Conference

**Student Center Ballroom**  
**11:45 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

## **Keynote Speaker**

"Native Language Support: Bridging Comprehension of  
Academic Language with Trans-lingual Mentor Text"



## **Dr. Patsy Sosa-Sánchez**

University of North Texas at Dallas

**Student Center Ballroom**  
**12 - 1 p.m.**



# Session 3

1:10 - 2 p.m.



# **Session 3** 1:10 - 2 p.m.

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**Session: *Artificial Intelligence Tools to try in your Classroom***

**Presenter:** Dr. Cynthia Sosa, Texas A&M International University

**Location:** Student Center 236

**Audience:** Elementary

**Seating:** 186 people

**Description:** This presentation reviews what Artificial Intelligence (AI) is, the types of AI, and tools to implement into your classrooms.

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**Session: *Field-Based Support for Bilingual Teachers***

**Presenter:** Dr. Tomas Espinosa, Texas A&M University-Commerce

**Location:** Student Center 225

**Audience:** Elementary

**Seating:** 40 people

**Description:** In this presentation, we will analyze different strategies to support field-based bilingual teachers and share our experiences working as field supervisors. We will also discuss different ways to observe classrooms, improve lesson plans and provide feedback specifically for bilingual teachers.

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**Session: *No Spanish, Grandpa, no Spanish!***

**Presenter:** Dr. Roberto Torres, Texas A&M University-Kingsville

**Location:** Student Center 231

**Audience:** Early Childhood

**Seating:** 50 people

**Description:** Nuestra presentación interactiva consistirá en procurar una explicación académica que facilite entender cómo estas cinco palabras, "No Spanish, Grandpa, No Spanish," reflejan el impacto de diversos medios en el desarrollo cognitivo, lingüístico, y sociocultural infantil.

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**Session: *Emergent Bilinguals and High-stakes Testing: Advocating to Address Unresolved Equity Issues***

**Presenter:** Yara Flores, Texas A&M International University

**Location:** Student Center 230

**Audience:** Bilingual Education Advocates

**Seating:** 50 people

**Description:** Participants will learn about the factors and variables that underlie the paradox between the use of high-stakes testing and assessment for emergent bilinguals, highlight instances of this incongruence.

# **Session 3** 1:10 - 2 p.m.

## **Session: *Strategies to Engage Early Childhood English Learners***

**Presenter:** Dr. María Gonzáles, University of Texas at San Antonio

**Location:** Western Hemispheric Trade Center 103

**Audience:** Early Childhood

**Seating:** 45 people

**Description:** The participants will engage in authentic pre-reading strategies while connecting theory to practice and the application of language in young minds through the use of flannel boards, read-aloud activities, motivational music, pre-service student videos based on action research, and applying phonemic awareness strategies in early childhood settings and classrooms across the state.

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## **Session: *Jovita Idár as a Cultural Role Model: Inspiring Agency and Identity Among Female Teachers of Mexican Descent***

**Presenter:** Dr. Heriberto Godina, Texas A&M International University

**Location:** Student Center 120

**Audience:** Elementary

**Seating:** 40 people

**Description:** This presentation seeks to raise awareness about Jovita Idár, an early bilingual education advocate and civil rights leader from Laredo, Texas. Educators who are interested in learning more about the timely accomplishments of Jovita Idár should find this session inspirational and informative.

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## **Session: *High Impact Instructional Strategies through ELPS, TEKS, and Readiness Standards***

**Presenter:** Sylvia Hein and Lizette Treviño, Laredo Independent School District

**Location:** Western Hemispheric Trade Center 104

**Audience:** Secondary

**Seating:** 45 people

**Description:** Five High Impact Instructional Strategies to help increase academic vocabulary and comprehension will be presented and how these strategies correlate to the ELPS, TEKS, and Readiness Standards.



# Session 4

2:10 - 3 p.m.

# **Session 4** 2:10 - 3 p.m.

## **Session:** *Multicultural Children's Literature: A Reflective Approach to Creating Rigor and Relevance for Academic Success*

**Presenter:** Dr. Patsy Sosa-Sánchez, University of North Texas-Dallas

**Location:** Student Center 236

**Audience:** EC-12

**Seating:** 186 people

**Description:** This presentation focuses on how using literary reflections of children's multicultural literature for content area instruction provides authentic learning associated with strong academic success. The use of MCL reflections provide relevance for students and fosters instructional rigor.

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## **Session:** *Immigrant Youth's English Language Development and Aspirations for Social Mobility*

**Presenter:** Dr. Judith Tamai, Houston Independent School District

**Location:** Student Center 225

**Audience:** Undergraduate Students

**Seating:** 40 people

**Description:** Participants will enhance their understanding of the impact of immigrant youth's English language development experiences on their educational goals and social mobility.

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## **Session:** *Decolonizing Classroom Language Practices with Talmudic Pair Work*

**Presenter:** Dr. Arie Sherris, Leopoldo Ramírez, and Leonel Ramírez, Texas A&M University-Kingsville

**Location:** Student Center 231

**Audience:** Secondary

**Seating:** 50 people

**Description:** Teachers learn to decolonize language practices in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Activities could be video clips or excerpts from articles

# **Session 4** 2:10 - 3 p.m.

## **Session: *Moving our Long-Term Emergent Bilinguals Toward English Language Proficiency***

**Presenter:** Iliana Hinojosa-Molina, Laredo Independent School District

**Location:** Student Center 230

**Audience:** Elementary and Secondary

**Seating:** 50 people

**Description:** Help your Emergent Bilingual Students become proficient in English and move in their language proficiency (PLDs) by using practical, interactive activities that are easy to use and implement in your classrooms.

