DLLL, Lecture Series in Linguistics and Applied Linguistics

Monday, January 27, 2014 5:30-6:30 pm Room Ross S 562

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Exploring the Feasibility of E-Learning in Ontario ESL Programs

Technology-mediated or e-learning approaches integrated into ESL programs offer learners a flexible, learner-centred pathway to 21st century English language skills. But how feasible is ESL e-learning in current Ontario classrooms?

This paper will share findings from MCI-funded, mixed methods research examining the feasibility of integrating ESL e-learning into existing Adult, Non-Credit ESL Programs across Ontario. Findings reveal that the vast majority of participants are ready and willing to use e-learning approaches, but need to build capacity and overcome a number of key barriers. These barriers will be discussed along with the call for a blended delivery model where the 'human feel' and a supportive teacher presence are maintained. The paper will conclude with a summary of some effective ESL e-learning practices observed in this research.

Reception to follow in the DLLL lounge