Summary/Commentary

Summer Peixoto



Session Title: Curriculum Repair: If It's Broken, Fix It!

Presenters: Gloria Munson and Vicki Sorensen, University of Texas at Arlington

Content area: IEP

Session type: Practice-Oriented

Summary

In this session, the presenters shared their experiences in assessing and changing an old patchwork curriculum in an IEP to provide continuity between standards and textbook selection to meet CEA standards. They created a means to address two specific issues: test security and disparity between the 16 week and 10 week curriculum guides. One curriculum review technique they used involved using color-coded and multi-sized post-it notes to engage the audience in questions, answers, and review of information intended to evaluate the curriculum. According to the presenters, the most important part of the entire progression of events leading to CEA approval, was making sure teachers were involved in the various stages of curriculum repair.

Commentary

The session was engaging and the presenters were clearly knowledgeable about the topic, while being forthcoming about their experiences pursuing CEA accreditation. The session was incredibly useful to the AEC as we are going through a similar process at the moment. As an instructor, I do not always know all the pieces involved in this type of change, so viewing this from their perspective really helped me understand the process better. Also, the handout and techniques used during the session could prove useful as a tool in our own CEA accreditation process as we work toward alignment.

Session Title: Wonderful Words: Vocabulary Matters

Digital Presence: http://vocabmatters.pbworks.com/w/page/70553099/FrontPage

Content area: CALL Session type: E-Village

Summary

The session leader explained her experiences in presenting this session in the E-Village Online session. She collected many digital vocabulary teaching resources while teaching a course on vocabulary, collated the material and information from the class, and created a comprehensive list of various websites and tools for vocabulary practice.

Commentary

While I noticed that AEC teachers are already using some of the resources mentioned such as Quizlet and Voicethread, I will review the resources on the list provided to see if there is anything we could add to the LEO web page or share with other instructors. The presenter also inspired me to think about creating something for the TESOL E-Village Online session for next year. We can certainly add the handout resources to our AEC technology Blackboard site to keep as a useful teaching resource.

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