

VITA

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: Susan Marie Leonard-Giesen, Ed.D.

Date of birth: *[Redacted]*

Current home address: *[Contact info redacted
for online publication]*

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Ed.D. in Educational Administration, University of California, Irvine/University of California, Los Angeles. March, 2009. Dissertation: "Parents as Teachers of Preschool Children with Down Syndrome: Supports, Barriers, and Daily Routines."

M.S. in Special Education, California State University, Long Beach, June 1992

Credential - Severely Handicapped (Moderate/Severe), California State University, Long Beach, June 1993

Resource Specialist Certificate, California State University, Long Beach, 1991

Credential - Learning Handicapped (Mild/Moderate) - Bilingual Intern Program, California State University, Long Beach with Los Angeles Unified School District, June 1990.

Multiple Subject Credential - Clear, California State University, Long Beach, 1988

Clear Bilingual Certificate of Competence, Target Language: Spanish. State of California Commission on Teacher Credentialing. Issued April 25, 1991.

Elementary Teaching Credential for the State of Washington, University of Washington, Seattle WA, June 1982

BA in Psychology, minor in Special Education, June 1981, University of Washington, Seattle WA

Undergraduate general studies, 1976-1978, Washington State University, Pullman, WA

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Lecturer, Full-time: California State University, Long Beach, September 1998 to present.

Responsible for teaching courses in the credential and Master's level programs in Special Education and Applied Disability Studies: Education of Exceptional Individuals; Foundations for Inclusive Education in a Diverse Society: Philosophical and Historical Perspectives and Legal Mandates; Development of Communication Skills in Bilingual Contexts; Curriculum Models and Practices for Learners with Disabilities; Preparing to Teach Special Populations in the General Education Classroom; Assessment and Evaluation of Students with Disabilities; Collaborative Models of Inclusive Education; Collaborative Partnerships and Effective Communication in School Settings; Advocacy and the Educational Context of Disability; Instructional Methods and Strategies for Individuals with Moderate/Severe Disabilities; and, Effective Instructional Strategies for Learners with Disabilities; Community Inclusion: Introduction to Individuals with Disabilities.

Coordinator, Applied Disability Studies Graduate Certificate Program, California State University, Long Beach: Fall 2019-Present.

Responsibilities include outreach and recruitment with staff in the CED Graduate Studies office; communicating with faculty from other departments and colleges in the university regarding the ADS program; reviewing applications and making acceptance decisions; collaborating with staff in the Graduate Studies Office in the College of Education to communicate acceptance to students and schedule advising students for their Program of Study; advising students and arranging for fieldwork placements required to complete the certificate program; supporting students in the development of fieldwork objectives and creation of a fieldwork portfolio; maintaining a BeachBoard site for the ADS program with announcements and Dropbox for fieldwork components; reviewing all final fieldwork portfolios as the final requirement for certificate completion and recommendation to the Graduate Studies office.

Coordinator, Credential Program, California State University, Long Beach: Fall 2008- 2015.

Responsibilities include collaborating with faculty and staff for program applications, interviews, admissions, and fieldwork; student advisement; planning and facilitating weekly program faculty meetings; development of program calendar; supervising part-time faculty and fieldwork supervisors; scheduling and coordinating weekly fieldwork seminars; design curriculum and participate in the curriculum process; course scheduling; writing and submitting credential documents to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing; represent the special education program on various college committees; conduct group advisement meetings for incoming students; conduct orientation for new student teachers; collaborate with district partners; and, collaborate with the assessment office in the collection and analysis of program data.

Coordinator, Master of Science in Special Education degree program, Fall 2011 – Spring 2014.

Intern Director, Education Specialist Intern Program, California State University, Long Beach, Fall 2007 – 2017.

Work with Long Beach Unified School District and other local districts to place qualifying Interns in special education classrooms. Work with the Credential Office in the College of Education to verify Intern eligibility. Attend state and regional intern directors' meetings coordinated by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC).

