

THE 4th SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG) MEETING

Monday, March 27, 2023

8:00PM-9:00PM (US Central Time)

VIA ZOOM, <https://uiowa.zoom.us/j/92553671489>

SCAN QR CODE FOR LINK



** Please check your local time zone for the meeting.*

For example, Tuesday, March 28, at 10 am (Seoul , Korea)
9 am (Shanghai, Hong Kong, Malaysia), 8 am (Vietnam, Thailand)

Importance of Maintaining Mother Tongue in the face of Bilingual Children's Dynamic Language Shift

Dongsun Yim, Ph.D.

This talk will provide an overview of multiple studies of bilingual children, conducted at the Ewha Child Language Lab, whose mother tongues are Korean, Vietnamese, Mandarin, and other languages spoken in Korea. The research aims to provide evidence of the importance of mother tongue on psycho-cognitive linguistic abilities, such as self-esteem, resilience, third language proficiency, and executive functions.

Presentation time: 1 hour (45 minutes of presentation and 15 minutes of discussion)

Learner's outcomes: After this session, the attendees will be to

- Describe the rationale of dynamic language shifts in bilingual children.
- Identify which specific psycho-cognitive domains are influenced by the maintenance of the first language (mother tongue).
- Discuss how and why it is important to assess the first language and highlight the importance of mother tongue in a bilingual family.



Dr. Yim is a Full Professor in the Department of Communication Disorders at Ewha Womans University. She has been in the research field, serving the clinical population, for 25 years. Her primary research area focuses on investigating how children learn language and how language learning can break down. Her approach views language learning as part of a larger cognitive-linguistic learning profile. Therefore, she examines how language learning and nonlinguistic cognitive processing are linked within fundamental learning mechanisms, and how limitations in this mechanism interacting with environmental features can potentially cause language difficulties in children. Numerous research findings have been applied in her evidence-based clinic, "I Say Lab", through a community-serving lab. Both bilingual and monolingual children, with and without language difficulties, visit Dr. Yim for parent coaching, professional development, dialogic book-reading programs, and mostly speech-language consultation. The overall aim of her research and clinic team is to broaden our perspective on cognitive-linguistic theories of language learning, and to achieve more accurate assessments and more effective intervention services for children who have language difficulties.