

SHAPING THE FUTURE

REALIZING THE PLURILINGUAL POLICIES &
ACTIONS

DAVID MARSH PHD

NEOLaIA

Teaching through an Additional Language

Key Developments 1999 - 2026

The gravitational pull of English

+1,000%



FOLLOWING BOLOGNA 1999 EUROPEAN HIGHER EDUCATION AREA

WÄCHTER, B. & MAIWORM, F. (2014) ENGLISH-
TAUGHT PROGRAMMES IN EUROPEAN HIGHER
EDUCATION

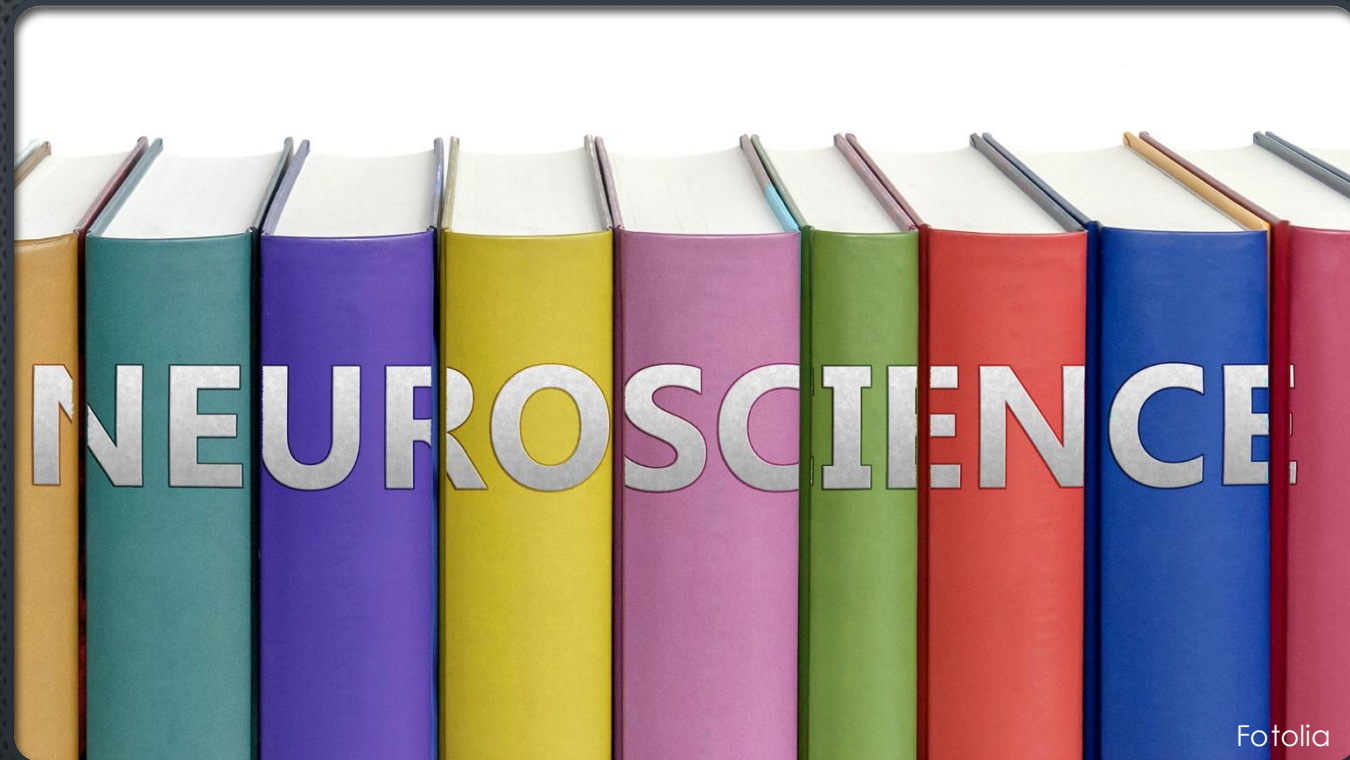
ACADEMIC COOPERATION ASSOCIATION

COGNITIVE BENEFITS OF BILINGUALISM

- PEAL, E. & LAMBERT, W. (1962) THE RELATION OF BILINGUALISM TO INTELLIGENCE
- BIALYSTOCK, E., CRAIK, F. & FREEDMAN, M (2007) BILINGUALISM AS A PROTECTION AGAINST THE ONSET OF SYMPTOMS OF DEMENTIA
- ADESOPE, O. O., LAVIN, T., THOMPSON, T., & UNGERLEIDER, C. (2010). A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW AND META-ANALYSIS OF THE COGNITIVE CORRELATES OF BILINGUALISM.



