

**Date:** December 7, 2018

**To:** CAFE Board Members

**From:** Cristina Alfaro,  
Director, Institutes of Higher Education & Secondary Education Affairs

**Subject:** CAFE Research Proposal

I would like to offer this brief statement to propose that the CAFE board considers making an investment in the area of *Bilingual Education Research*. Currently, CAFE is at a significant crossroads where we, as an organization, can become a leader in the documentation and examination of critical research, pedagogy, policies, theory, culture, language, equity, community, and border issues that impact bilingual education, teaching, and learning. We are well positioned to conduct qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods studies that can contribute to the growing knowledge base on bilingual education models, professional development, and best practices--especially around equity in Dual Language Education.

I propose that we strategically begin to establish a *research agenda* inclusive of position papers, and articles focused on applied educational research and research infused classroom practices. A perfect example of a cutting edge project we are currently leading is *Binational GLAD*. With this project we are positioned to conduct a mixed-methods study on the impact and transformative experiences teachers are engaging and what this means for teachers, students, and families on both sides of the border.

I would like to propose that we establish a *research committee* to determine areas of priority. Additionally, I would like to request that the CAFE board approve a minimum of \$15,000 to launch a CAFE research agenda.