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## **Session: *Pedagogical Partnerships and Critical Dialogue: The Creation of Bilingual Children's Books And Transformative Practices***

**Presenter:** Dr. Puneet Gil and Dr. Filiz Shine, Texas A&M International University

**Location:** Western Hemispheric Trade Center 103

**Audience:** Elementary

**Seating:** 45 people

**Description:** The presentation will feature discussion from all pedagogical partner team members. We will discuss our role in the project and the major project outcomes. Bilingual picture books will also be discussed.

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## **Session: *High Impact Instructional Strategies through ELPS, TEKS, and Readiness Standards***

**Presenter:** María P. Tristán and María Griselda Martínez, Laredo Independent School District

**Location:** Student Center 120

**Audience:** Elementary

**Seating:** 40 people

**Description:** Five High Impact Instructional Strategies to help increase academic vocabulary and comprehension will be presented and how these strategies correlate to the ELPS, TEKS, and Readiness Standards.

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## **Session: *Enhancing your Bilingual Classroom with Google***

**Presenter:** Pearl Sánchez and Cynthia López, United Independent School District

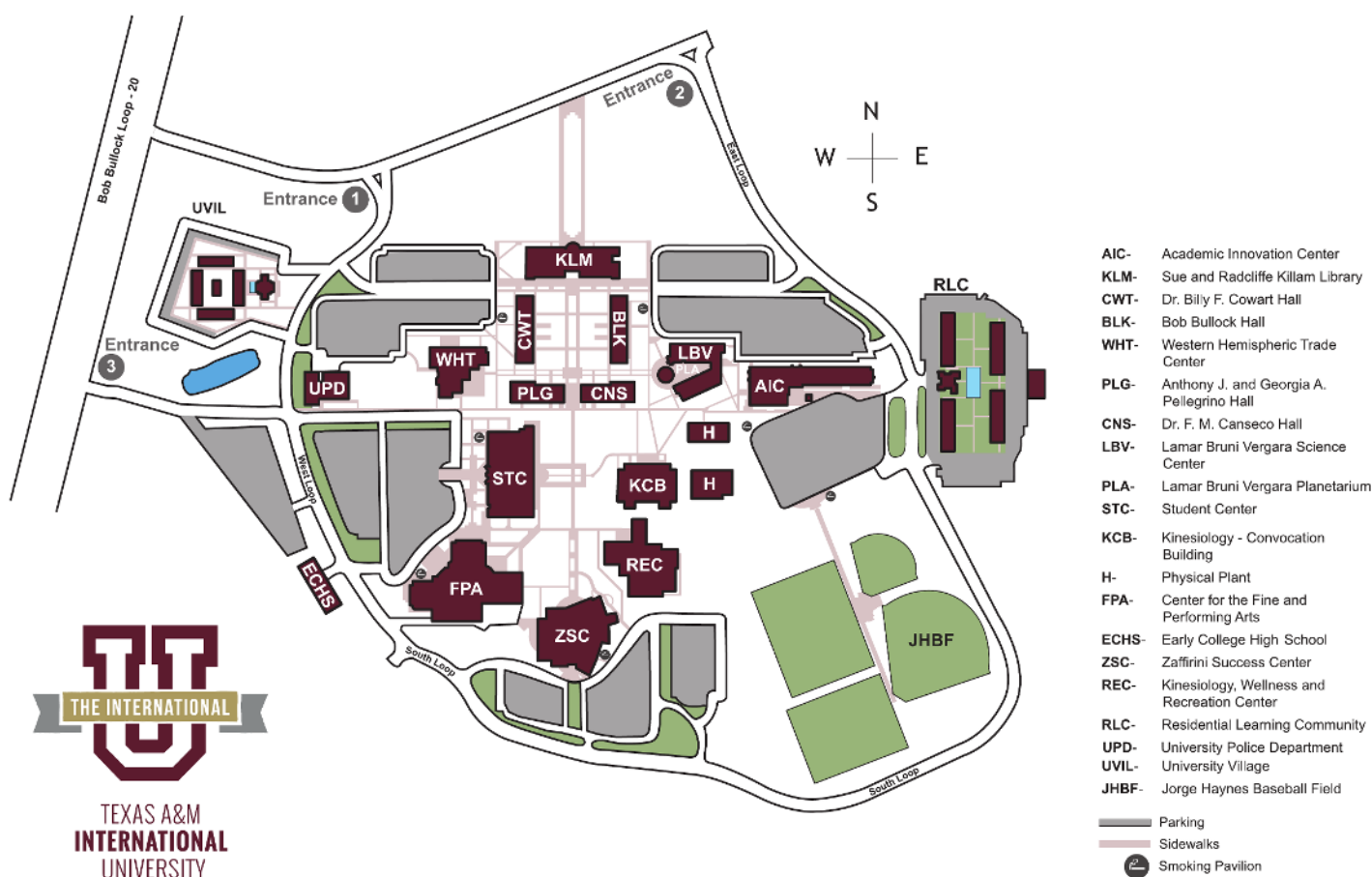
**Location:** Western Hemispheric Trade Center 104

**Audience:** Elementary

**Seating:** 45 people

**Description:** The audience will learn different ways to engage emergent bilinguals through the use of Google (Slides, Forms, Docs, Sheets, etc.) in their everyday lessons.

# WELCOME TO TAMIU!







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