

Isela Almaguer, Ed.D.
Vita

The University of Texas Pan American
College of Education
Department of Curriculum and Instruction
1201 W. University Drive
Edinburg, Texas 78541
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EDUCATION

DOCTORATE OF EDUCATION

The University of Houston
Houston, Texas

College of Education, Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Dissertation: *“The Effect of Dyad Reading Instruction on the Reading Achievement of Hispanic Third Grade Limited English Proficient Students”*

May 2003

MASTERS OF EDUCATION

University of Texas-Pan American
Edinburg, Texas

Language, Literacy, and Culture, Reading Specialist Certification

July 1995

BACHELOR OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

University of Texas Pan American
Edinburg, Texas

Specialization in Bilingual Elementary Education

May 1993

CERTIFICATIONS

Elementary Education

Bilingual/ESL Education

All Level Reading Specialist

PROFESSIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**University Of Texas Pan American
College of Education
Department of Curriculum and Instruction
1201 W. University Drive
Edinburg, Texas 78541
August 2003 to Present**

Assistant Professor College of Education, Department of Curriculum and Instruction.

Responsibilities include:

- Serve as EC-4 Elementary Program Coordinator
- Conduct and participate in faculty meetings at the University
- Participate in University and College Committees and Task Forces
- Sponsor a student organization as Advisor, UTCARES
- Mentor new faculty
- Conduct orientations at elementary schools
- Conduct ExCET/TEGES/PPR Seminars for Professional Development, Elementary Comprehensive and Early Childhood examinations
- Adviser for students who are entering the Teacher Education program and those that are in the program
- Teach Graduate Child and Adolescent Literature course
- Teach Reading courses in which reading acquisition and principles of comprehension are examined, as well as, reading across the content areas, language arts curriculum and reading for diagnostic and prescriptive purposes
- Early Childhood Education courses in which Developmentally Appropriate Practices and Constructivist principles are applied to child growth and development and emergent literacy
- Bilingual Education and Multicultural Education courses

**University Of Texas Pan American
College of Education
Department of Curriculum and Instruction
1201 W. University Drive
Edinburg, Texas 78541
August 1999 to August 2003**

Full Time Lecturer College of Education, Department of Curriculum and Instruction.

Responsibilities included:

- Participate in faculty meetings at the University
- Participate in College of Education Committees and Task Forces
- Sponsor a student organization as Advisor, BESO
- Mentor new faculty
- Conduct orientations at elementary schools through the STCPDT collaborative

- Adviser for students who are entering the Education program and those that are in the program
- Conduct ExCET/TEExES/PPR workshop sessions for Professional Development, Elementary Comprehensive and Early Childhood examinations
- Reading courses in which reading acquisition and principles of comprehension are examined, as well as reading across the content areas, language arts curriculum and reading for diagnostic and prescriptive purposes
- Early Childhood Education courses in which Developmentally Appropriate Practices and Constructivist principles are applied to child growth and development and emergent literacy
- Bilingual Education and Multicultural Education courses

**University Of Texas Pan American
College of Education
Department of Curriculum and Instruction
1201 W. University Drive
Edinburg, Texas 78541
July 1995 to August 1999**

Part Time Lecturer College of Education, Department of Curriculum and Instruction.

Responsibilities included teaching education courses such as

- Reading courses in which reading acquisition and principles of comprehension are examined, as well as reading across the content areas, language arts curriculum and reading for diagnostic and prescriptive purposes
- Early Childhood Education courses in which Developmentally Appropriate Practices and Constructivist principles are applied to child growth and development and emergent literacy
- Bilingual Education and Multicultural Education courses
- Advisor for students who are entering the Education program and those that are in the program
- Conduct ExCET/TEExES workshop sessions for Professional Development, Elementary Comprehensive and Early Childhood examinations
- Conduct orientations at elementary schools through the STCPDT collaborative
- Participate in faculty meetings at the University

**EDINBURG CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Edinburg, Texas**

August 1993 to August 1999

Bilingual Early Childhood Teacher

Responsibilities included:

- Teaching content areas in order to foster biliteracy/ literacy and reading development
- Teaching in a bilingual classroom
- Teaching reading strategies/biliteracy strategies
- Presenting and attending faculty meetings
- Presenting and attending professional development seminars and workshops
- Conducting workshops and trainings for campus and district teachers
- Conducting parent-teacher conferences

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

PUBLICATIONS

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Almaguer, I. (2006). Scores and Attitudes of Dyad Reading Instruction for English Language Learners in a Third Grade Bilingual Setting. *The State of Reading Journal*.

