From: <u>Language Testing Research and Practice</u> on behalf of <u>Elvis Wagner</u>

To: <u>LTEST-L@LISTS.PSU.EDU</u>

Subject: [LTEST-L] 2024 Sage/ILTA Book Award Announcement

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The 2024 SAGE/ILTA Best Monograph Award committee is happy to announce that the recipient of this year's award is:

Local Language Testing: Design, Implementation and Development by Slobodanka Dimova, Xun Yan, and April Ginther, published by Routledge in 2020.

The committee thought that Dimova, Yan, and Ginther were particularly compelling among this year's excellent nominees. The book is well written and addresses an increasingly important issue in the language assessment field.

With a plethora of research on large-scale standardized tests at the national/international level, Local Language Testing: Design, Implementation, and Development stands out with its contribution to the field by providing language testing practitioners the knowledge and skills in developing tests that are linked to the specific contexts more efficiently and effectively. Locally developed tests become especially valuable when standardized language proficiency tests, like international

large-scale assessments, fail to address local needs adequately. With most current research articles and books focusing primarily on large-scale standardized tests, there are comparably few resources available for local test development. Dimova, Yan and Ginther's book fills a critical gap by serving as an exceptional resource for practitioners and researchers engaged in the development and utilization of local language tests, exploring key aspects and complexities of test design, implementation, and development, and going beyond theory by offering actual item examples and addressing administrative issues. The authors' personal experience in developing and maintaining local tests and the sharing of such insider experience with examples from local operational tests from different contexts make the book very accessible to read and valuable for the intended audiences. The ending of the book with its reflection on each context accomplishes a way of deepening our understandings of the applications of assessment that is deeply needed in our field.

With local tests becoming a growing new domain of study, the book is poised to have considerable impact and is thus a deserving winner of the 2024 SAGE/ILTA Best Monograph Award.

The 2024 award committee,

Lianzhen He, Zhejiang University
Noriko Iwashita, University of Queensland
Benjamin Kremmel, University of Innsbruck (chair)
Jamie L. Schissel, University of North Carolina at Greensboro
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