

New Directions **LATAM**

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

Conference Schedule - Day 1 - Friday May 16th

Time	Main Auditorium			
8:00–9:00	Registration			
9:00–9:45	Opening ceremony Welcome: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Susannah Goshko CMG, British Ambassador to the United Mexican States Lic.Silvia Blanco, IPN Directora de Formación en Lenguas Extranjeras y Secretaria Academica Darren Coyle, British Council, Country Director 			
9:45–10:45	Panel discussion Current language policies, national and local tests in Latin America: Mapping the terrain Chair: Aidan Holland, Global Assessments Solutions Manager, British Council Panelists <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 <div>Responding to diverse contexts</div>			
10:45–11:15	Plenary presentation Harder, Better, Faster, Stronger: Using AI to help students perfect their speaking skills Mariano Felice, Senior Researcher, English Language Research, British Council			
11:15–11:40	Networking tea / coffee break			
	Auditorium	Room B600	Room B601	Room B604
11:40–12:10	Evolving Assessment Practices in Remote English Language Testing: The Integration of Technology and Innovation at CENLEX Zacatenco (IPN) Maria Del Pilar Negrete Barajas <div>Responding to diverse contexts</div>	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 <div>Accommodating a diverse range of test-takers</div>	Using generative Artificial intelligence-based feedback to assess EFL learners' writing Christopher Gerardo Cantu <div>Embracing a diverse range of approaches to assessment</div>	How can equality, diversity and inclusion policies improve language testing for all? Gemma Bellhouse <div>Spotlight</div>
12:15–12:45	Evolving perspectives for Italian Language Certification Assessment. A focus on Latin America Giulia Peri <div>Responding to diverse contexts</div>	A Continuous Professional Development Program on Language Assessment Literacy to Empower Teachers of English in Cuban Education Yoan Martinez Marquez <div>Accommodating a diverse range of test-takers</div>	Assessment and Data Literacy: using results from standardized tests to enhance the teaching and learning process Cesar Bizetto <div>Embracing a diverse range of approaches to assessment</div>	English for Employability: Supporting Learning and Language Development for the Workforce Aidan Holland <div>Spotlight</div>

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Time	Main Auditorium		
12:50-13:50	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 Panelists <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 • Rosalía Valero, Senior Assessment Services Manager, English - Mexico, Central America & the Caribbean, Cambridge University Press & Assessment • Mtro. Ricardo González Máximo, Head of the Language Centre of Universidad Panamericana, Universidad Panamericana (Pan-American University) 		
13:50-15:05	Lunch break - provided at the venue		
	Auditorium	Room B600	Room B601
15:05-15:35	Transforming Assessment for SEN Students: A Project on Inclusive Instruction and Universal Design for Learning to Empower Growth Taila Gimenez <i>Accommodating a diverse range of test-takers</i>	Assessing English Language Learning for International Migrant Children in Brazilian Public Schools Juliana Reichert Assuncao Tonelli Izadora Amador Damaceno Helena Selbac <i>Responding to diverse contexts</i>	Artificial Intelligence - Reimagining English Language Assessments for the future in Latin America Zazil Flores <i>Spotlight</i>
15:40-16:10	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>	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>
16:10-16:35	Networking tea / coffee break		
16:35-17:25	Plenary presentation The challenges of EFL assessment in Mexico: Implications for speaking and writing Elsa Fernanda Gonzalez, Director, School of Education Sciences and Humanities, Autonomous University of Tamaulipas, Mexico <i>Responding to diverse contexts</i>		
17:25-17:35	Closing day 1		

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Conference Schedule - 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 / EDI Informal Chat With Gemma Bellhouse and Damon Young			
	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 Maria Nelly Gutierrez Arvizu <i>Accommodating a diverse range of test-takers</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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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>	The Comprehensive Learning System in Action: Strengthening System Alignment Through Strategic Collaboration Aidan Holland Claudia Roca <i>Spotlight</i>
15:20-15:50	Mapping English taught programmes worldwide Stephen Carey <i>Spotlight</i>	Postcrossing: A case of processual assessment 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>	
15:50-16:15	Networking tea / coffee break			
16:15-17:15	Interactive session Language assessment innovation across Latin America Chair Mariano Felice, Senior Researcher, English Language Research, British Council Panelists <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nayibe Rosado-Mendinueta, Associate professor, Universidad del Norte, Colombia Allen Quesada-Pacheco, Director School of Modern Languages, University of Costa Rica Janeth Carrillo, EXAVER proficiency exams chief executive officer, Veracruzana University Ivan Sequeira, Full Professor in Interdisciplinary Studies, Federal University of Bahia <i>Embracing a diverse range of approaches to assessment</i>			
17:15-17:25	Closing Ceremony			
Until 19:30	Networking Drinks Reception - 8th floor			