

LETICIA DE LEÓN

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EDUCATION

- Doctor of Education, University of Houston Fall 2005
- Master of Education, University of Texas-Pan American 1998-2000
Reading Specialist
- Bachelor of Arts, University of Texas-Pan American 1987-1991
Major: English
Minor: Speech Communications

EMPLOYMENT

- Lecturer, University of Texas-Pan American Summer 2001-Spring 2006
- EDCI 4305 Instructional Technology and Curriculum Development, web-augmented using Electronic Learning Community and WebCT
 - READ 3329 Language Arts Curriculum, web-augmented using WebCT, with VGCRLA research-based language arts and reading strategies
 - READ 3325 Cognitive Development and Reading Comprehension, web-augmented using WebCT, with VGCRLA research-based reading strategies
 - READ 3323 Reading Acquisition, web-augmented using WebCT
 - READ 3326 Content Area Reading, web-augmented using WebCT
 - READ 4351 Expanding Literacy in the Secondary Content Area, all web augmented using WebCT
 - READ 6308 Foundations of Reading as part of Project BUILD
 - EDCI 4301 Foundations of Education, web-augmented using WebCT
- English/Reading Teacher, Progreso High School 1994-2001
- English Department Chair for two years, responsible for the following: arranging training for teachers in department; budgeting money for student activities, teacher travel, general supplies, subject supplements and teaching aids; scheduling of teachers in various English positions, including being part of hiring process to fill English vacancies
 - Have taught English I, II, III, IV from remedial to advanced levels
 - Have taught Reading II for low performing students to help them pass standardized tests (TAAS)
 - Have taught Advanced Placement English Language and Literature
- English Teacher, Communities in Schools 1992-1994
- Taught English remediation to at-risk students out of McAllen High School and McAllen Memorial High School

- In addition to teaching, I helped mentor and guide students on a one to one basis when a crisis occurred.

SERVICE

Jose Bernabe Muñoz Elementary School, La Villa, Texas Spring 2005

- Volunteered in a second grade class to read and engage children in activities for an hour and fifteen minutes

Memorial Middle School, Edinburg, Texas Fall 2004

- Volunteered to judge University Interscholastic League (UIL) Prose, Poetry, and Improvisation in a full day Academic Invitational Meet

College of Education, Department of Curriculum and Instruction 2003-2004

- Conducted seminars for Elementary English Language Arts and Reading of the TExES EC-4 Generalist and Bilingual Generalist
- Conducted seminars for TExES secondary PPR Fall 2003

SPECIAL TRAINING

Vaughn Gross Center for Reading and Language Arts

Higher Education Collaborative 2001-2005

- A collaborative of higher education teachers geared toward incorporating the findings of the center into education coursework for preservice teachers, as well as facilitate schools in successful implementation of Reading First

WebCT Course Training Fall 2001

- Training on how to use the university WebCT web augmentation to teach courses online.

Junior Great Books Spring 2001

- Reading program that deals with implementing critical level discussion questions as a strategy for better comprehension.

TIF Curriculum Spring 2001

- Guidance through different web sites in order to create a web page that deals with developing technology oriented, student centered instruction.

Mentoring, Accelerated Alternative Program, Educator Preparation/Certification 1997-2000

- As part of being a mentor teacher for four years, I have attended the required mentor training each year to help guide and understand the needs of first year teachers.

Breaking Ranks Fall 2000

- The NASSP's Breaking Ranks dealt with helping high schools find innovative ways to make change acceptable to everyone concerned, so that a team of leaders representing the school can implement new ideas and programs.