Fieldwork Coordinator, Education Specialist Credential Program, California State University, Long Beach, Fall 2007 – 2014. Work with the Teacher Preparation Advisement Center staff and other program faculty members to place credential candidates in K-12 classrooms with mentor teachers or as interns for their advanced fieldwork courses. Oversee other full-time and part-time fieldwork supervisors and intervene with candidates in the field as issues arise. Prepare and present professional development for the fieldwork supervisors.

Interim Director: Educational Psychology Clinic, California State University, Long Beach, Spring semester, 2008. Responsibilities include overseeing the day-to-day operations of the clinic, supervising the staff, hiring student assistants, dealing with facilities as needed, communicating with clinic faculty, assisting with client recruitment, overseeing the purchasing of materials, responding to families as needed, and monitoring the budget by communicating with eh department chair and college staff.

Research Assistant: An examination of a large urban school district's efforts to eliminate hostile environments in its interactions with students with disabilities and their families. Responsible for conducting individual and focus group interviews with administrators and teachers in Los Angeles public schools as well as conducting interviews in Spanish with parents. Also assisted in analyzing data as collected and writing report draft. June 1999 to May 2000.

Project Coordinator: Center for Education Renewal (CER) Well-Educated Teacher Initiative Grant, January 2000 – April, 2002. Responsible for collaborating with Dr. Marquita Grenot-Scheyer for the duration of the five year grant in the development of an undergraduate dual credential pathway to prepare students to complete requirements for the Multiple Subject and Education Specialist credentials while obtaining their undergraduate degree in Liberal Studies.

Lecturer, Part-time: California State University, Long Beach, January 1996 to August 1998. Responsible for teaching Education of Exceptional Individuals.

University Fieldwork Supervisor, Part-time: California State University, Long Beach, January 1996- August 1998. Responsible for supervising student teachers associated with the Special Education, Severely Handicapped credential program.

Student Teacher Supervisor, Part-time: California State University, Long Beach, September 1997 - June 1998. Responsible for supporting new teachers who hold Emergency permits while they complete the multiple-subject credential program. This included biweekly classroom observations and seminars with student teachers.

Project Coordinator, Consortium for Collaborative Research on Social Relationships, July 1995 - September 1997. Responsible for training and supervising the student assistant and participant observers in the field, administering annual developmental assessments, establishing and maintaining data files, coding collected data, and collaborating with my supervisor on identified research projects. This was a federally funded, longitudinal study in a consortium that involved five universities across the United States.

Research assistant, part-time: California State University, Long Beach, with the Consortium for Collaborative Research on Social Relationships, January 1993 - June 1995. Responsible for assisting in the training of participant observers, coding collected data, observing students with disabilities in inclusive settings, and administering annual developmental assessments.

Bilingual teacher of students with severe disabilities: Miramonte Elementary School, Los Angeles Unified School District, July 1989 - June 1995. Responsible for developing and implementing an instructional program for culturally and linguistically diverse elementary-aged students with moderate to severe disabilities on a regular education urban campus and providing support to their families.

Bilingual elementary school teacher, general education: Miramonte Elementary School, Los Angeles Unified School District, August 1986 - June 1989. Responsible for bilingual instruction of culturally and linguistically diverse elementary students in urban Los Angeles.

Elementary school teacher, general education: Montlake Elementary School, Seattle Public Schools, Seattle, Washington, November 1985 - June 1986. Responsible for instruction of a culturally diverse fourth grade class at a magnet school for the performing arts.

Interpreter (Temporary position): Office of Public Defense, Seattle Municipal Courts, King County, Washington, September 1985 - October 1985. Responsible for interviewing Spanish-speaking municipal court defendants who were applying to receive services from a public defender, interpreting during lawyer interviews, interviewing incarcerated defendants, and interpreting in municipal court arraignments and trials.

Elementary school teacher: The International School Nido de Aguilas, Santiago, Chile, March 1983 - July 1985. Responsible for delivering instruction in English in grades 2 and 5 in a private international school in South America.

PRESENTATIONS

“Becoming a Teacher” - Guest speaker at Teen Group at Tichenor Orthopedic Center, Long Beach. Presented to teenage students with disabilities about planning for a career in teaching, May 2021.

Career Day - Long Beach Unified School District, Starr King Elementary and Roosevelt Elementary, 2017, 2018, and 2019.

