Immersion Education

BILINGUAL EDUCATION & BILINGUALISM

Series Editors: Nancy H. Hornberger, *University of Pennsylvania, USA* and Colin Baker, *Bangor University, Wales, UK*

Bilingual Education and Bilingualism is an international, multidisciplinary series publishing research on the philosophy, politics, policy, provision and practice of language planning, global English, indigenous and minority language education, multilingualism, multiculturalism, biliteracy, bilingualism and bilingual education. The series aims to mirror current debates and discussions.

Full details of all the books in this series and of all our other publications can be found on http://www.multilingual-matters.com, or by writing to Multilingual Matters, St Nicholas House, 31–34 High Street, Bristol BS1 2AW, UK.

BILINGUAL EDUCATION & BILINGUALISM

Series Editors: Nancy H. Hornberger and Colin Baker

Immersion Education Practices, Policies, Possibilities

Edited by Diane J. Tedick, Donna Christian and Tara Williams Fortune

MULTILINGUAL MATTERSBristol • Buffalo • Toronto

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

A catalog record for this book is available from the Library of Congress. Immersion Education: Practices, Policies, Possibilities/Edited by Diane J. Tedick, Donna Christian and Tara Williams Fortune. Bilingual Education & Bilingualism: 83.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

1. Immersion method (Language teaching) 2. Language and languages--Study and teaching. 3. Education, Bilingual. I. Tedick, Diane J. II. Christian, Donna. III. Fortune, Tara Williams
P53.44.I44 2011

418.0071–dc22 2011015597

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data

A catalogue entry for this book is available from the British Library.

ISBN-13: 978-1-84769-403-4 (hbk) ISBN-13: 978-1-84769-402-7 (pbk)

Multilingual Matters

UK: St Nicholas House, 31–34 High Street, Bristol, BS1 2AW, UK. *USA*: UTP, 2250 Military Road, Tonawanda, NY 14150, USA. *Canada*: UTP, 5201 Dufferin Street, North York, Ontario, M3H 5T8, Canada.

Copyright © 2011 Diane J. Tedick, Donna Christian, Tara Williams Fortune and the authors of individual chapters.

All rights reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced in any form or by any means without permission in writing from the publisher.

The policy of Multilingual Matters/Channel View Publications is to use papers that are natural, renewable and recyclable products, made from wood grown in sustainable forests. In the manufacturing process of our books, and to further support our policy, preference is given to printers that have FSC and PEFC Chain of Custody certification. The FSC and/or PEFC logos will appear on those books where full certification has been granted to the printer concerned.

Typeset by Techset Composition Ltd, Salisbury, UK. Printed and bound in Great Britain by Short Run Press Ltd.

Dedicated to the memory of Wallace (Wally) E. Lambert Immersion Pioneer 1922–2009

Contents

Cor	knowledgementsixntributorsxiewordxvii
Int	roduction to the Volume
1	The Future of Immersion Education: An Invitation to 'Dwell in Possibility'
Par	t 1: Practices in Immersion Program Design
2	Integrating Multiple Languages in Immersion: Swedish Immersion in Finland
3	Insights from Indigenous Language Immersion in Hawai'i 36 W.H. Wilson and K. Kaman \bar{a}
4	Two-Way Immersion Charter Schools: An Analysis of Program Characteristics and Student Body Compositions 58 <i>G. Zehrbach</i>
Par	t 2: Program Outcomes and Implications for Practice
5	Student Outcomes in Chinese Two-Way Immersion Programs: Language Proficiency, Academic Achievement and Student Attitudes
6	The Same Outcomes for All? High-School Students Reflect on Their Two-Way Immersion Program Experiences

7	French Immersion Studies at the University of Ottawa: Programme Evaluation and Pedagogical Challenges
Par	t 3: Language Use and Assessment Practices in Immersion Programs
8	'I Thought That We Had Good Irish': Irish Immersion Students' Insights into Their Target Language Use
9	Talking in the Fifth-Grade Classroom: Language Use in an Early, Total Spanish Immersion Program
10	Using Language Assessment to Inform Instruction in Indigenous Language Immersion
Part 4: Policy and Practice in Immersion Education	
11	Context and Constraints: Immersion in Hong Kong and Mainland China
12	US Immigrants and Two-Way Immersion Policies: The Mismatch between District Designs and Family Experiences 231 <i>L.M. Dorner</i>
13	Struggling Learners and the Language Immersion Classroom 251 <i>T.W. Fortune</i>
Co	ncluding Synthesis Chapter for the Volume
14	Reflecting on Possibilities for Immersion
Ind	lex