- I was chosen along with five more teachers to join the principal as leaders of our school to help him guide the school forward.
- New Teachers of the Gifted (Level 1) Summer 2000
- Completed 30 hours required to meet the needs of Gifted and Talented students in the classroom.
- Reading Renaissance II: Advanced Reading Renaissance Spring 2000
- Training in reading strategies, including mini lessons to teach the skill necessary to raise student reading levels.
 - Included uses of assistive technology like S.T.A.R., which diagnoses student reading levels, and Accelerated Reader in the classroom.
- Advanced Placement Institute Summer 1999
- Week long institute to help teachers of Advanced Placement in the high school better meet the needs of students preparing for AP tests.
 - Included strategies and ideas for covering literature and writing and suggestions for books or supplemental materials to be used.
- Internet Academy Summer 1997
- As part of a TIF Grant, the school selected a few teachers to participate in a two week long academy that taught them the basics of internet and how to plan lessons that use it as a learning tool.
- Reading Renaissance: Beginning Phase Spring 1996
- This training introduced the Accelerated Reader program and the different reading logs, plans and goals that can be used to help a student become successful.
 - Included ways of successfully implementing DEAR time in the school, possible incentives used to motivate students, and ideas for raising the necessary funds for purchasing the AR program and the incentives for the students.
- Clarisworks Computer Training Summer 1994
- Basic training on how to use the Clarisworks software in Macintosh computers.
 - Included word processing, data bases, charts, creative projects and spreadsheets.
- Southern Institute of Service Learning Spring 1994
- Sessions geared toward social workers and dealt with social advocacy and adolescent social problems.
- Communities in School Statewide Inservice Summer 1993
- Training for those who work with at-risk students included youth empowerment, cultural sensitivity and exposure to expressive arts.

Communities in School Statewide Inservice

Summer 1992

- Training for those who work with at-risk students included information on gangs, suicide and parental involvement.

PRESENTATIONS

Texas Middle School Association 30th Annual Conference

February 26, 2005, Corpus Christi, Texas

- Presented *For TAKS's Sake: Concept Maps with a New Slant*, a 50-minute presentation on concept maps that encourage meaningful teaching and learning of such reading Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) objectives as characterization, theme, symbol, inferencing, main idea, story variance, point of view and vocabulary

Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education International Conference

March 5, 2004, Atlanta, Georgia

- Presented *Online Reciprocal Teaching: Reaching New Heights in Learner-Centered Instruction*, a 15-minute presentation that describes the use of reciprocal teaching in an online discussion board of WebCT and the subsequent results in learning for the students

Kappa Delta Pi 44th Biennial Convocation

November 15, 2003, St. Louis, Missouri

- Co-Presented with Graciela Chavez *What a Novel idea! Building Enthusiasm for Novels Among Apathetic Middle School Students*, a 50-minute presentation on a multitude of engaging strategies teachers can use before, during and after reading novels with middle school students, which included a list of age-appropriate, high-interest books suitable for these ages

Teaching, Learning & Literacy Conference

April 20, 2002, Brownsville, Texas

- Presented *Out of Confusion: Making Sense out of Text*, a 60-minute presentation that helps teachers create activities for facilitating textbook learning for students

National Conferences of the National Association of Hispanic and Latino Studies

February 12, 2002, Houston, Texas

- Presented *The Voices of Many: Using Multicultural Literature to Motivate Hispanic Students*, a 25-minute presentation that linked intrinsic motivation with cultural identity; how in predominantly Hispanic classrooms, accidental bias occurs that can be offset with exposure to multicultural literature, which serves as a vehicle for multicultural education

Kappa Delta Pi 43rd Biennial Convocation

November 10, 2001, Orlando, Florida

- Co-Presented with Graciela Chavez *What Beginning Teachers Need to Know: Introducing a New Teacher*, a 45-minute presentation on the preliminary findings of a three-year longitudinal pilot study evaluating the effects of a new state teacher-induction system for novice teachers in Texas entitled Texas Beginning Educator Support System (TxBESS) with information gathered and prepared by Dr. Veronica Lopez-Estrada

Rio Grande Valley Texas Association for Bilingual Education

September 28, 2001, McAllen, Texas

- Co-Presented with Graciela Chavez *Multicultural Literature: Sharing the Power of Culture*, a one hour presentation on the characteristics of multicultural literature, selection guidelines and applicability into the curriculum K-12

PUBLICATIONS

- Article in The Reader...IRA in Arkansas, *An Adventure Begs to be Read: Teaching Story Elements with Concept Mapping*, on teaching characterization, symbols, and theme, July 2005
- Paper published in the Society for Information Technology and Education proceedings titled *Online Reciprocal Teaching: Reaching New Heights in Learner-Centered Instruction*, March 2004
- Article in Multicultural Education Magazine, *Multicultural Literature: Reading to Develop Self-Worth*, on using multicultural literature to build student self-concept; Winter 2002

MEMBERSHIP

Kappa Delta Pi, Lambda Psi chapter, an international honor society in education, 1999-2005
Secretary of the organization, 2001-2004
International Reading Association member, 2004-2005