



SERVICE LEARNING AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT THROUGH HIGHER EDUCATION

LOURDES SANCHEZ-LOPEZ | UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM

ASSESSING COMMUNITY NEEDS TO STRENGTHEN SERVICE-LEARNING PROGRAMS

ABSTRACT:

This session presents the process and preliminary results of a needs assessment study conducted with Hispanic community members through stakeholders in the Birmingham area to determine which areas of the linguistic landscape they find more useful in order to navigate their everyday life. The results of the study will be relevant to identify existing linguistic landscape unmet gaps that need to be addressed as well potential new directions to strengthen service learning programs.

THEMATIC FOCUS: LISTENING CLOSELY

BIO(S):

LOURDES SANCHEZ-LOPEZ

Lourdes Sanchez-Lopez, PhD. is Professor of Applied Linguistics and Spanish, Associate Chair, and Director of the Spanish for Specific Purposes program in the Department of World Languages and Literatures, University of Alabama at Birmingham. She organized the I International Symposium on Languages for Specific Purposes. She has been teaching, researching, and publishing in the field of Spanish for specific purposes and service learning, for over 20 years. Her book publications include *Pueblos, Intermediate Spanish in Cultural Contexts* (Cengage, 2006), *Scholarship and Teaching of Languages for Specific Purposes* (UAB, 2013), *El mundo hispanohablante contemporaneo: Historia, politica, sociedades y cultura* (Routledge, 2016).

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