

WAIER Fogarty Postgraduate Student Prize Winners 2022

Brett Healey

Brett's research explores the ways upper primary school teachers discuss narrative writing with their students. It aims to develop a method of one-on-one interaction designed to support students with their conceptual understanding of linguistic features for meaning making. It draws upon pedagogic theories of writing conferences and linguistic theories of cognitive stylistics as a base for these conversations.

The Fogarty prize will enable Brett to focus on the next stage of the research. This includes conducting a workshop with participating teachers where they will learn the linguistic concepts and associated ways of imagining texts. These teachers will then apply these concepts with their own students over the course of a narrative unit of writing. An analysis will be conducted to determine the extent of concepts usage in student writing as a result of the teaching. There will also be an analysis of the oral interaction between teacher and student to illustrate the types of interaction that afforded quality writing responses from students.

The end result will be a qualitative description of linguistic concept usage and productive teacher-student interaction which might represent quality pedagogical models for teachers to emulate in their classrooms. The prize money will be used for transcription fees and open access journal costs.