French-English Bilingual Projects To Be Evaluated

One of the highlights of the North American French Bilingual Conference opening Tuesday, Jan. 11, in Lafayette at the College Inn on Rex Street will be an evaluation of the six French-English bilingual projects in the United States.

The conference is attracting leading educators and others interested in the French-English bilingual program from Canada and the United States.

The conference is under the cosponsorship of the St. Martin Parish and Lafayette Parish Bilingual Projects and the Service de Liaison des Projets Bilingues Franco-Anglais.

USL Host

Host university for the international conference is the University of Southwestern Louisiana with Louis Roth, assistant director of the University College division at USL, as coordinator.

The Bilingual Projects and the Service de Liaison are funded by the Federal government under Title VII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Service de Liaison's aim is to meet the needs of all the French-English bilingual programs.

St. Martin Project

The conference here in Louisiana was initiated by the St. Martin Parish Bilingual Project, which is under the direction of Mrs. Hazel Delahoussaye, Miss Ruth Bradley and the Lafayette Parish Project. The pilot projects in Louisiana teach such subject areas as art, music, physical education, social studies and mathematics at least 50 per cent of the time in French to children in kindergarten and first and second grades. The plan is to add a grade level each year through fifth grade.

Panelists Listed

Panelists are Louis Aikman, evauator, Mascanic Project, New Hampshire; Joyce de Larichelle, director, Derby Project, Maine; Phyllis Hebert, on-site evaluator, St. Martin Parish Project; Dr. Geraldine Lambert, USL associate professor, evaluator, St. Martin Parish Project; Dr. Joe McSpadden, assistant professor, evaluator, Lafayette Parish Project; and Robert Walker, evaluator, Lewiston Project, Maine.

Among special guests who will be in attendance at the conference are Clement Beaudoin, Montreal Canada, Le Centre Educatif et Culturel; Norman Dube, department of education, University of Maine; Robert Fournier, state consultant for foreign languages, New Hampshire State Department of Education; Sr. Marie Andre Walsh, Austin, Texas, St. Edwards University; Jan Lobelle, Montreal, Canada, McGill University; Sr. Yolande Plante, curriculum coordinator, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto; Richard Goulet, Washington, D.C., bilingual program manager, ESEA Title VII; and H.B. Dyess, Baton Rouge, supervisor of foreign languages, Louisiana State Department of Education.

Also, Leo LeBlanc, Quebec government representative to Louisiana; Rene Calais, St. Martin Parish superintendent; James Comeaux, assistant superintendent, St. Martin Parish; Harold Gauthe, acting superintendent, Lafayette Parish Schools; Whitney Wiltz, supervisor, Federally funded programs, St. Martin Parish; and James Babin and Burton Dupuis, St. Martin Parish school principals; Harold Trahan, Alice Boucher school principal; Dr. Richard Chandler, USL professor and head, department of foreign languages.

Additionally, Robert Kastner, New Orleans, coordinator, Orleans Parish bilingual program; Dr. R. Swan, evaluator, Orleans Parish bilingual program; Miss Moran Dalyrymple and Miss Alma Dillegas, both of Fort Worth, Texas, representatives of the National Consortium for Bilingual Education; J.M. Pettinelli, New Orleans, cultural attaché of France at New Orleans; Paul Asselm and Yves Michaud, both of the Ministry of Intergovernmental Affairs of Canada.

To Address

James Domengeaux, Lafayette chairman of the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana, and Dr. Ray Authement, vice president of the University of Southwestern Louisiana, will address the conference. In addition to panel discussions and visitation to the bilingual projects in St. Martin and Lafayette Parishes, there will be demonstrations, discussion on parental and community involvement and future projections.

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