Fotolia



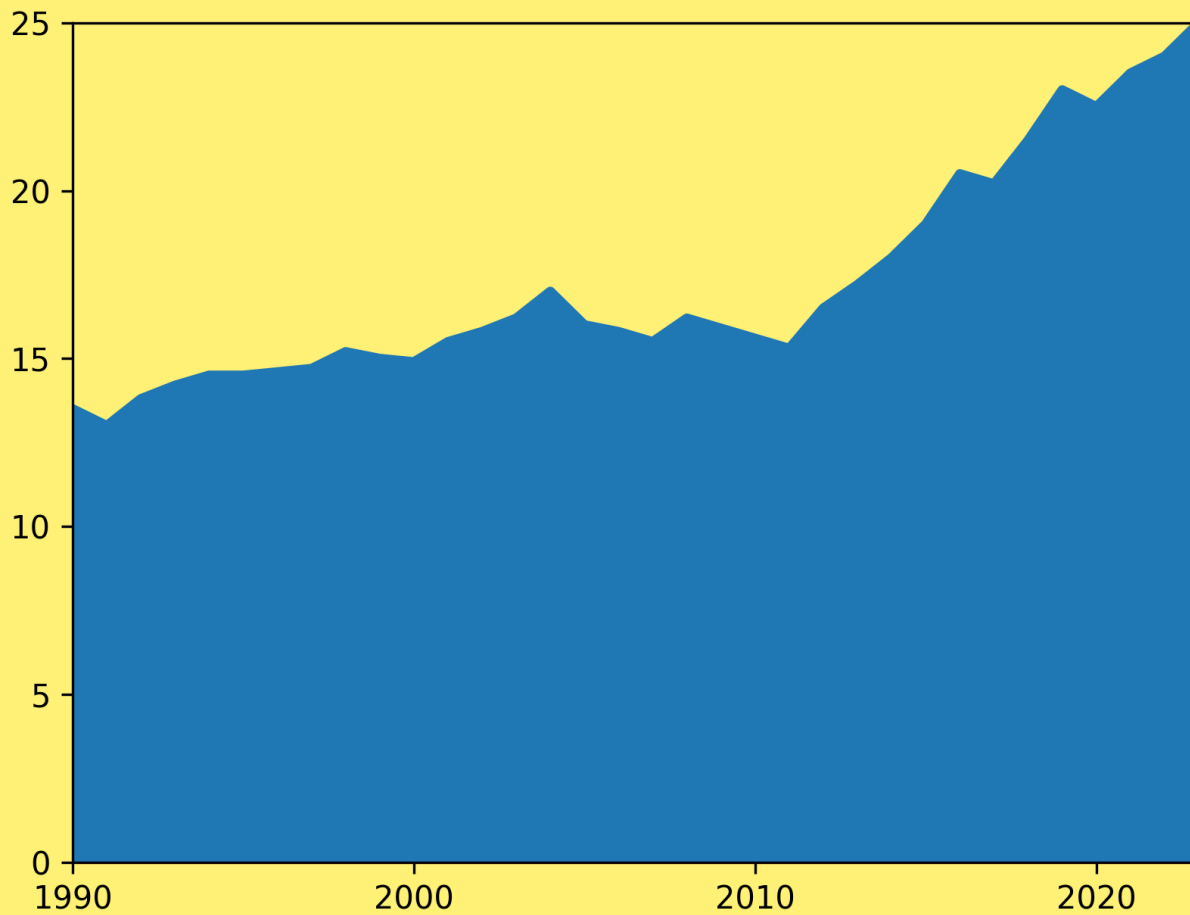
EDUCATIONAL NEUROSCIENCES

Estimate 3000-3500 publications 2020-2026

