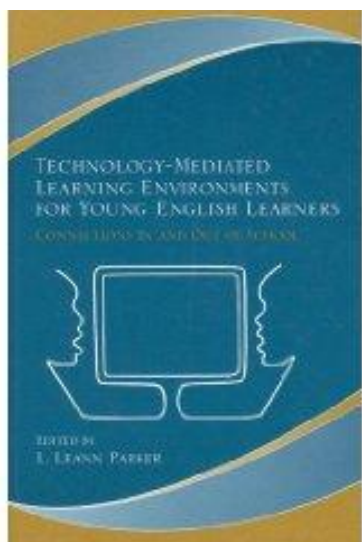


*New Partnership with Scottsdale Unified School District explores critical evaluation of technology's applications in teaching second language acquisition for young English language learners.*

*Seminars for Technology and English Language Learners (STELL)*



*Technology-Mediated Learning Environments for Young English-Language Learners: Connections In and Out of School*, edited by L. Leann Parker, serves as the basis for a professional development program for Scottsdale teachers and administrators, through a strategic partnership with the Office of the Vice President for Education Partnerships.

“The book explores issues related to the use of technologies to support young second-language learners and looks at promising areas for research, design, and development. Grounded in a socio-cultural theoretical framework, it invites educators, researchers, and educational technology developers to consider a range of social and cultural factors in utilizing technology as a tool to help children from diverse

linguistic and cultural backgrounds develop their English-language and reading skills. A major contribution is the authors’ consideration of ways that technology outside of school can benefit these students’ English-language development in school. The central chapters are counter pointed by invited reflections that bring to the discussion different, yet complementary, perspectives from notable scholars in the field of second-language literacy and learning.” (Editorial review on Amazon.com website).

The partnership opportunity offers participants a professional development series of four luncheon/speaker events by nationally known experts in the field of technology related to ELL education and a series of three implementation planning meetings conducted by Arizona State University faculty with designated Scottsdale staff to integrate ELL/technology programming in the district.

On November 11, 2009 at SkySong, Professor James Gee (Mary Lou Fulton Professor of Literacy Studies at ASU) presented the first of four luncheon lectures on how children learn in interactive online game environments. Other speakers in the series will include Leann Parker (UC Berkeley, contributor and volume editor) on February 25, 2009 and Catherine Brown (Portland State), on March 25, 2009. The fourth presentation by Professor Yong Zhao (Michigan State University) is scheduled for April 22, 2009. Vice President Eugene Garcia is a contributor to the volume, which is based on a conference generously sponsored by the Walter and Flora Hewlett Foundation.

