

Canadian Association of Language Assessment

2024 Fall Conference

October 11-12

Halifax, NS

EXTENDED CALL FOR PAPERS SEPTEMBER 6, 2024

We invite abstracts focused on empirical studies or classroom practice. The abstracts should be no more than 150 words, excluding title and references. The deadline for submissions is **Friday, September 6, 2024**. As part of the submission process, you will be asked to rank your preference for conference participation: presentation, poster, or works-in-progress.

STUDENT AWARDS

Students who submit an abstract as the first author will automatically be considered for one of the three student awards (\$100). Abstracts will be peer-reviewed, and the top three abstracts will be selected.

Submit your Abstract



<https://tinyurl.com/CALAFall2024>

More Information

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Conference Details

Workshops for NS K-12 teachers (October 11)

- Free for members
- Non-members (\$30 per workshop)
- Certificates of completion for PD

Conference (October 12)

- Member price (\$50)
- Non-member price (\$75)

Membership Fees

- Students (\$15)
- Teachers or other professionals (\$30)
- Professors (\$50)

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KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Ramsey L. Cardwell

Duolingo

October 12th

11:00 am to 12:00 pm

McCain 105/106

Advancing Language Assessment With Human-in-the-Loop AI

Advances in artificial intelligence (AI), when used responsibly, present significant opportunities to enhance the quality and accessibility of assessments. This keynote will discuss the transformative potential of AI in high-stakes language testing through its applications in test development, administration, scoring, and security. A central theme of this presentation is the concept of human-in-the-loop AI, which underscores the importance of involving educators, experts, and students in the development and implementation of AI technologies. Keeping humans involved throughout the development and application of AI tools enhances, rather than replaces, the critical contribution of human judgment in the testing process.

Using the Duolingo English Test (DET) for illustration, we will explore frameworks such as the DET's "item factory," which merges human expertise with AI-based automated item generation to create a scalable, efficient, and high-quality item development process. This framework adapts principles of intelligent automation from manufacturing to streamline test item creation. Comparative studies indicate that AI-generated items can achieve psychometric properties comparable to those crafted by human experts. As a result, this offers a scalable solution to the intensive process of human item writing. AI applications in test administration, scoring, and proctoring will also be presented.

The talk will address broader trends in responsible AI, emphasizing the need for ethical considerations and transparency in the deployment of these technologies. By situating innovations on the DET within the wider context of language assessment research, this keynote aims to demonstrate how to implement AI advancements consistent with best practices in high-stakes testing, and to inspire collaboration among researchers, educators, and policymakers.