The Third Digital Wave - 2010-2015

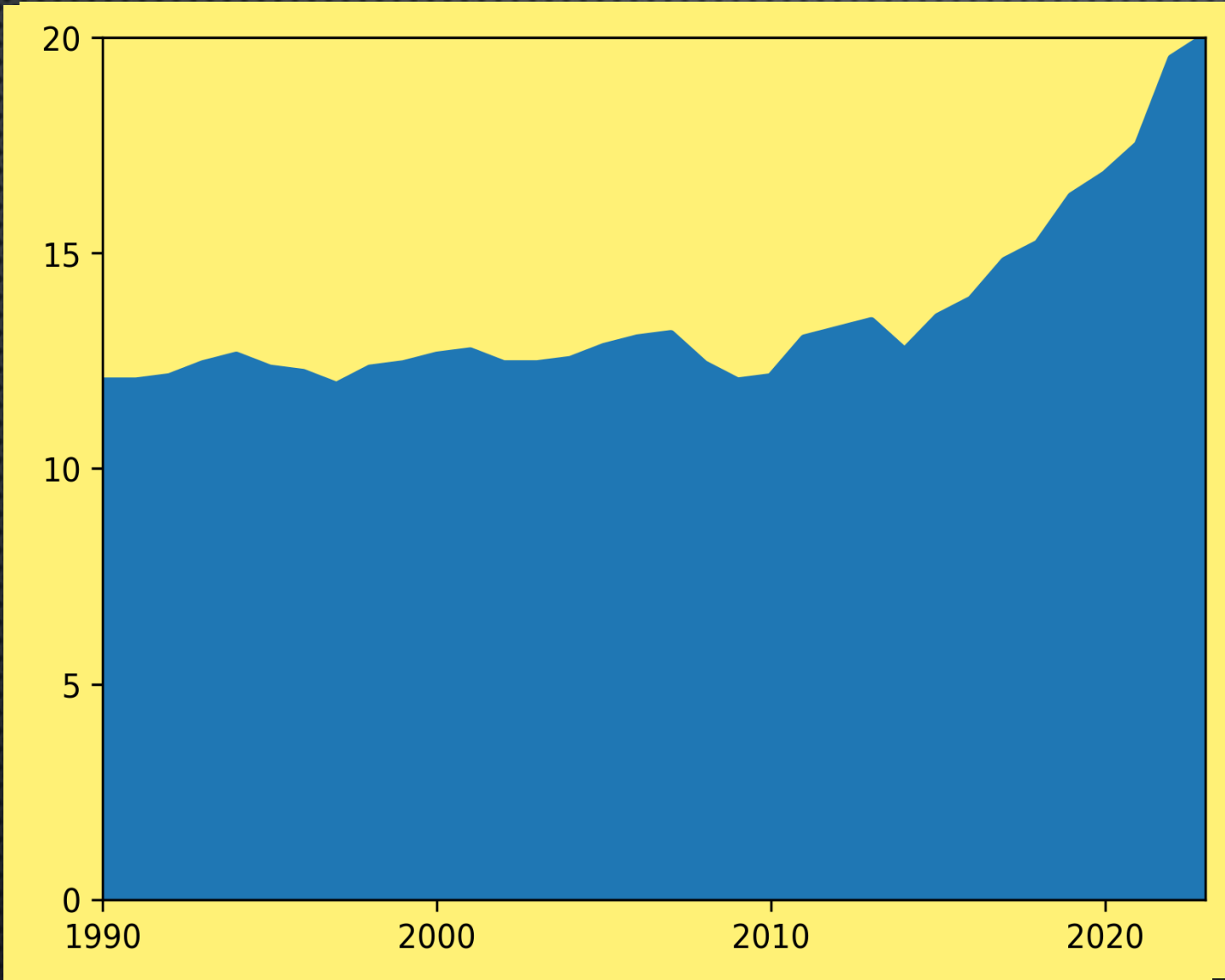


ChatGPT, 2026