Almaguer, I. (2005). Effects of Dyad Reading Instruction on the Reading Achievement of Hispanic Third Grade English Language Learners. *The Bilingual Research Journal*, 29 (3), 559-577.

Pena, C. & Almaguer, I. (2007). Asking the Right Questions: Online Mentoring of Student Teachers. *International Journal of Instructional Media*, 34 (1).

Almaguer, I. (in review). "Let's Play!" The Need for Play in Developing the Whole Child. *Journal of the Texas Association for the Education of Young Children*.

Almaguer, I. (in review). Maneras versátiles de aprender en centros de aprendizaje en un salón preescolar de un programa bilingüe de doble inmersión. *The Texas Association for Bilingual Education Journal*.

Almaguer, I. (in review). I Want To Read! Engaging Children in Reading Success. *Young Child Journal*.

Almaguer, I. (1996). Supporting All Learners-One Theme, Many Avenues. In *Balanced Reading Staff Development Guide*. Scholastic Professional Books Publishing.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Lopez-Estrada, V. & Almaguer, I. (2003). Flexibility, responsiveness, and effective feedback. In Cohen, M. and Nath, J. (Eds.), *Becoming an EC-4 Teacher in Texas: A Course of Study for the EC-4 TExES*. Toronto, Ontario: Wadsworth Publishing.

BOOKS

Lopez-Estrada, V. & Almaguer, I. (book proposal in review). *Literacy Strategies for Teachers in Dual-Language and English Learner Settings: A Practical K-12 Classroom Resource*. Allyn & Bacon Publishing.

CONFERENCE PROCEEDING PUBLICATIONS

Almaguer, I. & Pena, C. (2007). Fostering Reflective Practice: Using Online Discussion Boards in Field-Based Teaching Experiences Regarding the Use of Literacy Practices for English Learners. *Proceedings of the Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education, USA*, 18, 2709-2714.

RESEARCH GRANTS

LEPPSI Grant - External Grant Evaluator
Limited English Proficient Student Success Initiative
2007

WorkFORCE Solutions-WIA Youth Grant
Pharr Literacy Center At-Risk Youth Program
2005 (not funded)

University of Texas Pan American Faculty Research Council Grant
Kindergarten Peer-Assisted Learning Strategies for English Language Learners (not funded)
2003

U.S. Department of Education Early Childhood Educator Professional
Development Program Grant (not funded)
2003-2005

Texas Education Agency Academics 2000 Grant: *First Things First* (funded)
2000-2001

HONORS

Who's Who Among American Teachers

Scholarship from Bilingual Education Organization

Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges

REFEREED NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education (SITE)
"Fostering Reflective Practice: Using Online Discussion Boards in Field-Based Teaching Experiences Regarding the Use of Literacy Practices for English Learners"
San Antonio, Texas
March 29, 2007

2007 National Association of African American Studies, Hispanic and Latino American Studies, Asian American Studies and Native American Studies Conference (NAAAS)
"Facing the Challenges of Teaching English Learners in the Era of High Stakes Testing"
Marriot Baton Rouge. Baton Rouge, Louisiana
February 12-17, 2007

National Association for Bilingual Education (NABE)
"Essential Literacy Strategies: Positively Impacting English Learners' Reading Success"
San Jose, California
February 7-10, 2007

2006 National Association of African American Studies, Hispanic and Latino American Studies, Asian American Studies and Native American Studies Conference (NAAAS)
“Research-based Strategies for English Language Learners”
Marriot Baton Rouge. Baton Rouge, Louisiana
February 13-18, 2006

Kappa Delta Pi International Society in Education “Infinite Possibilities in Education”
45th Biennial Convocation
Rosen Hotel. Orlando, Florida
November 3-5, 2005

Teacher of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)
“Valuing the Culture and First Language of Children”
San Antonio, Texas
March 31, 2005

Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education (SITE)
“Asking the Right Questions: Online Mentoring of Student Teachers”
Phoenix, Arizona
March 3, 2005

2005 National Association of African American Studies, Hispanic and Latino American Studies, Asian American Studies and Native American Studies Conference (NAAAS)
“The Effect of Phonemic Awareness Instruction on the Reading Development of Mexican American First Grade Students”
Houston, Texas
February 16, 2005

2004 National Association of African American Studies, Hispanic and Latino American Studies, Asian American Studies and Native American Studies Conference (NAAAS)
“The Effect of Dyad Reading on the Reading Achievement of Hispanic Third Grade Limited English Proficient Students”
Houston, Texas
February 17, 2004

2000 National Association for the Education of Young Children Conference (NAEYC)
“Building Positive Images in the Classroom”
Atlanta, Georgia
November 10, 2000

REFEERED STATE AND MULTI-STATE CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2006 Texas State Reading Association (TSRA) 35th Conference
“Collaborating for Teacher Success in Texas”
Austin, Texas
November 10, 2006

2006 Indiana State Literacy Conference
“*Modeling Success for English Language Learners: Research Based Literacy Strategies*”
Indianapolis, Indiana
October 4-5, 2006

2005 Texas Association for Bilingual Education (TABE) 33rd Annual Conference
“*Literacy Enhancing Strategies for English Language Learners*”
Corpus Christi, Texas
October 14, 2005

2005 Texas Association for Bilingual Education (TABE) 33rd Annual Conference
“*Positive Impact of Social Intervention Amongst English Language Learners*”
Corpus Christi, Texas
October 13, 2005

2004 Texas State Reading Association Conference on Literacy (TSRA)
“*Understanding Children Through Writing*”
Corpus Christi, Texas
March 5, 2004

2000 Texas Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Conference (TXASCD)
“*Integrated Reading and Technology*”
Houston, Texas
October 17, 2000

REGIONAL PRESENTATIONS

2007 UTPA Gear Up! Project
Professional Development for ELA-Reading Middle & High School Teachers
“*Comprehension and Vocabulary Development*”
Edinburg, Texas
February 2, 2007

2006 UTPA Gear Up! Project
Professional Development for ELA-Reading Middle & High School Teachers
“*Reading to Learn*”
Edinburg, Texas
November 3, 2006

2005 Mid-Winter Conference
Harlingen C.I.S.D. Bilingual/ESL Education Program
“*Comprehension Strategies to Strengthen Students’ Reading and Writing at the Early/Fluent Levels K-5*”
Harlingen High School
January 17, 2005

2004 Texas Association for the Improvement of Reading (TAIR)
Conference Coordinator and University Representative
TAIR Teaching with Passion: Getting to the Heart of Reading

Harlingen C.I.S.D. Parental Involvement / Dropout Prevention Program
"Time-Effective Home to School Reading Techniques for ELL's"
Texas State Technical College
Harlingen, Texas
November 6, 2004

Edinburg C.I.S.D.
"Emergent Writing Strategies"
Edinburg, Texas
June 15, 2004

2004 RGV/TABE 13th Annual Conference
"Effective K-12 Reading Strategies for ELL's"
South Padre Island, Texas
October 1-2, 2004

2003 Texas Association for the Improvement of Reading (TAIR)
Conference Coordinator and University Representative
TAIR Building a Legacy of Literacy: Teaching Students Beyond Adequate Progress

2003 RGV/TABE & Region One ESC Bilingual Conference
"Understanding Children Through Writing"
South Padre Island, Texas
October 3, 2003

2003 RGV/TABE & Region One ESC Bilingual Conference
"Learning Centers in the Dual Language Classroom"
South Padre Island, Texas
October 4, 2003

2000 TAIR Conference
"On the Road to Literacy through Technology"
McAllen, Texas
November 18, 2000

1999 RGV/TABE & Region One ESC Bilingual Conference
"Creating Positive Images in Early Childhood"
South Padre Island, Texas
October 2, 1999

Edinburg C.I.S.D., Escandon Elementary
"Cooperative Learning Trainings"
School Years 1997 – 1999

