Bio-Data: Ricardo Alfonso Zepeda Orozco and Sun-Young Shin

Ricardo Zepeda a project coordinator in the University of Guadalajara. Through his job, he has witnessed how English language learning impacts business, public policy, and education. This experience has demonstrated to him the importance of interdisciplinary projects and studies. To this end, his research addresses issues beyond the classroom and focuses on TESOL and its influence at an institutional and societal level.

Sun Young Shin's research mainly focuses on language assessment, SLA, multilingualism, and heritage speaker studies, and his primary research interest lies in language assessment concentrating on the issues in validity of a given language assessment tool. His research is founded on the notion that test validation is viewed as a process of arguing for the intended interpretation of test scores and their appropriateness for the proposed use. This process thus calls for theoretical rationale and evidence to support the claims we make for the intended interpretation and use of the test scores. Based on these premises, his research explores the extent to which various factors affecting performance on language assessments are relevant to and representative of the construct being measured in different contexts. His work draws on theories and concepts from linguistics, second language acquisition, psychometrics, and educational measurement, and applies them to the study of various aspects of language assessment research and practices.