

New Directions **LATAM**

Meeting the moment: diverse language assessment needs in Latin America
CENTRO University - Mexico City, 16-17 May 2025

Conference Programme - Day 1 - Friday May 16th

Time	Main Auditorium			
8:00–9:00	Registration			
9:00–9:45	Opening ceremony			
9:45–10:45	<p>Panel discussion Current language policies, national and local tests in Latin America: Mapping the terrain Chair: Aidan Holland, Global Assessments Solutions Manager, British Council Participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Elsa Fernanda González, Director, School of Education Sciences and Humanities, Autonomous University of Tamaulipas, Mexico • Gladys Quevedo-Camargo, Director - Institute of Letters, University of Brasília • Walter Araya Garita, Professor, University of Costa Rica • Nayibe Rosado-Mendinueta, Associate Professor, Universidad del Norte, Colombia <p><i>Responding to diverse contexts</i></p>			
10:45–11:15	<p>Plenary presentation Harder, Better, Faster, Stronger: Using AI to help students perfect their speaking skills Mariano Felice, Senior Researcher, English Language Research, British Council</p>			
11:15–11:40	Networking tea / coffee break			
	Auditorium	Room B600	Room B601	Room B604
11:40–12:10	<p>Evolving Assessment Practices in Remote English Language Testing: The Integration of Technology and Innovation at CENLEX Zacatenco (IPN) Maria Del Pilar Negrete Barajas</p> <p><i>Responding to diverse contexts</i></p>	<p>Language assessment and students with specific educational needs and disabilities (SEND): what instruments do Latin American teachers favour? Juliana Reichert Assuncao Tonelli Gladys Quevedo-Camargo Helena Selbach</p> <p><i>Accommodating a diverse range of test-takers</i></p>	<p>Using generative Artificial intelligence-based feedback to assess EFL learners' writing Christopher Gerardo Cantu</p> <p><i>Embracing a diverse range of approaches to assessment</i></p>	<p>How can equality, diversity and inclusion policies improve language testing for all? Gemma Bellhouse</p> <p><i>Spotlight</i></p>
12:15–12:45	<p>Transforming Assessment for SEN Students: A Project on Inclusive Instruction and Universal Design for Learning to Empower Growth Taila Gimenez</p> <p><i>Accommodating a diverse range of test-takers</i></p>	<p>A Continuous Professional Development Program on Language Assessment Literacy to Empower Teachers of English in Cuban Education Yoan Martinez Marquez Minerva Rodriguez</p> <p><i>Accommodating a diverse range of test-takers</i></p>	<p>Assessment and Data Literacy: using results from standardized tests to enhance the teaching and learning process Cesar Bizetto</p> <p><i>Embracing a diverse range of approaches to assessment</i></p>	Info to follow

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Time	Main Auditorium			
12:50-13:40	Panel discussion Putting our house in order: how to improve language assessment literacy and ensure quality student outcomes Chair: Stephen Carey, Head of Relationship Management, IELTS, British Council Participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emma Bruce, Research and Validation of IELTS, British Council Alejandra Vilalta, Director of International Academic Development & Global Initiatives, TEC de Monterrey TBC 			
13:40-14:55	Lunch break - provided at the venue			
	Auditorium	Room B600	Room B601	Room B604
14:55-15:25	Aligning Local Proficiency Tests with Test-Takers' Needs: A Case Study of EXAVER's Consequential Validity Meunier Colula Marion Alain <i>Responding to diverse contexts</i>	Operationalising assessment for learning policies in public education: The practical realities of formative language assessment in Chile Salome Villa Larenas Javiera Ignacia Avila Inostroza <i>Embracing a diverse range of approaches to assessment</i>	Info to follow	Assessing English Language Learning for International Migrant Children in Brazilian Public Schools Juliana Reichert Assuncao Tonelli Gladys Quevedo-Camargo Helena Selbac <i>Responding to diverse contexts</i>
15:30-16:00	Unlocking the secrets of language retention: An initial look at the factors influencing English language loss or maintenance in Mexico Emma Bruce <i>Responding to diverse contexts</i>	Assessment of English language and pedagogical skills: a case in a rural teacher-training college (normal) Rosalio Ovalle Morquecho Rogelia Zambero <i>Embracing a diverse range of approaches to assessment</i>	Evolving perspectives for Italian Language Certification Assessment. A focus on Latin America Giulia Peri Sabrina Machetti <i>Responding to diverse contexts</i>	Info to follow
16:00-16:25	Networking tea / coffee break			
16:25-17:15	Plenary presentation The challenges of EFL assessment in Mexico: Implications for speaking and writing assessment in the state of Tamaulipas Elsa Fernanda Gonzalez, Director, School of Education Sciences and Humanities, Autonomous University of Tamaulipas, Mexico <i>Responding to diverse contexts</i>			
17:15-17:35	Closing day 1			