“Working with Families of Young Children with Disabilities” - Class Guest Lecturer for Dr. Ruth Piker, Spring semesters, 2012-2019.

“Universal Design for Learning” (UDL), Bechtel Grant Professional Development for Mentor Teachers: August 2017

“Supporting Secondary Students with Special Needs” - Invited presenter at professional development for Single Subject Credential Program, California State University, Long Beach, November, 2016.

“Adapting Our Instruction: CCSS for Students with Disabilities” Invited presenter, Department of Teacher Education Professional Development “What’s Common About Common Core” May 4, 2015.

“Consideration and Interventions before Special Education Referral” - Invited speaker Los Angeles County Office of Education Transitional Kindergarten conference: April 15, 2015

“La Ley Federal – IDEA: Evaluaciones y el IEP”, invited presentation for “Unidad y Fuerza”, Miller’s Children’s Hospital parent support group. Presented in Spanish to parents of children with disabilities, Long Beach, CA; October 22, 2014.

“Evaluation and IEP Goals”, invited presentation to Spanish-speaking parents of children with disabilities at Tichenor Orthopedic Center, Long Beach, CA; August 8, 2014.

“Special Education Laws and Related Services”, invited presentation to staff at Tichenor Orthopedic Center, Long Beach, CA. May 15, 2014

“Supporting Parents of Young Children with Disabilities in Early Intervention Programs” Invited guest speaker in Early Childhood Education (EDEC 522) Parent Education and Involvement in Educational Environments, CSULB. Fall semester 2006, spring 2007, spring 2008, spring 2009, spring 2012.

“Assessment and Support for English Language Learners with Disabilities”, Invited presenter for instructors in the single subject credential program, STEELI grant, October 2009 , March 2010, March 2011.

“Response to Intervention Model for English Language Learners” Invited co-presenter/facilitator with Dr. Cara Richards, for Center for Language Minority Education and Research (CLMER). November, 2009.

“Assistive Technology Considerations in Preparation for the IEP Meeting” Presentation at the Assistive Technology Institute, Orange County Department of Education. February 2, 2008

“Teaching ELLs: The SIOP Model” Invited presentation: January 26, 2008 Cerritos Symposium.

“Inclusion: Philosophy, the Law, and Practice”; Invited guest of Advocates for Special Kids (ASK) in Manhattan Beach, CA, February 2007.

“Co-teaching Models: Benefits, Challenges & Suggestions”. Invited co-presenter with Dr. Shireen Pavri and Dr. Cara Richards to faculty in the Department of Educational Psychology, Administration, and Counseling. October 9, 2006.

“Inclusion in the Age of No Child Left Behind: A Discussion of the Challenges”; Invited guest of

“When Federal Mandates Attack: Challenges of Reflective Teachers”; Co-presenter with Dr. Jennifer Coats and several members of the Special Education Teachers Demonstration Network at the international TASH conference, Reno, NV, November 2004.

“An Overview of Special Education Laws and Basic Practice in Public Schools”; Invited guest presenter for EDEL 200 “Introduction to the Education Profession” undergraduates. November, 2003, April 2004, November 2004.

“Overview of Instruction for Students with Exceptional Needs”; Invited guest presenter for University of California, Irvine student teacher fieldwork seminars. September 2002.

“Special Education in the New California Standards-Based Environment”; co-presenter with Dr. Jana Echevarria and Dr. Marie Hegwer-DiVita for College of Education Faculty; California State University, Long Beach, December 2001.

“Inclusive Teacher Preparation: Ensuring Success for All” Lead presenter with Dr. Marquita Grenot-Scheyer at international TASH conference; Anaheim, CA, November 2001.

“Accommodations for Learners with Disabilities in Addressing Language Arts Content Standards” Invited presenter in EDEL 442 (Teaching Language Arts, K-8); California State University, Long Beach; April 2001

“Special Education: What Do Emergency Permit Teachers Need to Know and How Can We Support Them?” Professional development for Multiple Subject Credential Program field supervisors; California State University, Long Beach, February 2001.

“Adapting and Modifying Curriculum and Instruction for Learners with Moderate/Severe Disabilities”; In-service for education specialist staff at Garfield Elementary School, Long Beach, CA, February 2001.