Acknowledgements

Since we began our work on this edited volume, the demand for immersion education has grown, and new immersion programs have been launched around the world. In many ways immersion appears to be experiencing a renaissance, and the timing seems appropriate for a volume that offers new research and perspectives in the field and that invites readers to 'dwell in possibility,' to imagine ways that immersion can reach its full potential. It was with this spirit in mind that we began this project, and the many authors who have contributed to the volume embraced that spirit and imagined possibilities with us. We are deeply grateful to them for contributing their work and insights to this volume. Throughout the process they have collaborated generously with us on the preparation of their chapters, responding swiftly and carefully to every request and question sent. Few edited book projects go as smoothly as this, and that is thanks to the diligence, attention and responsiveness of our wonderful roster of contributors.

We especially thank Merrill Swain for agreeing to write the foreword. Merrill has been and continues to be an exceptional mentor, and this volume would not have been complete without her voice. We are indebted to Fred Genesee for his comprehensive grasp of the field and willingness to write the concluding synthesis chapter – a tall order that required reading the entire volume and offering his perspective on overarching themes and future directions within a very short time frame. The volume is much richer because of Fred's insights. We further thank our colleagues Roy Lyster, Stephen May and Kim Potowski for reading the final manuscript and offering comments for the book's cover.

Working with Multilingual Matters is a true pleasure. We thank Tommi Grover for believing in the project from the start and for his support throughout the process. We are also grateful to the series editors, Colin Baker and Nancy Hornberger, for their support and to the staff members who worked behind the scenes to bring the book to fruition and market it – Sarah Williams, Elinor Robertson and Hannah Turner at Techset Composition Limited.

We would also like to acknowledge the University of Minnesota's College of Education and Human Development, which granted Diane a sabbatical for 2009–10, allowing her to devote much of her time and energy to this book project.

Finally, we thank Wallace (Wally) Lambert, to whom this volume is dedicated, for envisioning the promise of immersion education, and for his pioneering work in exposing its possibilities.

Diane J. Tedick Donna Christian Tara Williams Fortune

Contributors

Carol Bearse is currently Associate Professor of Educational Leadership and Literacy at Touro College. In this capacity she has taught courses both in literacy and English Language Acquisition. With over 25 years of experience in public schools, including urban areas, Carol brings to her research the seasoned leadership of a teacher practitioner in the areas of literacy and English Language Learners (ELLs). She designed the curriculum for the recently US federally funded Language Development in the Context of the Disciplines (LDCD) program, working intensively with New York City high-school teachers in the content areas. Her research interests include dual-language education, literacy for adolescent ELLs and teacher preparation.

Siv Björklund is Professor of Swedish immersion and head of the Centre for Immersion and Multilingualism, which is a subdivision under the Unit of Scandinavian languages at the University of Vaasa, Finland. Her PhD thesis on second-language lexical development among immersion students was published in 1996 and is a pioneer study on Swedish immersion education in Finland. Her main research areas are language acquisition, bi- and multilingualism and language pedagogy. She has a great deal of experience with bi- and multilingual issues and has been involved in both national and international in-service professional development for immersion teachers since 1991.

Maggie Broner is Associate Professor of Spanish and Hispanic Linguistics in the Department of Romance Languages at St Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. She has published on Spanish and English language use and language play in full K-6 Spanish immersion settings and on content-based instruction at the college/university level. She is currently studying how foreign/second-language learners process full-length literary and nonliterary texts and the effect of reading for pleasure on student engagement and life-long learning in the undergraduate setting.

Sandra Burger, recently retired from the Institute for Official Language and Bilingualism, University of Ottawa, is now a visiting professor there. She has been involved in content-based language teaching and immersion teaching since the early 1980s. She was pedagogical co-coordinator of the 'Regime d'immersion en français' from 2005 to 2007. Her articles on immersion have been published in *The Canadian Language Review, The TESL Canada Journal, Cahiers de l'ILOB* and *Contact, Research Symposium*.

Donna Christian is a Senior Fellow at the Center for Applied Linguistics in Washington, DC (www.cal.org). Her work focuses on the role of language in education and society, with special interests in dual-language education, second language learning, dialect diversity and public policy. She has published extensively on those topics, including coauthored or coedited publications such as *Educating English Language Learners: A Synthesis of Research Evidence* (Cambridge University Press), *Bilingual Education* (TESOL), *Dialects, Schools, and Communities* (Routledge/Taylor & Francis) and *Profiles in Two-Way Immersion Education* (CAL/Delta Systems).

