



Apr 18th, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Heritage Language Maintenance: A Study of Central Illinois Teacher Attitudes

Hillary Sellers, '09
Illinois Wesleyan University

Christina Isabelli, Faculty Advisor
Illinois Wesleyan University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc>

Sellers, '09, Hillary and Isabelli, Faculty Advisor, Christina, "Heritage Language Maintenance: A Study of Central Illinois Teacher Attitudes" (2009). *John Wesley Powell Student Research Conference*. 2.

<https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc/2009/oralpres5/2>

This Event is protected by copyright and/or related rights. It has been brought to you by Digital Commons @ IWU with permission from the rights-holder(s). You are free to use this material in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s) directly, unless additional rights are indicated by a Creative Commons license in the record and/ or on the work itself. This material has been accepted for inclusion by faculty at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@iwu.edu.

©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.

Oral Presentation O5.2

**HERITAGE LANGUAGE MAINTENANCE: A STUDY OF CENTRAL
ILLINOIS TEACHER ATTITUDES**

Hillary Sellers and Christina Isabelli*

Hispanic Studies Department, Illinois Wesleyan University

This article presents a study of teachers' attitudes toward students' maintenance of the home language, and also examines concordance of these attitudes with teacher practices when dealing with language minority students. The sample consisted of 48 teachers with varying levels of experience teaching language minority students. Participants were recruited from two school districts in Bloomington-Normal, Illinois, and were asked to complete an online questionnaire. In a 2006 study carried out in California, Lee and Oxelson found that teachers who taught in a bilingual or ESL classroom and teachers that had experience with a language other than English had more positive attitudes toward bilingualism and heritage language maintenance. This study replicates Lee and Oxelson's survey and will determine whether the findings maintain their validity in this Central Illinois community.

Lee, J., & Oxelson, E. (2006). "It's not my job": K-12 teacher attitudes toward students' heritage language maintenance. *Bilingual Research Journal*, 30(2), 453-477.