IMBES General Session A Translation and Policy

Speakers: Eugenia Garduno, Marcelo Cavazos, Diane Patrick,

Action Item #1: Integrate the voice of the Teachers into the creation of policy. i.e. Create avenues where the translation of Teacher and student needs is directly informing policy makers.

Main Ideas:

There is a need for a better connection between Teachers and Policy Makers, School districts and Institutions of higher education. The example of Arlington ISD and UTA should be replicated.

The focus of educational innovation and programs should be driven by researchers, not the policy makers. Albeit, funding for projects is easier if they contain the “buzzwords” present in the media at the time.

Educational Innovation requires trained “brokers” people who exist as a bridge between the educational community and policy makers.

There needs to be a system that increases sustainability in educational policy, if a person leaves an organization, this should not mean the death of a project.

Classroom research can only happen and inform when the teachers are educated in the research and the reasons.

Action Item #2:

When working with policy makers attempt to understand their goals, and, when possible, seek to align research findings (and questions) with
existing political agendas. This approach is easier than attempting to
change agendas from the onset.