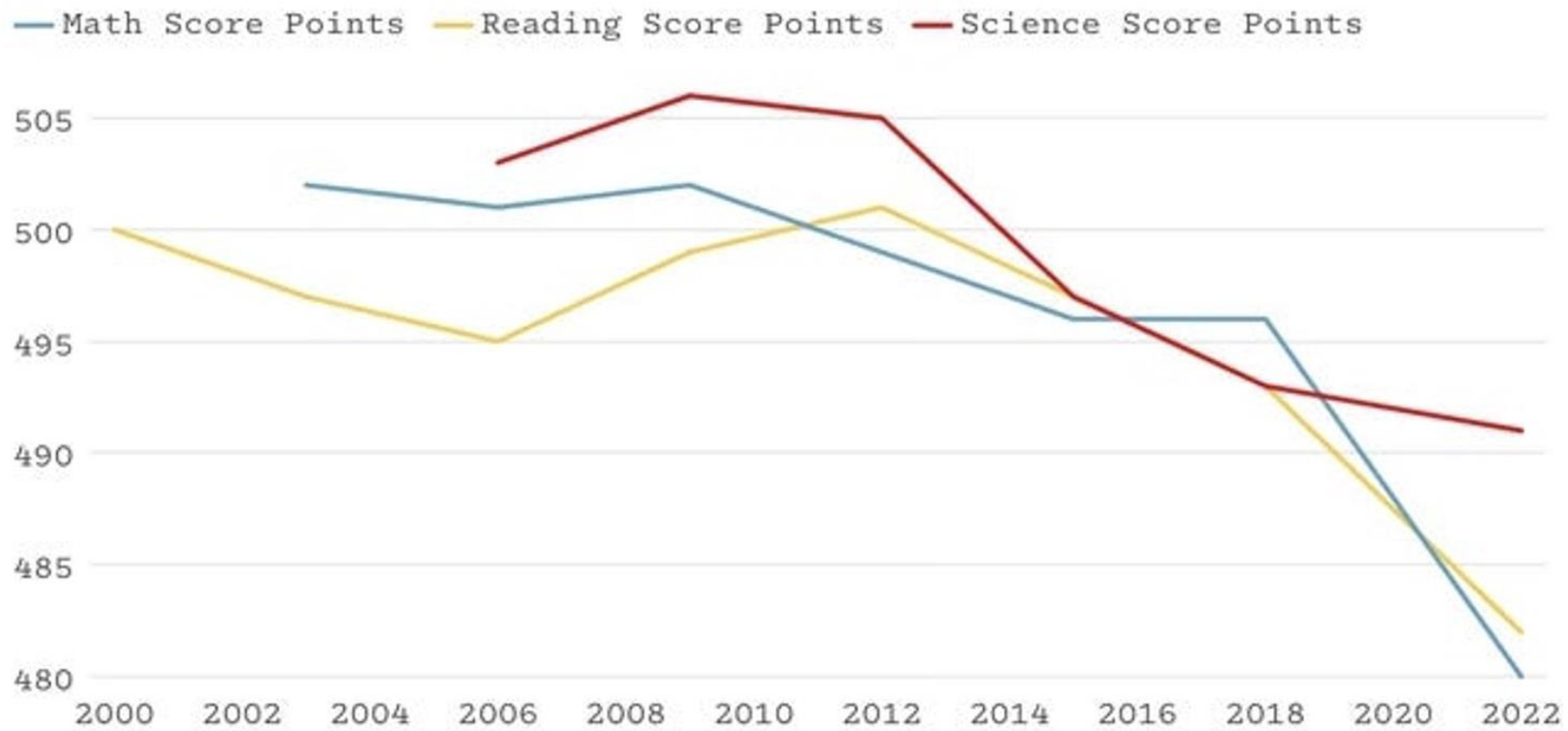
SHARE OF 18-
YEAR-OLDS(USA)
REPORTING ISSUES
WITH DIFFICULTY
THINKING OR
CONCENTRATING

