Highlights from Five Years of UW STARTALK Heritage Language Symposia

Dr. Michele Anciaux Aoki,
Consultant to UW STARTALK Programs 2011-2020

michele@anciauxinternational.com

UW STARTALK Heritage Language Symposia

https://depts.washington.edu/startalk/events.php

- **2020 Heritage Language Symposium at the UW**
- **2019 Heritage Language Symposium at the UW**
- **2018 Heritage Language Symposium at the UW**
- **2016 World Language Summit: The High School to College Connection**
- **2015 Heritage Language Symposium at the UW**
- **2014 Heritage Language Symposium at the UW**

Highlights from 2014

Who is a heritage language learner?

- **Narrow definition:** those who have been exposed to a particular language in childhood but did not learn it to full capacity because another language became dominant. FUNCTIONAL PROFICIENCY

- **Broad definition:** those who have been raised with a strong cultural connection to a particular language, usually through family interaction. CULTURAL AFFINITY

Source: Polinsky and Kagan 2007

Highlights from 2015

Attending to the Needs of Heritage Language Learners in Mixed Classrooms

Maria M. Carreira, Ph.D.
National Heritage Language Resource Center, UCLA
Professor, California State University, Long Beach
Heritage Language Symposium
The University of Washington, Seattle
Feb. 21, 2015

Overview of the principles, approaches, and applications that I will present today

- Know your learners;
- Strive for Rich Classroom discourse by choosing and using materials with a view towards making learning _meaningful_, _engaging_, and _accessible_ to all learners;
- Make students active and autonomous partners in what happens in the classroom;
- Differentiate learning according to learner needs;
- Design courses and curricula that make linguistic and demographic sense.

Highlights from 2016 (High School to College Connection)

Extended Russian Through STEM: The Course Overview

- 2-credit course, meets once a week;
- Designed based on UW STARTALK *Russian in the Sky and Outer Space* (2011-2015) experiences ;
- First time offered in the Slavic Department of UW in the fall 2015;
- For mixed group of students: heritage and non-heritage, working in either technical fields or the humanities;
- For students who are already relatively proficient in spoken Russian (Intermediate High) and can read and write (no less then Novice High).
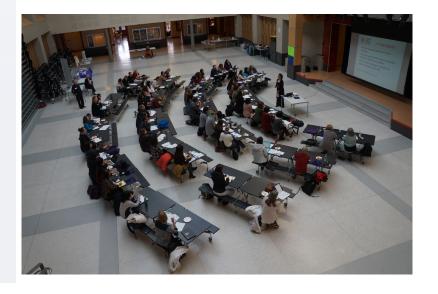
Highlights from 2018

Summer Heritage Language Workshop at UCLA

NHLRC
National Heritage Language Resource Center

Outline of the workshop

- Review of key principles of heritage language (HL) teaching and learning;
- Overview of the principles of Project-based learning (PBL);
- How to use PBL with HL learners Examples of projects

Highlights from 2019

Getting to Advanced: Challenging High School Heritage Language Learners to Step Outside Their Comfort Zone

Dr. Svetlana Abramova
Dr. Eduardo Viana da Silva
Dr. Michele Anciaux Aoki,
Dr. Bridget Yaden,

University of Washington
STARTALK Program

2019 Keynote: Eve Zyzik

2019 Keynote: Eve Zyzik

A starting point

- Heritage speakers (HS) acquire language X from birth, naturalistically in the home. The development of this language is supported by input from family and, sometimes/to some degree, by input in the community.

- HS typically experience a significant reduction in language X input when they begin formal schooling (Language Y is the majority language).

- When we study HS as college-age adults, we are seeing the end result of their linguistic experience.

2019 Keynote: Eve Zyzik

Incomplete acquisition

- "Developmental delays that start in childhood never catch up, and as the heritage child becomes an adult, the eventual adult grammar does not reach native-like development" (Benmamoun, Montrul, & Polinsky, 2013: 166-167).

- Incomplete acquisition, broadly speaking, refers to differences in ultimate attainment that include grammatical reductions, simplifications, and reanalyses.

2019 Keynote: Eve Zyzik

Kupisch & Rothman (2018)

HL as the medium of instruction, not the target

- Schooling and literacy give individuals a very different experience with the heritage language, both qualitatively and quantitatively.
- "Extra high quality input" in formal schooling
  - Wider range of grammatical constructions and vocabulary
  - Properties of the standard language
  - Exposure to instructions in the heritage language

2019 Presentation: Ana Dobao

Teaching mixed language classes: challenges and opportunities

Dr. Ana Fernández Dobao

University of Washington

2019 Presentation: Ana Dobao

Conclusions

- HL and L2 learners benefited from working together

- HL and L2 learners helped each other solve lexical, grammatical and mechanical problems

- L2 learners received more help with vocabulary and grammar

- HL learners received more help with spelling and accentuation

2019 Presentation: Ana Dobao

Resources for you from UW STARTALK

TELL (Teacher Effectiveness for Language Learning) Infographics

- http://www.tellproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/AdvanceLearning_LearningTargets_Infographic_4.pdf

- http://www.tellproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/AdvanceLearning_PerformanceAssessments_Infographic_4.pdf

- http://www.tellproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/AdvanceLearning_CheckingForUnderstanding_Infographic_4.pdf

- http://www.tellproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/AdvanceLearning_TargetLanguage_Infographic.pdf

- http://www.tellproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/AdvanceLearning_EmpoweringLanguageUse_Infographic.pdf

- http://www.tellproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/AdvanceLearning_Engagement_Infographic.pdf

STARTALK Principles https://startalk.umd.edu/public/system/files/resources/startalk_principles.pdf

Keys to Planning For Learning
https://www.actfl.org/publications/books-and-brochures/the-keys-planning-learning

If you want to learn more…

https://depts.washington.edu/startalk/events.php

WORKSHOP #2:
WORKING WITH HERITAGE LANGUAGE LEARNERS TO CONNECT STEM AND LANGUAGE

Presented by **Dr. Michele Anciaux Aoki**
Tuesday February 25, 2020 5:00 – 7:00 pm
Location: UW Denny Hall 159

Free. Clock hours may be available through the Washington Association for Language Teaching.

Learn More
Questions? Please contact **Dr. Michele Anciaux Aoki.**

Register