Ester de Jong is Associate Professor in ESL (English as a Second Language) / Bilingual Education at the University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida. A native of the Netherlands, she held the position of Assistant Director for Bilingual Education for the Framingham Public Schools in Massachusetts, working closely with teachers in three different programs: two-way immersion, general bilingual education and ESL. Her work has focused on issues of teacher preparation for linguistic diversity, as well as additive bilingual programs for all children. Another area of interest is language policy and its impact on teachers and teacher practice.

Lisa Dorner is Assistant Professor at the University of Missouri-St Louis. Her research examines immigrant childhoods, second language learning and educational policy, especially the politics of implementing immersion programs. Currently, she is documenting the development of a network of language immersion schools in the Midwest, and studying how the adolescent children of immigrants perceive their opportunities for civic engagement. She has published in the *American Journal of Education, Educational Policy, International Journal of Bilingual Education and Bilingualism, Journal of Adolescent Research* and *Journal of Educational Change*.

Tara Williams Fortune is Immersion Teaching Specialist and Coordinator of the Immersion Projects at the Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition at the University of Minnesota. She is founding

Contributors xiii

editor of *The American Council on Immersion Education (ACIE) Newsletter*, a publication written for and by immersion practitioners that is currently in its 14th year of dissemination. Her professional and research interests focus on struggling immersion learners, K-8 oral proficiency development of immersion students and language and literacy development in early total Chinese immersion programs. Recent publications include *Pathways to Multilingualism: Evolving Perspectives on Immersion Education* (Multilingual Matters, 2008) and *Struggling Learners and Language Immersion Education* (2010, University of Minnesota).

Fred Genesee is Professor in the Psychology Department at McGill University in Montreal. He has carried out extensive research on alternative approaches to bilingual education, including second/foreign language immersion for language majority students and alternative forms of bilingual education for language minority students. His current work focuses on simultaneous acquisition of two languages during early infancy and childhood, language development in international adoptees and the language and literacy development of children at risk for reading and language impairment in immersion programs.

Carla Hall has been working at the University of Ottawa since 1994. In addition to teaching English as a Second Language and second language teacher training courses, she is the Test Development Coordinator for the Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute. She also does test development and language testing for the Federal Government of Canada and the British Council.

Tracy Hirata-Edds teaches in the Applied English Center at the University of Kansas. She was a Fulbright Scholar in Nepal where she worked on issues related to second language acquisition, curriculum design and classroom teaching. She works with Native American tribal organizations on language and culture maintenance and revitalization, providing workshops and teacher trainings. She has worked closely with the Cherokee Nation's revitalization efforts for 10 years, and serves as an advisor to their immersion school documenting the children's developing language, assessing their linguistic skills and designing approaches to enrich language learning.

Philip Hoare was until recently an Associate Professor in the Department of English in the Hong Kong Institute of Education. Over a 39-year career he taught English in many parts of the world and spent 23 years in teacher education in Hong Kong, specializing in English immersion and

content-based language teaching (CBLT). He also worked with immersion teachers in mainland China and undertook a number of research projects on classroom practice in immersion and CBLT both in China and Hong Kong.

Amelia Kreitzer Hope is Head of Language Testing Services at the University of Ottawa, Ontario. She manages test development and test administration for French and English tests for a widely varied clientele: students, professors, employees, foreign-trained professionals, foreign students and federal civil servants. In addition, she trains pre-service and in-service teachers in methods of language assessment.

Kauanoe Kamanā is the Director of Laboratory School Programs for the State of Hawai'i Hawaiian Language College, Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani, located at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. She is responsible for the overall development and administration of programs at P-12 Nāwahīokalan'i'ōpu'u School. Her current research focuses on utilizing traditional Hawaiian conflict resolution in maintaining student discipline at the school. She is also president of the statewide 'Aha Pūnana Leo language nests organization, the organization that initiated Hawaiian medium education in Hawai'i.

Kathryn Lindholm-Leary is Professor Emerita of Child and Adolescent Development at San Jose State University, where she has taught for 22 years. At San Jose State, Kathryn received a Teacher-Scholar award, was a finalist for the President's Scholar award, and was a San Jose State nominee for the prestigious Wang Family Excellence award. She has worked with over 50 two-way and developmental bilingual programs over the past 25 years and has written books and journal articles, and given presentations to researchers, educators and parents on the topics of two-way immersion education and child bilingualism.

