

"The transition to EMI: What (beyond language) changes?"

Date & Time: 9 June 2025 (Monday); 11:00-12:30

Venue: Room E33-2036, Faculty of Education

Language: English

Registration: Online Registration (<https://go.um.edu.mo/mn7hs2uc> or )

Enquiries: Mr. Alex CHEN (Email: fed_event@um.edu.mo / Tel: 8822-4575)

Speaker:

Prof. Diane Elisabeth PECORARI, Professor of the School of Education at the University of Leeds, United Kingdom is invited to be the speaker of the seminar. Prof. Pecorari's research is situated within the broad area of educational linguistics. Within that area, her research investigates aspects related to English-medium instruction (EMI), English for academic purposes (EAP) and academic vocabulary. Her work on EAP includes research on intertextuality, source use and plagiarism in academic writing. More recently she has also begun investigating the phenomenon of predatory research outlets.

Abstract:

The rapid expansion of English-medium instruction around the globe is both remarkable and frequently remarked upon. Indeed, it could be said that the only places in the world where EMI is not becoming more common are those where it is already so entrenched that there is little room for growth. In developing EMI contexts, ever-growing numbers of educational institutions, programmes and courses are making the transition from using a local language to using English. In established EMI contexts the transition is often experienced by individuals when they move from one level of the education system to another; for example, when students are taught in their first language at school, and then move to an English-medium university.

In most contexts and for the majority of stakeholders, EMI means teaching and learning through a second language. As everyone who has experienced it can attest, teaching and learning in a second language is very different from doing it in one's first. This talk examines the process of transition to EMI and asks this question: when English becomes the medium of instruction, what other aspects of teaching and learning (can/may/should) change?