

43rd Annual CATESOL
Statewide Conference

*Deeply Rooted, Always
Growing*

April 12-15, 2012,
Oakland, CA

Conference Plenary Speakers

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It's December and the plans for CATESOL 2012 have taken root! The conference is growing into an exciting professional development and networking opportunity for ESOL professionals throughout the state. One of the highlights of the annual conference is the chance to hear distinguished members of the TESOL community speak at the three plenary sessions throughout the conference.

This year's speakers will share their research and ideas on language development with conference-goers on Thursday evening, Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. We are honored to have such nationally and internationally recognized speakers at this year's annual conference and would like to take this opportunity to introduce them and their respective talks.



Lera Boroditsky
Thursday, April 12, 7:00-8:30p.m.
"How the languages we speak shape the ways we think"

Thursday evening will begin with Lera Boroditsky, assistant professor of psychology at Stanford University and Editor in Chief of *Frontiers in Cultural Psychology*.

Boroditsky's research centers on how knowledge emerges out of the interactions of mind, world, and language, and the ways that languages and cultures shape human thinking. To this end, Boroditsky's laboratory has collected data around the world, from Indonesia to Chile to Turkey to Aboriginal Australia. Her research has been widely featured in the media and has won multiple awards. In Boroditsky's presentation, she will explore the following questions:

- Do people who speak different languages think differently?
- Does learning new languages change the way you think?
- Do polyglots think differently when speaking different languages?
- Are some thoughts unthinkable without language?

Boroditsky will present data from various experiments conducted throughout the world to consider how the answers to these relevant and thought-provoking questions reveal the surprising ways the languages we speak shape the ways we think.



Dr. Yvonne Freeman and Dr. David Freeman
Friday, April 13, President's Luncheon
"Essential Practices for English Language Learners Living Between Worlds"

The keynote speakers for Friday's President's Luncheon will be Dr. Yvonne Freeman, professor of bilingual education at the University of Texas Brownsville, and Dr. David Freeman, professor of ESL and literacy at the University of Texas at Brownsville.

Both presenters are interested in effective education for English learners and have published several books and articles on the topics of second language teaching, biliteracy, bilingual education, linguistics, and second language acquisition. Their newest books include *Between Worlds: Access to Second Language Acquisition* (3rd Edition, 2011) and *Academic Language for English Language Learners and Struggling Readers* (2009). They present regularly at international, national and local conferences on a range of relevant topics. In their keynote address at CATESOL 2012, Dr. Freeman and Dr. Freeman will discuss the various types of English learners and will explore their academic language needs. They will discuss the different factors that affect academic achievement for English Learners. Next, they will describe practices essential for teaching English Learners effectively. For each practice, the Freemans will give examples and show pictures of classrooms implementing effective practices.



Dr. Diane Larsen-Freeman
Saturday, April 14, 10:30a.m. - 12:00p.m.
“Exploring the Fractal Dimension of Language”

On Saturday, our plenary speaker will be Dr. Diane Larsen-Freeman. Dr. Larsen-Freeman is a

Professor of Education, Professor of Linguistics, Research Scientist at the English Language Institute, and Faculty Associate at the Center for the Study of Complex Systems, all at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. She is also a Distinguished Senior Faculty Fellow at the School for International Training in Brattleboro, Vermont.

Dr. Larsen-Freeman has been a conference speaker in over 65 countries of the world and has published numerous articles in her areas of interest: second language acquisition, language teacher education, applied linguistics, language teaching methodology, and complexity theory. Some of her most recent textbook publications are *The Grammar Book: An ESL/EFL Teacher's Course* (co-authored with Marianne Celce-Murcia, Heinle/Cengage, 1999), *Techniques and Principles in Language Teaching* (co-authored with Marti Anderson, Oxford University Press, 2011), and *Grammar Dimensions: Form, Meaning, and Use* (Series Director, Heinle/Cengage, 2007). She has earned various prestigious awards throughout the world for her research and study of the English language.

In this plenary talk, Dr. Larsen-Freeman will discuss the metaphoric connections of our conference theme, *Deeply Rooted, Always Growing*, by considering language in terms of a fractal, a geometric figure that is self-similar at every level of scale. She will explore how a fractal can represent the many components of language and how these components influence how we teach and how we learn languages.

For more information regarding these plenary speakers, please see the pre-registration booklet which was mailed in early December. Please also refer to our conference website at: <http://catesol.org/annualconference/>.