FT MONITORING THE FUTURE
2022

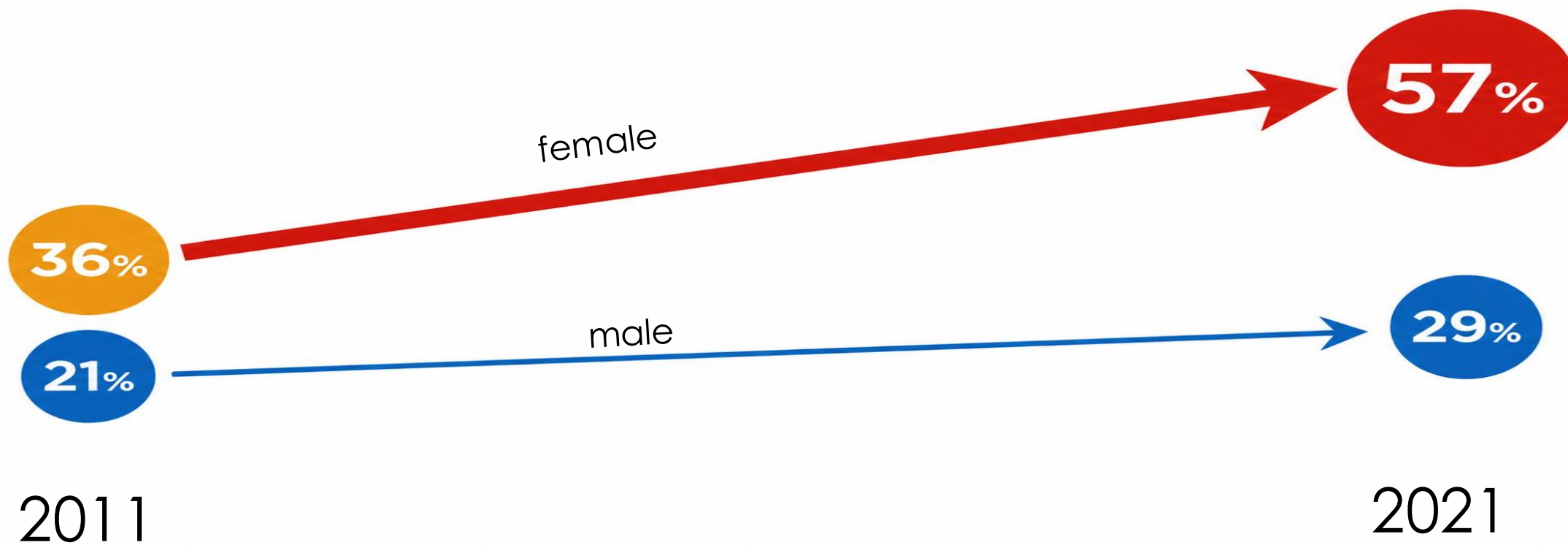


SHARE OF 18-
YEAR-OLDS (USA)
REPORTING ISSUES
WITH TROUBLE
LEARNING NEW
THINGS

FT MONITORING THE FUTURE
2022



Derived from PISA 2000-2022, 38 countries, OECD, The Atlantic



Teenagers feeling persistently sad or helpless

USA Centers for Disease Prevention and Control (2024)
Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data Summary & Trends Report: 2013–2023.

2000-2026 Terminological Proliferation



⚠ Risk 1 **Conceptual Dilution**

⚠ Risk 2 **Marginalization**
Keeping main activities in language units

⚠ Risk 3 **Methodologically questionable** research reporting

Part 1

Realising Effective Programming in an Additional Language

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES?



Fotolia



2020

**Towards a 2030
Vision on the
Future of
Universities in the
Field of Research
& Innovation in
Europe**



Whittle, M., & Rampton, J. (2020). *Towards a 2030 vision on the future of universities in Europe*. European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation; Centre for Strategy & Evaluation Services LLP. Publications Office of the European Union

First-order Change

Keep status quo,
minimize investment
and adjustment,
bypass professional
development, low
support and
incentivization, low
recognition

Largely business-as-
usual

Second-order-Change

Introduce systemic change,
embed into university ethos,
recognition, restructuring,
professional development
funding, incentivization and
metrics that matter

Link directly to
Internationalization strategies,
profile and rankings

Watzlawick, P., Weakland, J. H., & Fisch, R. (1974).

Change: Principles of problem formation and problem resolution. New York: Norton

A Key Development Indicator Process

Governance Management Praxis

GOVERNANCE

University Strategy

Language Policy

International Ranking Systems

Research Strategy

Academic Staff Incentives

Investment & Metrics

MANAGEMENT

Academic Staff Recruitment &
Programme Coordination

Resources (financial-technical)

International Programme Networking

Academic Staff Professional
Development

Supporting Innovative Curricular
Development

PRAXIS

Alignment with Language Teaching

Knowledge-Competence Intended
Learning Outcomes

Active Learning Techniques

Staff Competences Appraisal

Translanguaging

Student Communication & Process
Engagement

SHAPING THE FUTURE: A KDI FRAMEWORK FOR BUILDING CLIL ENVIRONMENTS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

David Marsh | Wendy Díaz



Universidad de Guadalajara

Key Development Indicator	#	Descriptor	Example %
International Strategy	1	Explicit	15
Investment Resourcing	2	Operational	20
Language Policy	3	Available	10
Language Policy Action Plan	4	Operational	25
Quality Assurance Processes	5	Operational	5
International Ranking Systems	6	Explicit	5
Research Strategy & Development	7	Explicit	5
Administrative Staff Resourcing	8	Operational	5
Academic Staff Incentives	9	Operational	10
			100

