

CABTE

California Association for Bilingual Teacher Education

December 3, 2020

TO: Jan Gustafson-Corea, CEO, CAFE
CAFE Board Members

FROM: Sharon Merritt, Ph.D.
President, CABTE

RE: CABTE Report to the CAFE Board, October-December 2020

Please accept my quarterly report on CABTE's activities. It has continued to be a busy season for CABTE and its Board. CABTE continues to pursue its mission through its IHE members, as well as through our association with CCFE and CAFE, and the other strategic organizations our members are connected with.

At our annual Board retreat, Sharon introduced four areas of focus for her term as President, reflecting the work begun and in progress as she assumed the position: Advocacy, Strategy, Scholarship, and Organization

These are some of CABTE's activities over the last quarter in each area:

Advocacy

Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC)

Ivannia Soto and Lyn Scott have regularly represented the Board at CTC meetings, but since Lyn's role is changing, Sharon Merritt will now regularly accompany Ivannia. The work of the Bilingual Authorization Work Group and the statewide survey of districts conducted by CEEL at Loyola Marymount has not yet been presented formally to CTC at a Commission meeting and is now anticipated for the February meeting. CABTE Board ex-officio member, Magaly Lavadenz will present on these topics.

Bilingual Authorization Standards Revision Working Group

CABTE membership has been awaiting the report of the working group, which had been anticipated for inclusion in the Commission agendas in both October and December 2020. However, as CABTE members heard at our November membership meeting, Board member Eduardo Muñoz Muñoz and CABTE member Carolina Serna reported that the working group has extended its work into December, so the report will not go to the Commission until after that, and will not be included in the Commission agenda until February. Eduardo and Carolina reported the working group's deep engagement in some of the more complex aspects of the BILA standards, including questions revolving around the complex meanings of culture, and the need to define expectations for bilingual fieldwork during credentialing. The report to the Commission will take place during the February 11-12. We hope many of our CABTE members will offer comments to the Commission regarding this important initiative.

CABTE is an associated organization of CCFE and an affiliate of CAFE.



Replacing RICA

CTC staff and leadership have made clear to Coalition partners and IHE leaders that they continue to be open to replacing RICA in the future and that they anticipate the reintroduction of legislation to that effect in the next State Legislative session. Mary Sandy and Teri Clark welcome the opportunity to affirm that position at the joint meeting of CABTE, CAPSE and AICCU ED at the CCTE fall conference. CABTE (Sharon, Ivannia and Lyn) will continue to work with the Coalition partners moving forward this spring.

Bilingual issues and CalTPA

CABTE has continued to work with CTC representatives on the problems of CalTPA related to assessment in bilingual field placements, in particular for pre-service teachers in primary class dual language placements which use a strict language separation model of instruction. Both cycles of the TPA must be reconsidered as they reflect a strong English monolingual bias. Sharon, Lyn, Ivannia, along with Michelle Soto-Peña, Grace Cho, Clara Amador-Lankster produced a document outlining the issues involved and proposing approaches to addressing the issues. After going through an approval process with the CABTE Board, and being affirmed by CTC staff, the document was published on the CTC website for use by teacher credentialing programs. At the recommendation of Sharon and Ivannia, CTC staff have arranged for Silvia Dorta Duque de Reyes to train CalTPA assessors to sensitize and inform them regarding bilingual issues in assessing pre-service teachers' responses to the CalTPA. The date of that training has yet to be announced, but we anticipate it will take place soon.

Strategy

California Council for Teacher Education (CCTE)

CCTE's fall Board meeting took place on October 9, and CABTE made its regular report at that time.

CABTE Strategic Plan

In January 2021, the Strategic Plan working group (Eduardo Muñoz Muñoz, Clara Amador Lankster, Adam Sawyer, Elsie Solis Chang) will report to the Board their recommendations for CABTE's initiatives and activities for the next five years. Once the Board has considered their recommendations, we anticipate presenting them to our membership in February at our monthly meeting.

Renewing/Expanding CABTE/CABE Membership

One of our efforts this year involves continuing to urge CABTE members to renew their CABE/CABTE individual memberships and to ask their Deans to renew their institutional memberships in CABTE. Reminders will go out at each CABTE membership meeting. We continue to request individual CABTE members to renew their CABE memberships and indicate their renewal of membership in CABTE as well. We would like to work with CABE to make the renewal of CABTE membership more accessible to members when they renew CABE membership.

Supporting BILA IPRs, expanding BILA programs at IHEs/LEAs: Addressing barriers to program development

We are also committed this year to continuing to support current Bilingual Authorization (BILA) programs in their ongoing development and to expand the number of BILA programs, particularly at private IHEs. CABTE will continue to help address CTC's need for IHE reviewers for new BILA program proposals. We will be taking this topic up in February.

