Invited Panel Discussion

Preparing Culturally Responsive Teachers: The Impact of Urban Redesign

Organizer: Miranda Lin, Illinois State University

Abstract: This panel will address Illinois State University's effort to prepare preservice teachers to become culturally responsive teachers with the support from the ISU's Urban Center. Challenges and strategies for this effort and the impact of urban course redesign on faculty, preservice teachers, the communities in Chicago, Peoria, and Decatur will be discussed.



Dr. Robert Lee serves as Illinois State University's Executive Director of Statewide Urban Programs and Partnerships and is the Founding Director of its Chicago Teacher Education Pipeline, an urban teacher education program that is grounded in social justice and works to cultivate and sustain innovative, resilient, and effective educators for urban schools and their communities.



Dr. Sara Jozwik is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Special Education at Illinois State University. She has 16 years of experience teaching in the field of bilingual/English as a second language special education. Currently, she teaches literacy and assessment courses that are included in the Innovative Network of Future Urban Special Educators (INFUSE) course sequence at Illinois State University. Her research focuses on investigating interventions to support literacy and bi-literacy development for English learners with disabilities.



Dr. Miranda Lin is an associate professor of Early Childhood Education at Illinois State University. Her research interests include: anti-bias curriculum, home-school partnerships, service-learning, urban education, and international education. She has taught children big and small in various countries prior to becoming a teacher educator.