Governance

University of Guadalajara, Mexico Phase 1 2018

Part 2

**The Added Value of Learning
through an Additional Language**

Changes in the brain's electrical activity may occur
early
and have a profound impact on brain structures



The Contribution of Multilingualism to Creativity
European Commission (2009)

The Bilingual Advantage: The Impact of Language
Learning on Mind and Brain, Position Paper,
University of Jyväskylä Group (2022)

Value 1

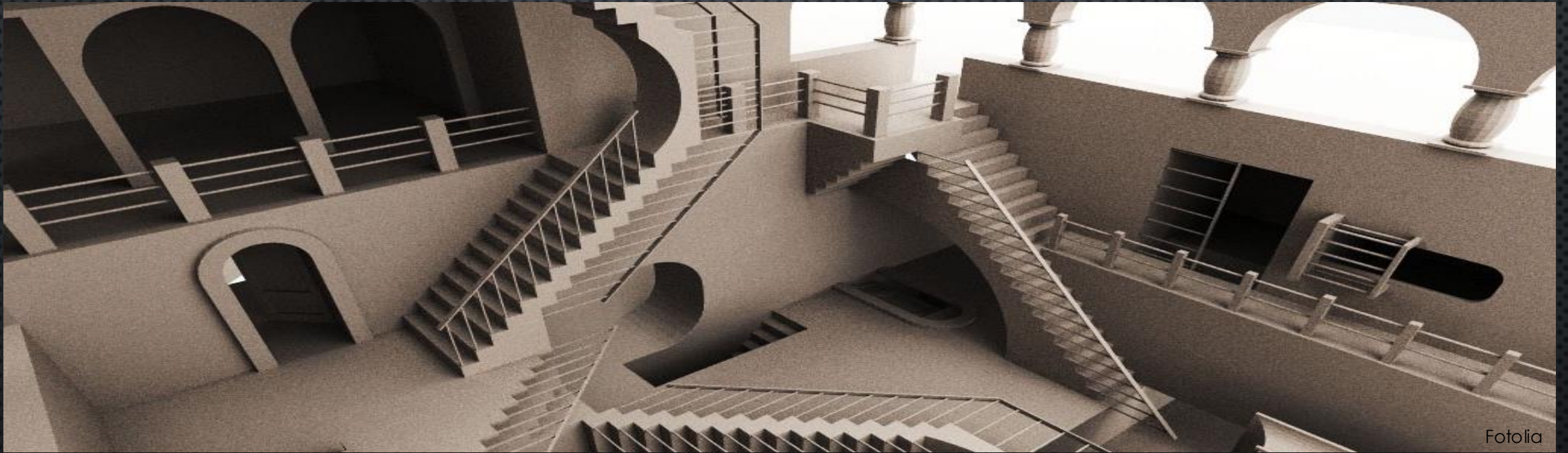
Superior Working Memory ★ holding & manipulating information



Value 2

Problem-solving ★ nurturing critical thinking & sustaining attention

Better than monolinguals
in problem-solving that is cognitively demanding



Value 3

Perception & Thinking Skills

★ adapting thinking & mental shifting

Multi-focusing (seeing the world through different lenses)



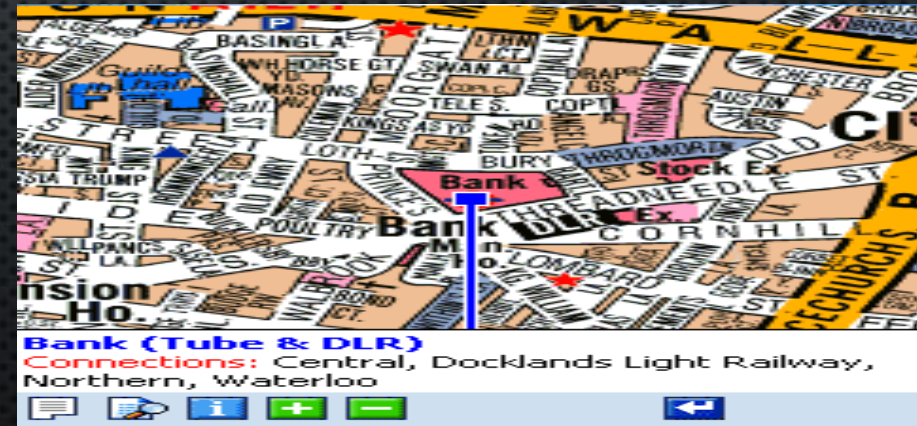
Value 4

Filtering Information

★ reducing cognitive overload, staying focused and suppressing impulses

Deciding what to give attention to, but also what not to give attention to.

