

CABTE

California Association for Bilingual Teacher Education

June 14, 2021

TO: Jan Gustafson Corea, CEO
CABE Board Members

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

RE: CABTE Report to the CCTE Board, April – June 2021

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 CCTE and CABE, and the other strategic organizations our members are connected with.

At our annual Board retreat in July 2020, 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, Lyn Scott, and Sharon Merritt have regularly attended virtual Commission meetings to track CTC activity related to bilingual education and teacher preparation. Agenda items regarding the revised Bilingual Authorization Standards and BTPEs will be considered by the Commission in August and October 2021, with the hopes of approving the changes at the latter meeting.

Bilingual Authorization Standards Revision Working Group

Members of CABTE's Board who serve on the working group have continued to work on responses to the issues raised by the Commission members regarding elements of the BILA standards, particularly the role of clinical practice through field work. Sharon, Lyn, Ivannia and others have continued to meet with CTC staff to work out some of the problems we see with the current law, including the BILA testing option (CSETs III, IV, V) which includes no required field work. CTC staff are currently examining current regulations and law to understand the limits and possibilities as they develop alternatives. They will be developing a timeline for the revision of CSETs IV (methodology) and V (culture) to present to CABTE leaders at an upcoming meeting. We have advocated for significant revision to CSET IV to transform it into a performance-based assessment, thus encouraging candidates who take the test to seek a setting for fieldwork for the purposes of completing the assessment. We proposed this alternative since changing the law itself to explicitly include clinical practice/fieldwork for the testing option candidates (something

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many of us would like to see happen) will require a heavy lift for CTC and advocates and may take some time.

Replacing RICA

For several months, work has been going on in the background on new legislation regarding replacing RICA with an authentic assessment to be developed by the CTC. CABTE has indicated support for SB 488, which proposes a timeline and process for replacing the RICA and how pre-service teachers may be allowed to demonstrate competency in reading instruction between now and 2025 when the bill proposes that CTC will have prepared a new performance-based reading instruction assessment. The bill has passed the Senate and is now in the Assembly Education committee for a hearing scheduled on June 23. Sharon has been invited to submit a letter of support on behalf of CABTE by Senator Rubio's office.

Bilingual Issues and CalTPA

The document prepared by CABTE leaders providing guidance on issues related to the CalTPA remains available on the CTC TPA website. The training for bilingual assessors, which featured CABTE's recommended professional development expert, Silvia Dorta Duque de Reyes, took place during the spring. CTC staff expressed immense satisfaction with the interaction between Silvia and the assessors.

CABTE Anti-Racist Education (ARE) Subcommittee

Ivannia Soto, Nirmala Flores, Grace Cho have formed this subcommittee after CABTE issued its statement on Anti-Asian hate in March 2021. The subcommittee is charged with carrying out action items related to anti-racism, equity, and social justice within the activities of CABTE.

Strategy

California Council for Teacher Education (CCTE)

Sharon Merritt is representing CABTE on the planning committee for the CCTE Fall Conference. She and Ivannia Soto (co-chair of the CCTE Equity and Social Justice Special Interest Group and CCTE Board member) are co-sponsoring a Saturday session focusing on issues related to language and social justice. We will develop the Saturday morning session to be a hybrid of FTF and Zoom, in keeping with the rest of the conference. Our theme will be The Intersection of Language and Race in Dual Language Education, and we will be inviting speakers and panelists in the next few weeks. Plenary speakers at the CCTE conference on Intersectionality will be Pedro Noguera (USC) and Alfredo Artiles (Stanford).

CABTE Strategic Plan

In January 2021, the Strategic Plan working group (Eduardo Muñoz Muñoz, Clara Amador Lankster, Adam Sawyer, Elsie Solis Chang) reported to the Board their recommendations for CABTE's initiatives and activities for the next five years. The working group presented initial thoughts to the Board in February and has formulated a draft document that they reviewed in May with Sharon. Sharon and President-elect Eduardo Muñoz Muñoz will revise and submit to the working group in time for the CABTE August retreat

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. We also would like to develop a plan for encouraging renewal of institutional membership through CCTE.

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. This spring CABTE (Sharon, Lyn, Ivannia) attended a follow up meeting with CABE leaders from the MCAP program, to discuss the BILA program framework that will proceed from the revised BILA standards and BTPEs, and possible work toward presentation of various program models current and prospective programs might consider as they contemplate program development. CABTE remains open to working within the MCAP grant as needed and when feasible, given our limited manpower.

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 continued meeting this spring, focusing discussions on the following book: [***Coaching Teachers in Bilingual and Dual Language Classrooms \(Guilamo, A. 2019\)***](#). The Book Club will continue in the fall, under the auspices of the Anti-Racism in Education (ARE) committee and will take up Ibram X. Kendi's 2019 book, *How to Be an Anti-Racist*. The Book Club will be open to all CABTE members.

CABTE at CABE 2022

Pre-conference Institute

Despite continued interest in and commitment to the concept of a pre-conference institute co-sponsored by CABE and CABTE, CABTE leadership decided to fully commit to the Graduate Research Symposium in 2021, and to consider holding the institute again in 2022.

Graduate Research Symposium

CABTE will continue to pursue co-sponsorship of this successful event at the 2022 Conference.

Organization

CABTE Membership Meetings

We continued our monthly meeting schedule for the academic year 2020-2021. We have seen smaller attendance this winter and spring by our members, and in response, have continued to change the format for our meetings. We are looking forward to 2021-2022 when we will be able to return to some FTF meetings at our October CCTE conference in San Diego and at CABE2022.

CABTE Board

CABTE held elections for Secretary and President-elect in May. Nirmla Flores (U of Redlands) was reelected to in the position of Secretary and Eduardo Muñoz-Muñoz (SJSU) to the position of President-elect. Lyn Scott (Past-President) and Grace Cho (Treasure) served as our nominating committee. Two of

our Board members, Michelle Soto Peña (CSU Stanislaus) and Maria E. Valdéz (Farmersville USD) have stepped down from their positions this year, and two new Board members have stepped forward, Diane Sharken Taboada (CSU East Bay) and Marisol Ruiz (Sonoma State).

We are planning to hold a summer Board retreat in hybrid format, with the FTF portion in the Monterey area.

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 (Point Loma U., Bakersfield) are taking charge of the committee. The Board has approved the use of Wix as our new web platform, and Nirmla is working on our new design. Elsie is preparing our social media policy documents with an eye to beginning to post CABTE content within the next two months. Nirmla and Elsie have recently recruited several other CABTE members to serve on the committee with them, Maria E. Valdéz, Diane Sharken Taboada, Reyna Garcia-Ramos (Pepperdine), and possibly others.

CABTE Board, 2021-2022

The members of the Executive Board are:

Sharon Merritt, Fresno Pacific University (President, 2020-2022)

Grace Cho, CSU, Fullerton (Treasurer 2020-2022)

Nirmla Flores, University of Redlands (Secretary, 2021-2023)

Eduardo Muñoz-Muñoz, San Jose State University (President-Elect, 2021-2025)

Marisol Ruiz, Humboldt State University

Diane Sharken-Taboada, CSU, East Bay

Elsie Solis-Chang, Point Loma Nazarene University

Clara Amador-Lankster, National University

Adam Sawyer, CSU, Bakersfield

Magaly Lavadenz, Loyola Marymount University, CEEL (ex-officio)

Ivannia Soto, Whittier College and CABE (ex-officio)

Alan Jones, CCTE Executive Secretary (ex-officio)