

CABTE

California Association for Bilingual Teacher Education

June 16, 2020

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

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

RE: CABTE Report to the CABA Board, April-June 2020

I am pleased, as the incoming President of the CABTE Board, to make my first report of several in the next two years of my term. CABTE continues to pursue its mission through its IHE members, as well as through our association with CTE and CABA, and the other strategic organizations our members are connected with. I look forward to working with CABA leadership to further our common goals.

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

CABTE Membership and Board Zoom Meetings

We held our last meeting for the academic year on April 29, 2020. Jan Gustafson-Corea and Olivia Yahya attended as special guests to present to us CABA's Virtual CABA 2020 series of webinars and its Virtual Community, and to report that they had been made available to anyone who wished to take advantage of them. We will return to our regular schedule of meetings in August 2020 for the upcoming academic year.

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, CTE Executive Secretary (ex-officio)

CABTE is an associated organization of CTE and an affiliate of CABA.



We thank Karen Cadiero-Kaplan (outgoing Past President) and Rhianna Casesa (outgoing Past Secretary) for their support and service during the past four years.

CABE/CABTE Institute, April 8, 2020; Graduate Research Symposium at CABE

The institute was well into the planning process when the CABE 2020 conference was cancelled due to CoViD-19. Sharon Merritt, Michelle Soto-Peña, and Ivannia Soto were working with Cristina Alfaro to develop the day-long program. We hope to continue discussions with CABE about holding such an institute at its next face-to-face conference. We also hope to make the Graduate Research Symposium a regular event to promote research into bilingualism and bilingual education at CABE.

CABTE Literature Circle: *The Translanguaging Classroom*

The Literature Circle, led by Nirmla Flores and Somer Levine (Pepperdine University), has now met twice, with a third meeting on our calendars for June 24, 2020. 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. This group is one of the results of our CABTE Institute at CCTE in October 2019.

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. During the April meeting, both Ivannia and Lyn were able to make public comments regarding RICA being a barrier for bilingual candidates and teachers of color. The next meeting takes place on June 18-19, and among other topics, will consider the work of the Bilingual Authorization Work Group to this point. Other goals for next year include the following:

RICA: The work toward the improvement of assessment of pre-service teachers in the teaching of reading, whether to revise RICA or replace it with another form of assessment, has taken a back burner during this time of CoViD-19 when standardized testing of pre-service teachers is on hold. CABTE will continue to track this topic when it arises again.

CalTPA: CABTE continues 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. Lyn Scott and Ivannia Soto have been involved in these discussions and Sharon Merritt and Michelle Soto-Peña have worked on a document suggesting remedies to the problems in both cycles to submit this week to CTC. A small working group, including Sharon Merritt, will reconvene later this month to continue discussions.

California Council on Teacher Education (CCTE)

CCTE's Board meeting will take place on June 26-27, and CABTE will make its regular report at that time.

CCTE Intersegmental Project: The committee responsible for the Intersegmental 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 supervisors 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 Michelle Soto-Peña will work on this project.

CABTE Statement on Anti-Black Racism, June 2020

In response to the events surrounding the murder of George Floyd, and the upsurge in the Black Lives Matter movement, CABTE leadership drafted and published a statement of support for BLM and reconfirming our stance against anti-Black racism. The statement was published on our website and to CCTE members and forwarded to CABE leadership.

CABTE Board Retreat, July 31, 2020

Unlike last year, when we held our Retreat in San Luis Obispo, this year we will hold a virtual retreat through Zoom. Some of our topics of discussion will include:

- Forming a Communications subcommittee to guide our use of social media, continue to refine our website, and respond rapidly to the need for CABTE communications on various issues.
- Expanding support to universities seeking CTC approval to offer the Bilingual Authorization, including providing reviewers for initial program reviews.
- Strengthening connections with strategic organizations; planned conference attendance and presentations.
- Bilingual Authorization Standards Refresh work, including discussion of field placements.
- Increasing institutional and individual membership in CABTE.
- Developing a focus for 2020-2021 based on our mission statement and goals.