



## InET Consortium

### Oregon Initiative for Binational Instructional Exchange

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The Oregon Migrant Education program recognizes the importance of supporting the development of teachers who teach English as a foreign language to better serve their migrant students in learning English and to facilitate their educational needs as they transition between the US and Mexico. The ultimate goal of the Oregon Initiative for Binational Instructional Exchange (OIBIE) is to help migrant children reach their academic potential and achieve the Mission and Strategic Plan of the Oregon MEP.

From 2010 to 2012, the Oregon Migrant Education Service Center (OMESC) reviewed and updated the professional framework known as the Nayarit Project. In October 2012, the OMSC reevaluated and redefined the OIBIE Plan to embrace a wider concept by developing an action plan, framework, and strategies for implementation. The OIBIE is designed for American ESL teachers and Mexican teachers of English as a foreign language to enable them to better collaborate and serve their migrant students in learning English and to facilitate their educational needs as they transition between the US and Mexico.

The OIBIE Plan is an academic, motivational framework providing awareness of education models used in the United States for English Language Learners. It focuses on teacher understanding and development of first and second language acquisition with emphasis on cooperative learning and strategies for reading, writing, listening and speaking. The Initiative is a day and a half seminar in which Oregon ESL teachers participate in professional development to understand the purpose of the Initiative and to reflect on their practices to develop a scope and sequence of what they will teach to their Mexican counterparts while in Mexico.

Mexican teachers participate in a three-week professional development that includes:

- an overview of education for migrant students in the US;
- an outline of program models for migrant students currently in use;
- a review of first and second language acquisition and the ramifications for migrant students;
- effective reading, writing, listening and speaking strategies;
- thematic lesson planning tied to cooperative learning strategies;
- formal and informal assessments; and
- in developing, teaching and evaluating lessons using new methods learned in the course.

The OIBIE Plan assists teachers from the US and Mexico to learn, share, and successfully apply the ESL strategies for the academic success in both countries. It also serves to ease the transition of English speaking students into Mexican schools.