Leadership in instruction, program and professional development

• Developed and coordinated the delivery of credit courses and the facilitation of teacher inquiry in Second Language Education, French Immersion, Technology and Numeracy Education
• Assisted individual teachers and mentor groups in the elaboration of teacher inquiry projects
• Prepared field-based mentors for supervisory responsibilities in teacher inquiry
• Assisted with the planning, organization and delivery of non-credit series in French Second Language Education (Immersion and Core)
• Presented a workshop for intermediate teachers in French Immersion, Mathématiques en Immersion, at the national conference for the Association Canadienne des Professeurs d’Immersion (ACPI) in October, 2007
• Provided ongoing in-service to Korean language teachers in Delta School District in the area of Second Language Methodology – Winter/Spring 2006
• Sessional instructor at Simon Fraser University in summer 2003 for Methods and Strategies for teaching First Nations Language and Culture (IPTE 302)
• Planned for and presented at Delta District Professional Development Days in February 2011, February 2005, February 2003, and August 2003
• Organized and presented Core French workshops and an immersion weekend camp for elementary teachers in Delta, Surrey and Langley
• Planned for and presented at the Beyond Monet Instructional Intelligence series in Delta School District, 2003-2004
• Organized and facilitated the implementation of the Normes de performance en écriture (Writing Performance Standards) for French Immersion teachers in Delta School District
• Participated in the French Immersion Social Studies Critical Thinking Consortium and contributed to the creation of a resource document of critical thinking lesson plans for secondary French Immersion social studies teachers
Profiles of French Immersion Teachers: Personal and Professional Identities and the Linguistic and Cultural Reproduction of a Bilingual Canada

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this qualitative case study is to examine how the professional identity of French Immersion teachers in British Columbia is constructed and sustained in discourse. I examine the interplay of individual identity construction and institutional discourses related to bilingualism, to language and culture, and to French Immersion education as an agency of cultural and linguistic reproduction.

This study was conducted with 12 French Immersion teachers in one Greater Vancouver school district. I examine individual interview and focus group data, and official documents related to bilingualism in Canada and British Columbia, in order to reveal the ways in which French Immersion teacher identity is shaped and constrained by dominant ideologies of language and authoritative discourses of bilingualism.

My analysis indicates that participants construct a sense of professional identity as French Immersion teachers by drawing on discourses of language that privilege native-speakers and discourses of bilingualism as dual monolingualisms. Identity construction is largely confined by dominant discourses that position these participants as outsiders or bilingual imposters. A critical examination of the authoritative discourses that inform French Immersion teacher identity creates an opportunity to consider alternative discursive understandings of language and bilingualism for future and current French Immersion teachers. The findings of this study suggest that French Immersion teachers should be offered alternative, progressive discourses that provide new ways of reconceptualising their professional identities in positive ways. Teacher education, both pre-service and in-service, can offer French Immersion teachers access to progressive discourses in order to reimagine and construct their professional identities in favourable ways.

Academic Record

Doctor of Philosophy – Languages, Cultures and Literacies, Simon Fraser University

Dissertation – Profiles of French Immersion Teachers: Personal and Professional Identities and the Linguistic and Cultural Reproduction of a Bilingual Canada

Master of Education – Language and Literacy Education, University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Education – with Great Distinction, Major: Languages; Minor: Social Studies, University of Lethbridge

Bachelor of Arts – Major: French, History, and Political Science, Simon Fraser University

Professional Experience (partial list)

2010 – present Cliff Drive Elementary, Delta, BC
Teaching Grade 6 Late French Immersion

2006 – 2010 Inservice Faculty Associate, Field Programs
Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC
Organized and provided instructional support to off-campus teacher inservice credit and non-credit programs.

2005 – 2006 Sunshine Hills Elementary, Delta, BC
Taught Grade 5 Early French Immersion.

2002 – 2005 Modern Languages Coordinator, Delta, BC
Responsible for the planning, development, implementation and program evaluation of French Immersion programs, Core French and other Modern Languages. Provided in-service, instructional support, and resources to elementary and secondary teachers across the district.

1999 - 2002 Maple Ridge Secondary School, Maple Ridge, BC
Taught French Immersion Social Studies 11, Media Studies 11, Learning Assistance 8-10, and Core French 8 and 10.