“Teaching for Social Responsibility: Stories of Inclusive Education”; co-presenter with Dr. Shireen Pavri, Dr. Jennifer Coots, Dr. Marquita Grenot-Scheyer, and Ms. Alicia Broderick, College of Education faculty and staff meeting, California State University, Long Beach, December, 2000.

“Students with Learning Disabilities: Will We Know Them When We Meet Them?” Greater Long Beach Child Guidance Center, Long Beach, CA, March 2000

“Intra- and Inter-Departmental Team Teaching: Strategies for Success.” Co-presenter with Dr. Greta Nagel, Dr. Jennifer Coots, and Ms. Deborah Hamm, The Sixth California State University Symposium on University Teaching: A Multidisciplinary Conference, San Marcos, CA, February, 2000.

“Effective Strategies for Including Students with Disabilities in General Education Classrooms.” Student California Teachers Association Southern Regional Conference, Long Beach, CA, February 1999.

“Adult Mediation & the Goldilocks Principle: Getting it Just Right in Inclusive Settings.” Co-presenter with Dr. Marquita Grenot-Scheyer, International TASH Conference, (The Association for Persons with Severe Handicaps). Seattle, WA, December 1998.

“Adult Mediation.” Co-presenter with Dr. Marquita Grenot-Scheyer, Working Conference, Consortium for Collaborative Research on Social Relationships of Children and Youth, Syracuse, NY, October, 1997.

“The Benefits of Inclusive Education.” Presentation to parents and other members of the school-site council, Carpenter Elementary School, Downey, California, April 1996.

“Inclusive School Communities.” In-service to teachers at Carpenter Elementary School, Downey, California, November 1995.

“Role of the Resource Specialist in Schools Where Students with Severe Disabilities are Included in General Education Classrooms.” Guest lecturer, California State University, Long Beach, October 1995.

“Role of the School Psychologist in Schools Where Students with Disabilities are Included in General Education Classrooms.” Guest facilitator, California State University, Long Beach, Spring 1996.

“Parents Rights in Bilingual Special Education.” Invited presentation at a church meeting of concerned Latino parents and community members in South Central Los Angeles, December 1999.

SERVICE and RECOGNITION

Member - CED Student Affairs Committee: 2018-2019

Elected - University Grade Appeals Committee: 2018-2019

Elected - ASEC department grade appeals: 2018-2019

Thesis Committee member for thesis Juliette Sanita - Art Education & Dyslexia

Selected – College of Education, Committee for planning CED meetings: Fall 2016- Spring 2019

Selected – University President’s Commission on the Status of Women: Fall 2013 – Spring 2016

Elected - Academic Senate, Lecturer Representative: 2011-12; 2012-13; 2013-2014; 2014-2015; 2016-2017.

Elected: Campus Climate Committee: 2014-2015; 2015-2016, elected secretary both years

Elected – University Nominating Committee member for Academic Senate 2013-2014; 2014-15.

LBUSD Induction Program Advisory committee 2015-2016

CSULB Alumni Association: Student selected “Most Inspirational Professor” 2013-14

University Academic Appeals Committee: 2012-13; 2015-2016 as Chair

Elected College of Education Student Affairs Committee 2012-2013

TASH Conference, Local Host Committee: Spring 2012-Nov. 20 2012

AB 540 Ally training at CSULB: April 23, 2012.

PROFESSIONAL WRITING

Grenot-Scheyer, M. & Leonard-Giesen, S. (2001) Cecilia's Story: Learning Opportunities & Obstacles. In M Grenot-Scheyer, M. Fisher, & D. Staub (Eds.) *At the end of the day: Lessons learned in inclusive education* (pp. 73-89). Baltimore: Paul H. Brookes Publishing Co.

Grenot-Scheyer, M. & Leonard-Giesen, S. (1997). *Adult mediation: Syracuse Working Conference*. Unpublished manuscript, California State University, Long Beach.

Leonard-Giesen, S. (2009). Parents as teachers of preschool children with Down syndrome: Supports, barriers, and daily routines (Doctoral dissertation). UMI Number: 3353935.