

Test Adaptation in a Shrinking World

A Lecture at Shue Yan University, Hong Kong

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Abstract:

This lecture will describe the manner in which standardized tests and assessments can be “converted” from one language and culture to another. That adaptation is the term of art used instead of translation will be explained. It will describe the history of this process and how both language and culture must be considered in the adaptation process. Example items and higher education assessments will be provided. Grounds for deciding how to determine if a test should be adapted or not will be explicated.

Biography of the Presenter

Kurt F. Geisinger is the director of the Buros Center for Testing and Meierhenry Distinguished University Professor at the University of Nebraska. Previously, he served as psychology professor/chair at Fordham University, Dean of Arts and Sciences at the State University of New York at Oswego, and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Le Moyne College and the University of St. Thomas in Houston, TX.

He has served on and chaired the Graduate Record Examination Board as well as its Technical Advisory Committee. He served on several College Board committees, including the SAT Committee, and has served on a number of technical advisory committees, including for

Measured Progress, the Educational Records Bureau, and the National Assessment Centre for Saudi Arabia. He has engaged in considerable consultation and has served as an expert witness in approximately 35 court cases.

He was honored to receive the Jacob Cohen Award for Distinguished Teaching and Mentoring from Division 5 (then Measurement, Evaluation and Statistics) of the American Psychological Association. He represented that Division on the APA Council of Representatives for two terms. He holds fellow status in APA and the divisions of General Psychology, the Teaching of Psychology, Quantitative and Qualitative Methods, Industrial-Organizational Psychology, Educational Psychology and International Psychology, and is a charter fellow of both AERA, and APS. He is currently president-elect of the division of Quantitative and Qualitative Psychology for APA. He has also performed accreditation visits to more than two dozen doctoral programs in professional psychology.

He served American Psychological Association on the Committee on Psychological Testing and Assessment, the Committee on International Relations in Psychology, a host of task forces, and on its Board of Directors, and the Good Governance Project. As APA delegate, He co-chaired the Joint Committee on Testing Practices for six years. He is president of the Assessment and Evaluation division of the International Association of Applied Psychology and of the International Test Commission. He chairs the Governance Committee for the International Association of Applied Psychology and became a fellow of the International Association this past summer (2018). He represented the American Educational Research Association, the American Psychological Association, and the National Council on Measurement in Education on the International Standard Organizations first standard on testing. He has lectured in Belgium, Canada, China, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sweden, and Turkey.

He has taught graduate and undergraduate testing and statistics classes, edited/co-edited more than 12 volumes including the *APA Handbook of Testing and Assessment in Psychology (three volumes)*, *Psychological Testing of Hispanics (2 editions)*, *High Stakes Testing in Education*, and four *Mental Measurements Yearbooks*, *Tests in Print*, *Pruebas Publicatas en Espanol*, has edited *Applied Measurement in Education* for more than 12 years, and has served on about a dozen editorial boards. He has published over 150 chapters and journal articles.

After working with various institutions to have them accredited by TEAC, he served on TEAC's Accreditation Council. He was on the commission that founded CAEP, and subsequently served two terms on CAEP's Accreditation Council. He is presently a councilor on the CAEP Appeals Council.

He earned his A.B. (Honors) from Davidson College with a major in German and a minor in Psychology; during his undergraduate career he was a matriculated student for a year at the Phillips-Universitat in Marburg, Germany. He then earned his master's degree in Psychology at the University of Georgia and his Ph.D. at the Pennsylvania State University. He was named an alumni fellow of Penn State University in 2016.