Inhibitory control acts like a filter which enables a person to ignore distracting and irrelevant stimuli.



Value 5

Interpersonal skills

★ reducing social comparison stress, building self-confidence and agency

Understanding and responding to the communicative needs of others, contextual sensitivity, potential for empathy

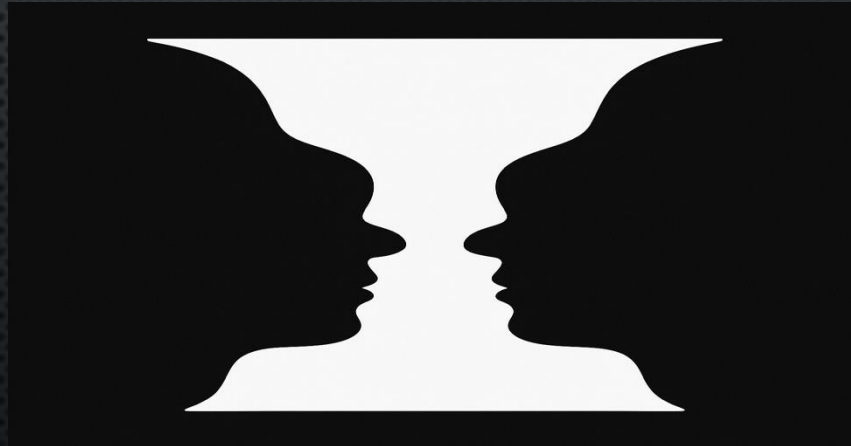


Value 6

Interpreting information

★ Navigating multiliteracies & AI-mediated communication

Enhanced metalinguistic awareness,
identifying ambiguity and sub-text in communication,
and interpreting concepts.



Part 3

Working with Generations Y, Z and Alpha

EXECUTIVE FUNCTION



INHIBITORY CONTROL

STAYING FOCUSED, SUPPRESSING IMPULSES

WORKING MEMORY

HOLDING AND MANIPULATING INFORMATION

COGNITIVE FLEXIBILITY

ADAPTING THINKING, MENTAL SHIFTING

EMOTIONAL REGULATION

MOODINESS, ANGER, ANGST, FRUSTRATION

TASK PERSISTENCE

SUSTAINING ATTENTION

High Performance Engines, Weak Steering and Braking Skills original concept attributed to Stanley Hall (1904). *Adolescence 12-24 Years* See Sawyer SM, Azzopardi PS, Wickremarathne D, Patton GC. The age of adolescence. *Lancet Child Adolesc Health*. 2018 Mar;2(3):223-228.

In the present day there are profound arguments for providing education in more than one language.

These are not only anchored in ideas generated by philosophers over at least two thousand years, but now driven by advances in science, especially on mind and brain.

The Bilingual Advantage: The Impact of Language Learning on Mind and Brain, Position Paper, p.14 University of Jyväskylä Group (2022)

Part 4

The Core of a Plurilingual University

Higher Education should:

cultivate deep understanding within disciplinary fields while also developing transferable competencies such as critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, ethical judgement and problem-solving. It should also nurture student agency, social and emotional skills, and the capacity to apply knowledge and adapt to changing contexts.



Purilingual Higher Education Can Enhance:

deep understanding within disciplinary fields while also developing transferable competencies such as critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, ethical judgement and problem-solving. It should also nurture student agency, social and emotional skills, and the capacity to apply knowledge and adapt to changing contexts.



On the Horizon for HE Plurilingual Integrated Education

- 📍 Adopting systemic KDI approach (with c.5-year phased plan)
- 📍 Heightened significance of human face-to-face teaching time
- 📍 Active Learning methods using multiliteracies (through slow-cook PD) focused on metacognition, global competences and intercultural communication



An underwater photograph of a swimming pool. The water is clear and blue. Lane lines are visible on the pool floor, receding into the distance. The surface of the water is visible above, showing ripples and reflections of the pool's structure. The overall atmosphere is calm and serene.

Equity, Inclusion & Plurilingual Futures for All