Edinburg C.I.S.D.
“*ESL Strategies*”
Edinburg, Texas
November 1996

Edinburg C.I.S.D.
Journal Writing in Early Childhood
“*Emergent Writing – Kid Style*”
September 1995

Edinburg C.I.S.D.
“*Developmentally Appropriate Assessment in First Grade*”
September 1995

Edinburg C.I.S.D.
“*Developmentally Appropriate Assessment in Early Childhood*”
January 1995

Edinburg C.I.S.D.
“*Puzzled about Cooperative Learning*”
August 1994

1995 TAIR Conference – 46th Annual Reading Conference
“*Portfolio Assessment – All Level*”
McAllen, Texas
November 19, 1994

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Texas Center for Reading and Language Arts
Research in Reading Seminar
Austin, Texas
May 22-23, 2007

WebCT 6.0 Technology Innovations in Higher Education
The University of Texas Pan American
January 19, 2007

Texas Center for Reading and Language Arts
Vocabulary and Comprehension Instruction
Dallas, Texas
December 7-8, 2006

Cooperative Learning Institute Summer Leadership Training
Title V Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program
Minneapolis, Minnesota
July 31- August 4, 2006

National Association of African American Studies, National Association of Hispanic and Latino Studies, National Association of Native American Studies and International Association of Asian Studies

National Board Meeting

Tucson, Arizona

July 20-23, 2006

Texas Center for Reading and Language Arts

Research in Reading Seminar

Austin, Texas

May 22-24, 2006

Cooperative Learning Advanced Workshop

Title V Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program

The University of Texas Pan American

April 29, 2006

Cooperative Learning Advanced Workshop

Title V Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program

The University of Texas Pan American

April 22, 2006

Cooperative Learning Advanced Workshop

Title V Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program

The University of Texas Pan American

April 8, 2006

Texas Center for Reading and Language Arts

Reading Standards

Dallas, Texas

April 7, 2006

Information Technology in the Classroom

The University of Texas Pan American

March 23, 2006

Cooperative Learning Advanced Workshop

Title V Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program

The University of Texas Pan American

March 18, 2006

Texas Center for Reading and Language Arts

English Language Learners Reading Instruction

Houston, Texas

February 22 & 23, 2006

Cooperative Learning Advanced Workshop
Title V Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program
The University of Texas Pan American
February 11, 2006

Cooperative Learning
Title V Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program
The University of Texas Pan American
January 13, 2006

Cooperative Learning
Title V Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program
The University of Texas Pan American
November 18, 2005

Technology Innovations in Higher Education WebCT 6.0
The University of Texas Pan American
November 17, 2005

Kappa Delta Pi International Society in Education "Infinite Possibilities in Education"
45th Biennial Convocation
Rosen Hotel. Orlando, Florida
November 3-5, 2005

Cooperative Learning
Title V Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program
The University of Texas Pan American
October 21, 2005

Texas Center for Reading and Language Arts
Features of Effective Instruction: The Texas Reading First Initiative
Austin, Texas
September 21 & 22, 2005

Cooperative Learning
Title V Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program
The University of Texas Pan American
August 22 & 23, 2005

National Association of African American Studies, National Association of Hispanic and Latino Studies, National Association of Native American Studies and International Association of Asian Studies
National Board Meeting
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
July 21-23, 2005

Learning Frameworks

Title V Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program
The University of Texas Pan American
June 17, 2005

Texas Center for Reading and Language Arts

English Language Learners

San Antonio, Texas
May 31, 2005

Critical Thinking Workshop

Title V Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program
The University of Texas Pan American
April 14 & 15, 2005

Embedding Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes

In Regularly Scheduled Assignments

Professional Development Faculty Workshop

South Texas College
McAllen, Texas
April 8, 2005

Texas Center for Reading and Language Arts

Institute for Struggling Readers

Dallas, Texas
February 24, 2005

Introduction to Grant Writing: Tips, Tricks, and Traps

Office of Research and Sponsored Projects
The University of Texas Pan American
February 8, 2005

Technology Innovations in Higher Education

The University of Texas Pan American
November 18, 2004

How to Write Assignments Preventing Plagiarism

Writing Across the Curriculum

The University of Texas Pan American
November 17, 2004

Texas Center for Reading and Language Arts

Early Childhood Language and Literacy

Houston, Texas
November 15, 2004

*How to Write Assignments Incorporating Critical Thinking
Writing Across the Curriculum*
The University of Texas Pan American
October 21, 2004