CCTE Professional Development for Mentor Teachers Project (formerly Intersegmental Project)

The committee responsible for the Project, an online training program for mentor teachers and pre-service teacher supervisors, has requested the assistance of CABTE in inserting material specifically for pre-service teacher district mentor teachers in bilingual placements, both throughout the existing training modules, and in a new module specifically for teachers in Bilingual Authorization program placements. Grace Cho, Sharon Merritt, and Clara Amador-Lankster will work with CCTE on this project.

Scholarship

CABTE Book Club:

The Book Club, led by once again by Nirmla Flores, has now a second round of meetings, focusing discussions on the following book: **Coaching Teachers in Bilingual and Dual Language Classrooms** (Guilamo, A. 2019) https://www.amazon.com/Coaching-Teachers-Bilingual-Dual-Language-Classrooms/dp/1949539237/ref=sr_1_2?crid=38HH4NIGNZE3&dchild=1&keywords=coaching+teacher+in+bilingual+and+dual+language+classrooms&qid=1601912789&s=books&prefix=coaching+teacher%2Cstripbooks%2C198&sr=1-2 This group promotes the work we want to do to keep up with recent scholarship and explore current themes in bilingual teacher education and practice. We will be discussing continuing with other books after we complete the current text.

CABTE at CBE 2021

Graduate Research Symposium

Rhianna Casesa has agreed to coordinate this event and will work with CABTE officers and CBE staff to make arrangements, organize and recruit participants.

Pre-conference Institute, April 2021

CABTE's Board continues to plan to co-sponsor this event. The Board will take this topic up at their mini-retreat in January, and Sharon, Ivannia and Michelle will be requesting a future meeting to discuss with CBE leadership.

Organization

CABTE Membership and Board Zoom Meetings

We continued our monthly meeting schedule for the academic year 2020-2021. Our October Board and Membership meetings took place on Monday, October 19, 8:00-10:30 in conjunction with the CCTE Fall Virtual Conference. At the conference on Thursday, October 22, CABTE participated in a joint meeting with Association of Independent and Christian Colleges and Universities Education (AICCU-ED), California Association of Professors of Special Education (CAPSE), and CTC staff in an exchange of information and concerns regarding teacher credentialing. Sharon is working with leaders from the other groups to shape the direction of that meeting. In November we met on 11/11, 11:45-1:00. Our next membership meeting will take place on January 13, 11:45 am-1:00 pm.

Board Retreats 2021

After the first of the year, the CABTE Board will consider dates and locations for its summer Board Retreat during a special winter Board mini-retreat scheduled for Saturday, January 16. Sharon will begin the process with the Board of determining candidates for President-elect who will be chosen by CABTE membership in spring 2021.

CABTE Communications Committee

At the annual Board retreat, we formed our subcommittee on Communications to guide our use of social media, continue to refine our website, and respond rapidly to the need for CABTE communications on

various issues. Nirmla Flores and Elsie Solis-Chang are taking charge of the committee, and in addition to the abovementioned activities, produced a short video representing CABTE and its activities for the fall CCTE conference and YouTube channel. Nirmla is working on a proposal to the Board to use Wix as our new website platform.

Honoring our Past

At our CCTE-associated membership meeting on October 19, CABTE honored several of its past leaders with recognition for their invaluable work in establishing and developing CABTE as an organization. Magaly Lavadenz (LMU), Juan Flores (Emeritus, CSU Stanislaus), Zaida McCall-Perez (Holy Names), Karen Cadeiro-Kaplan (Emerita, SDSU), Lyn Scott (CSU East Bay), and Rhianna Casesa (Sonoma State University) were recognized for their leadership roles over the years. We so deeply appreciate their past work and current support. This celebration has prompted CABTE leadership to consider how best to capture our history and archival materials, and we have added this work to our long list of future projects.

CABTE Board, 2020-2021

The members of the Executive Board are:

Sharon Merritt, Fresno Pacific University (President, 2020-2022)
Grace Cho, CSU, Fullerton (Treasurer, re-elected May 2020, 2020-2022)
Nirmla Flores, University of Redlands (Secretary, 2019-2021)
Lyn Scott, CSU East Bay (Past President, 2020-2021)
Eduardo Muñoz-Muñoz, San Jose State University
Elsie Solis-Chang, Point Loma Nazarene University
Michelle Soto-Peña, CSU, Stanislaus
Maria E. Valdéz, Farmersville USD
Clara Amador-Lankster, National University
Adam Sawyer, CSU, Bakersfield
Magaly Lavadenz, Loyola Marymount University, CEEL (ex-officio)
Ivannia Soto, Whittier College and CABA (ex-officio)
Alan Jones, CCTE Executive Secretary (ex-officio)