Fostering Academic Discourse and Language Development in the Adult ESL Classroom

1. **A Sea of Change**
   A. Disruption in international student programs causing massive faculty layoffs
   B. Continuing teacher shortage in our public schools, especially in high-need areas, including bilingual education
   C. Ongoing focus on fostering academic language as a means to narrow the achievement gap between EL students and non-ELs

2. **Inspiration**
   A. A common interest in developing oral proficiency and academic language among faculty and researchers in ESL and ELD
   B. A shared duty to develop academic skills and career readiness

3. **Innovation**
   A. The ELA/ELD Framework, including the Circles of Implementation
   B. The ELD Standards
   C. The groundbreaking research and contributions of Jeff Zwiers et al.
   D. Defining speaking skills as exercised in the classroom as a continuum from unidirectional oral output to academic conversations

4. **Integration**
   A. Application of ELD innovations to the adult ESL classroom
   B. Weaving new strategies into familiar speaking activities
   C. The 5 discourse moves
   D. Stronger and clearer each time
   E. The English Language Proficiency Standards for Adult Education