Texas Center for Reading and Language Arts
Reading Research and Public Policy, Evidence-Based Reading Instruction
Austin, Texas
August 11 & 12, 2004

Texas Center for Reading and Language Arts
Facilitator of Collaborative Meeting
Reading Research and 3 TIER Model
Austin, Texas
May 25 & 26, 2004

Technology Innovations in Higher Education
University of Texas Pan American
April 15, 2004

TAIR Board Meeting
Bridges to Literacy
Houston, Texas
November 7 & 8, 2003

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment in Degree Programs/Majors
University of Texas Pan American
Dr. Ana Maria Rodriguez
October 30, 2003

Texas Center for Reading and Language Arts
Purposes of Assessment in Reading
Austin, Texas
July 30 – August 2, 2003

Texas Center for Reading and Language Arts
Reading Instruction for English Language Learners and Texas Primary Reading Inventory (TPRI)
Austin, Texas
May 2002

Texas Center for Reading and Language Arts
Higher Education Collaborative
Facilitator of Collaborative Meetings
Austin, Texas
2001 to present

Texas Center for Reading and Language Arts
Elementary Grade Level Academies and Reading Standards
Austin, Texas
November 2001

Texas Center for Reading and Language Arts
Best Practices Relative to Reading and Language Arts Texas Essential Knowledge Skills (TEKS)
Austin, Texas
September 24 & 25, 2001

Reforming Schools Through Two-Way/Dual Language Education
May 15, 2001

The Oppositional and Defiant Child Workshop
November 2, 2000

Bilingual/ESL Education
School Years 1993 – 1999

Gifted and Talented Education
School Years 1997 – 1998

Frameworks Seminar
Fall 1993

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Honors Council, Chair
2006 to Present
Financial Scholarship Committee, Chair 2005-2006
2005 to Present

College of Education EC-4 Elementary Program Coordinator
2004 to Present

Reading Clinic Task Force Committee
2007

Criminal Background Checks Task Force Committee
2006, 2007

Strategic Action Plan Committee
2005 to 2007

Search Committees

- EC-4 Positions Search Committee
- Reading Positions Search Committee
- C&I Chair Search Committee

2005, 2006

- Star County Positions Search Committee
- Continuing Lecturer Search Committee

2006, 2007

McNair Scholars Committee/Faculty Advisory Group

2006

Search Committee

- Professional Guidance Counselor AAM Center/College of Education

2005, 2006, 2007

Grade Appeal Committee

2005, 2006 - Chair

Teacher Education Advisory Council (TEAC)

2004 to Present

College of Education EC-4 Block II Leader

2003 to Present

TEExES PPR Seminars

2003 to Present

COMMITTEES

TEExES Improvement Initiative

2003 to Present

College of Education WEB Committee

2003 to Present

Texas Center for Reading and Language Arts

Higher Education Collaborative

2001 to Present

HEC, Leadership Council

2006 to Present

ExCET Improvement Initiative

2000 to 2003

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

United Together Caring Adults Reaching Early Childhood Students (UTCARES)
Faculty Sponsor/Advisor
2003 to Present

Bilingual Education Student Organization (BESO)
Faculty Sponsor/Advisor
Fall 1999 to 2003

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS MEMBERSHIP / SERVICE

National Association of African American Studies, National Association of Hispanic and Latino Studies, National Association of Native American Studies and International Association of Asian Studies, *National Board Member 2005 to Present*

NABE National Association for Bilingual Education

KAPPA DELTA PI International Honor Society in Education

Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages International Association

Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education

Texas State Reading Association

Texas Association for the Improvement of Reading

Texas Association for Bilingual Education

REFERENCES

Dr. Salvador Hector Ochoa, Dean
The University of Texas Pan American
College of Education
(956) 381-3627

Dr. Maria Elena Reyes, Chair
The University of Texas Pan American
Department of Curriculum & Instruction
College of Education
(956) 381-3629

Dr. Howard Jones, Professor
The University of Houston
College of Education
Department of Curriculum & Instruction
(713) 743-1968