The 3rd Annual Meet to LEAP for ELL, Pac Rim 2014 (5/19/14, 1:00-3:15 p.m.)

PANEL: Strategies for Teaching New Language Learners
Presenters stimulate discussions on effective strategies for teaching new language learners.

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**Academic Language**
Betsy Gilliland, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Second Language Studies, UHM

Academic language is an integral aspect of the WIDA standards and the Common Core State Standards, but the concept can be daunting to teachers working with new language learners. This presentation describes what academic language is and provides recommendations for teaching academic language at the word level, the sentence level, and the discourse level. At each level, participants will engage in a hands-on activity that can be adapted for their classroom contexts.

**Writing in a Second Language**
Caroline (Cary) Torres, M.A., Instructor, Kapiolani Community College, UH

New language learners in public schools are a growing population who typically struggle with academic writing and often graduate from high school unprepared for the rigors of post-secondary or workplace writing. This presentation will outline a framework for understanding and supporting language learner challenges and development through Common Core aligned writing instruction.

**Strategies for Supporting ELLs in a Mathematics Classroom**
Seanyelle Yagi, M.Ed., State Formative Instruction Resource Teacher, HI DOE

Utilizing language in the mathematics classroom can be a powerful tool for learning academic content. However, academic language (Hicks, 1992) in mathematics can be daunting for students. The reflexive nature of utilizing and encouraging student language in developing mathematical understanding will be highlighted in this presentation. Several strategies for supporting students' language use in a mathematics classroom will be shared, including helping students with developing vocabulary.

**Image to Word - Word to Image: Drawing and Writing for ELLs**
Lori Phillips, Ed.D., Director of School Professional Development, PREL

Image to Word to Text integrates content subjects, technology, visual arts, and writing while focusing on an essential question for the topic. Designed by Dr. Phillips, the program is perfect for helping ELLs build vocabulary, and use content and academic words in writing and speaking. Participants capture digitally or draw through observation images of plants or animals in our environment. From those images, they label vocabulary and transform their work drawings to paintings using oil pastels. The final step is to write about the images using the labeled vocabulary and metaphors. Students and teachers in Hawaii and many Pacific islands have been highly successful with this creative curriculum.