Southwest Center for Mind, Brain and Education

SPRING 2016 SPEAKERS SERIES

presents

Dr. Theo Dawson, Ph.D
Executive Director of Lectica®, Inc.


For 20 years, Dr. Dawson and her colleagues have been conducting research with direct response cognitive developmental tests called Lectical Assessments. During this time, they have:

- examined the psychometric properties of the Lectical Assessment System, which places performances on Fischer's (1980) skill scale;
- developed CLAS, an electronic scoring system that is making it possible to deliver diagnostic, formative, and embeddable K-12 assessments (DiscoTests™) to teachers everywhere;
- investigated the relation between development on the skill scale and a wide range of other variables, including, but not limited to, GPA, argumentation, literacy, workplace success, reflective activity, SES, second language learning, and a variety of curricula;
- described life-span learning trajectories for dozens of concepts and skills.

Their findings have contributed to the development of Lectica’s learning model, VCoL+7 (the Virtuous Cycle of Learning and 7 learning skills) and a novel approach to educational assessment. Dr. Dawson will review this research, provide a sketch of VCoL+7, and describe current activities at Lectica that may be of interest to MBE researchers, research schools, and educators.

Thursday, February 18, 2016
5 – 6:30 pm
Carlisle Suite, University Center

Theo Linda Dawson, Ph.D. (U.C. Berkeley, 1998) is the Executive Director of Lectica®, Inc. (a nonprofit assessment developer), and the founder of the DiscoTest™ Initiative. Dawson developed the Lectical™ Assessment System and its electronic counterpart CLAS™, which are employed to construct formative, diagnostic, and standardized developmental assessments and learning resources for children and adults. Dawson is dedicated to creating tools and resources that support VCoLs (virtuous cycles of learning) while focusing on the skills and ideas we all need to successfully navigate the 21st century.

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