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Type: **Research-oriented Oral Face-to-face presentation**

Navigating Learning Advisor Agency in Constrained Professional Contexts

Saturday 17 May 2025 16:55 (25 minutes)

TITLE

Navigating Learning Advisor Agency in Constrained Professional Contexts

RELEVANT SIG

College and University Educators (CUE)

FORMAT

Research-oriented Oral Face-to-face presentation (25 minutes, including Q&A)

Short English description

KEYWORDS

language learning advisor, agency, autonomy, professionalism

First-time presenter?

ABSTRACT

This presentation explores the challenges language learning advisors can face in asserting their professional agency within institutional frameworks that may be incompatible with their specialized roles. Drawing on the conference theme of “Agency and Autonomy in Language Education,” it examines the tension between advisor autonomy and prescribed professional conduct in environments that often fail to recognize the unique nature of language learning support. Key issues to be addressed include the mismatch between institutionally mandated professional development and the specific needs of language learning advisors; constraints on advisor agency in implementing personalized learning strategies within standardized educational systems; and the struggle to maintain learner-centred approaches in policy-driven environments. The analysis will highlight how these factors impact advisor effectiveness and learner outcomes, drawing on recent studies and practitioner experiences. The presentation will also outline strategies for advisors to assert their professional

agency within constrained environments, including developing tailored professional development pathways, enhancing institutional understanding of specialized language learning advisory roles, and advocating for role-specific resources and recognition. By addressing these challenges, this presentation aims to contribute to the dialogue on professionalizing language learning advisory roles and enhancing their recognition within educational institutions, ultimately fostering greater autonomy and agency for advisors and learners.

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