Karita Mård-Miettinen is Senior Lecturer at the Centre for Multilingualism and Language Immersion at the University of Vaasa in Finland. She has worked with research, development, and teacher preparation and professional development in Swedish immersion in Finland for 20 years. Her research interests include early second language acquisition, teaching strategies and multiple languages in immersion. She has been involved in immersion projects both on the national and international level.

Parvin Movassat is a language professor at the University of Ottawa. She has been teaching French as a second language in Canada since 2000 and she is currently the test development coordinator for the Official

Contributors xv

Languages and Bilingualism Institute (OLBI). Her research interests include teaching methodology and pedagogy of immersion courses, pedagogical grammar and language testing and assessment.

Pádraig Ó Duibhir is Lecturer in St Patrick's College, Dublin City University, Ireland where he teaches a range of pre-service and in-service courses for teachers on language teaching methodologies for Irish as a first and second language. Prior to that he worked in the area language in-service education for primary school teachers and was principal of an Irish-immersion school. His research interests include language teaching and language learning, particularly for young learners. He is currently completing an analysis of the oral language of Grade 7 students in Irish-immersion schools in Northern Ireland.

Lizette Peter is Assistant Professor of second language studies in the Department of Curriculum and Teaching at the University of Kansas. Her primary area of research and advocacy for the past decade has been the revitalization of the Cherokee language, with a focus on preschool through upper elementary Cherokee language immersion. With her colleagues, she has worked to identify both the morphological features of children's interlanguage and the pedagogical implications of information generated by assessment instruments. Her current project is an ethnographic investigation of language ideologies and practices of Cherokee Nation tribal members in northeastern Oklahoma.

Gloria Sly works in Education Services of Cherokee Nation (www.cherokee. org) in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. Her work focuses on language revitalization through the development and implementation of programs to serve all segments of Cherokee citizens. The major focus for the past 10 years has been staff development for teachers of Cherokee language immersion.

Merrill Swain is Professor Emerita in the Second Language Education Program at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto, where she has taught and conducted research for 40 years. Her present research focuses on the role of collaborative dialogue and 'languaging' in second language learning within a sociocultural framework. She was President of the American Association for Applied Linguistics (AAAL) in 1998–1999, and a Vice President of the International Association of Applied Linguistics from 1999 to 2005. She is a recipient of the 2003 Canadian Robert Roy Award and AAAL's 2004 Distinguished Scholarship and Service Award. She has authored books and many book chapters, as well as over 160 refereed articles.

Diane Tedick is Associate Professor of Second Languages and Cultures Education at the University of Minnesota. For over 20 years she has worked in the preparation of pre-service teachers and ongoing professional development of in-service teachers representing a variety of language teaching contexts: immersion and bilingual programs, world languages and ESL. Her professional and research interests focus on the pedagogy required for successful integration of language and content instruction, student oral language proficiency development in immersion programs and language teacher development. Her edited, coedited and coauthored volumes include Second Language Teacher Education: International Perspectives (Routledge); Pathways to Multilingualism: Evolving Perspectives on Immersion Education (Multilingual Matters); and Teaching Foreign Languages: Content-Based Instruction for Social Justice (forthcoming, Routledge).

Alysse Weinberg is Associate Professor at the Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute at the University of Ottawa. She has been a language teacher of immersion courses since the inception of the 'Regime d'immersion en français' and was pedagogical co-coordinator of the Regime from 2005 to 2010. She has published articles on immersion in the Cahiers de l'ILOB and Contact Research Symposium as well as giving presentations at the Canadian Association of Applied Linguistics, Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL) Ontario, immersion conferences hosted by the Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition (CARLA) at the University of Minnesota and The Computer Assisted Language Instruction Consortium.

William H. Wilson is the Academic Programs Division Chair of the State of Hawai'i Hawaiian Language College, Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani, located at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. His interests include early literacy development in Hawaiian and third-language teaching in immersion. He is also a historical linguist focusing on Polynesian languages. Wilson and Kauanoe Kamanā are married with two children educated through Grade 12 in Hawaiian immersion.

Gary Zehrbach is currently Principal of a dual language (two-way) school in Phoenix, AZ. He was the founding principal of Nuestro Mundo Community School, a two-way Spanish/English charter immersion elementary school in Madison, WI. He has a PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis. His dissertation focused on two-way immersion charter schools.