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Conference Programme - Day 2 - Saturday May 17th

Time	Main Auditorium			
9:00–9:15	Welcome to Day 2			
9:15–10:15	Panel discussion Inclusive language testing: A moral and ethical imperative—are we truly meeting individual needs? Chair Damon Young, JEDI Researcher, English Language Research, British Council Panelists <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Janeth Carrillo, EXAVER proficiency exams chief executive officer, Veracruzana University Gemma Bellhouse Test Quality Assurance Manager, Global Assessments, British Council César Bizetto Head of Teaching, Learning & Assessment, São Paulo Open Centre <i>Accommodating a diverse range of test-takers</i>			
10:15–10:40	Networking tea / coffee break			
	Auditorium	Room B600	Room B601	Room B604
10:40–11:10	Regional Insights into Diversifying Language Assessment: Leveraging AI for Formative Practices in LATAM Jimmy Ronald Riojas Rivera <i>Embracing a diverse range of approaches to assessment</i>	Language assessment literacy of decision-makers in Latin American universities and determining factors in the selection of ESL entry/exit tests Juan David Medina <i>Responding to diverse contexts</i>	Disentangling the Role of Learning Context and Socio-economic Factors in PET Test Scores: Insights from Mexican Young Learners Okim Kang Maria Nelly Gutierrez Arvizu Francesca Grixoni Mohammadreza Dalman <i>Accommodating a diverse range of test-takers</i>	English for Employability: Supporting Learning and Language Development for the Workforce Aidan Holland <i>Spotlight</i>
11:15–11:45	Mexican EFL Teachers' Current Practices and Perceptions towards English Pronunciation Assessment Ricardo de la Garza Cano <i>Embracing a diverse range of approaches to assessment</i>	Transforming Language Assessment in Mexico: Empowering Educators and Students Through Technology Mariana Puente <i>Responding to diverse contexts</i>	Ensuring test takers with disabilities equal access to a local proficiency test Janeth Tello Carrillo <i>Accommodating a diverse range of test-takers</i>	Supporting the professional development of teachers using mobile messenger apps Graham Stanley <i>Spotlight</i>
	Transition			
11:50–12:40	Plenary presentation AI, a new era (or a false dawn) for language testing? Ivan Sequeira, Full Professor in Interdisciplinary Studies, Federal University of Bahia <i>Accommodating a diverse range of test-takers</i>			

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Conference Programme - Day 2 - Saturday May 17th

Time	Main Auditorium			
12:40-13:30	Plenary presentation The role of assessment systems in advancing language education: A case study from Costa Rica Allen Quesada-Pacheco, Director School of Modern Languages, University of Costa Rica <i>Embracing a diverse range of approaches to assessment</i>			
13:30-14:45	Lunch break - provided at the venue			
	Auditorium	Room B600	Room B601	Room B604
14:45-15:15	Longitudinal study on English proficiency development in Mexican higher education: The impact of socio-economic status and EDI Edgar Emmanuell Garcia Ponce <i>Responding to diverse contexts</i>	Global Perspectives, Local Considerations: Investigating the impact and fairness of retaking single IELTS test components Emma Bruce Tony Clark <i>Embracing a diverse range of approaches to assessment</i>	Working with stakeholders to move the needle on inclusive language assessment tasks Suzanne Springer Martyna Kozłowska <i>Accommodating a diverse range of test-takers</i>	Info to follow
15:20-15:50	Context-Sensitive Language Teaching and Assessment: Developing an Actionable Framework to Better Assess and Teach within our Diverse Latin American Classrooms Hélder González <i>Responding to diverse contexts</i>	Postcrossing: A case of processual evaluation in English language teaching in basic education in Brasilia-DF, Brazil Francisco Thiago Alessandra de Paula <i>Embracing a diverse range of approaches to assessment</i>	How accessible are accessible certification tests? The experience of visually impaired students Gabriela Trejo Karina Godina <i>Accommodating a diverse range of test-takers</i>	Mapping English taught programmes worldwide Stephen Carey <i>Spotlight</i>
15:50-16:15	Networking tea / coffee break			
16:15-17:05	Interactive session Language assessment innovation across Latin America Mariano Felice, Senior Researcher, English Language Research, British Council <i>Embracing a diverse range of approaches to assessment</i>			
17:05-17:25	Closing Ceremony			
Until 19:30	Networking Drinks Reception - 8th floor			