



University of Louisville Shelby Campus

Louisville, KY

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Featured Speakers



Tasha Tropp Laman



Heide Spruck Wrigley

Tasha Tropp Laman is an associate professor in the Department of Early Childhood and Elementary at the University of Louisville. Dr. Tropp Laman's research examines the literacy learning of elementary-aged children identified as English Learners in general and multilingual children's literacy learning opportunities in particular. She is the author of *From ideas to words: Writing strategies for English Language Learners* published by Heinemann in 2013. Her work has appeared in journals such as *The Reading Teacher*, *Language Arts*, *Equity and Excellence in Education*, *Action in Teacher Education*, and *Research in the Teaching of English*. Dr. Tropp Laman supports classroom teachers in developing best practices for facilitating literacies across the languages they speak. Dr. Tropp Laman is a former elementary classroom teacher and Peace Corps volunteer and worked in Belize, Central America as a teacher educator.

Heide Spruck Wrigley is a nationally recognized expert in adult ESL. As president of Literacywork International, she works at the intersection of policy, research and practice. Currently, her work focuses on providing TA to programs serving language minority adults as well as offering professional development to teachers of language learners across the United States - virtually as well as face to face. She is a long term consultant to OneAmerica's *English Innovations* project, a blended learning program that integrates ESL, digital literacy, and community engagement (originally funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation). She is also a non-resident fellow with the Migration Policy Institute in Washington, DC where she specializes in exploring the role of second language acquisition as part of immigrant integration. Her international work has included a 3 year project in Rwanda as well as teacher training in Poland, Egypt and China. She has written numerous articles and books, and many of her presentations focus on Promising Practices and Bright Ideas in making connections to support language learning. Heide has an MA in Applied Linguistic and a PhD in Education with a specialization in language, literacy and learning. She lives in Southern New Mexico and makes some mean green chile enchiladas.