

Caroline Vasquez

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Innovative and responsive program development: from concept to implementation.
- Over fifteen years experience working with disfranchised populations through teaching, training, research, and community development in Mexico, Puerto Rico, and United States.
- Implementation and evaluation of educational programs with dynamic, team-oriented and decisive management style.
- Dynamic leadership style geared at fostering motivated teams that achieve goals.
- Skilled in building partnerships and strengthening cooperation between community, private and public sector for the achievement of stated goals.
- Effective oral/written communication and presentation skills.
- Persuasive negotiator and communicator.
- Proven expertise conducting quantitative and qualitative research studies.
- Multicultural competencies and professional-level fluency in three languages: Spanish, English and French.
- Technologically literate in PC, and Macintosh environments.

EDUCATION

Expected 2012	Ph.D., Curriculum and Instruction Area of Emphasis: Science Policy Research and Practice for Minority Populations Texas A&M University, College Station
1993	M.Ed., Curriculum and Instruction Area of Emphasis: Science, Mathematics and Bilingual Education Texas A&M University, College Station
1990	B.S., Chemistry Area of Emphasis: Analytical Chemistry University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

2010 - Present **Director of Instructional Development**
School of Public Health
<http://www.sph.uth.tmc.edu>
University of Texas Health Science Center , Houston, Texas

Responsibilities and Accomplishments

1. Directs the planning, staff, and operations of Instructional Development Office.
2. Directs the development and implementation of the instructional development initiatives at the School of Public Health.
3. Manages the planning, development and evaluation of training for faculty and instructional support staff in the use of instructional technologies and educational best practices.
4. Directs Instructional Development projects; evaluates requests and develops project priorities, and resource allocation plans.
5. Manages and tracks progress of projects; and assures milestones are accomplished and the project is brought to completion according to project timeframes; prepares and maintains status reports.
6. Created partnerships with other university-wide divisions and departments to develop new programs to train and support junior faculty and teaching assistants.
7. Provides educational consulting services and provides educational solutions to faculty and other members of the SPH community.
8. Manages and provides leadership and guidance to staff; develops priorities and assigns tasks and projects; ensures that all issues are addressed and resolved.
9. Manages all aspects Blackboard at the School of Public Health.

2010 **Curriculum Design Specialist**
Texas Engineering Extension Service
<http://www.teex.com>
Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

Responsibilities and Accomplishments

1. Responsible for developing curriculum and designing learning activities for various projects and courses.
2. Provided implementation planning, training, and consulting services to clients on curriculum/instructional materials and various projects.
3. Worked with university partners in developing university degree programs based on TEEEX courses and programs
4. Trained TEEEX staff on state-of-the-art curriculum development, teaching strategies, assessment techniques.

2008 - present **Graduate Research Scholar**
Policy Research Initiative in Science Education (PRISE)
<http://prise.tamu.edu>
Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

Responsibilities and Accomplishments

1. Conducted three case studies and a cross case analysis of Texas-Mexico border high school science programs.
2. Collected, analyzed and reported information for a state-wide educational policy research study funded by the National Science Foundation.
3. Created research and evaluation instruments.
4. Contacted, recruited and maintained relationships with district and school officials involved in the study.
5. Conducted interviews and implemented other research instruments with a return rate superior to 80%.
6. Maintained updated information on participating schools.
7. Organized, analyzed and interpreted qualitative and quantitative data using advanced qualitative tools and quantitative databases (SPSS).
8. Created reports and peer-reviewed documents.
9. Attended conferences and presentations to disseminate results.
10. Represented the research group with various audiences as needed.

2009 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**
Department of Teaching, Learning, and Culture
<http://tlac.tamu.edu>
Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

Responsibilities and Accomplishments:

1. Taught elementary science methods courses.
2. Managed online course discussions.

2005 - 2008 **Educational Consultant**
Pearson Education
<http://www.pearson.com>
San Juan, Puerto Rico

Responsibilities and Accomplishments:

5. Responsible for planning and managing activities associated with the implementation of Pearson instructional software products for elementary and high school clients in Texas and Puerto Rico.
6. Provided implementation planning, training, and consulting services to schools on instructional products and various projects.
7. Conducted onsite, standard and customized workshops as needed by the schools.
8. Managed projects with up to 110 participating schools to help the achieve

- program goals.
9. Assisted other consultants in other territories as needed.
 10. Maintained relationships with district, school officials and teachers that provided solutions that maximized the benefits for populations served.
 11. Served as a liaison between the company and school districts, state agencies to ensure customer success.
 12. Assisted the Sales and Marketing departments with sales support activities including, but not limited to: presentations, seminars, conventions, demonstrations and tours.
 13. Coordinated the resolution of user and support issues to help facilitate customer satisfaction and productivity.
 14. Participated in special projects and committees.

2004 – 2006

Undergraduate Instructor

Sagrado Corazon University

<http://www.sagrado.edu>

San Juan, Puerto Rico

Responsibilities and Accomplishments:

1. Taught undergraduate education courses (Educational Foundations, Curriculum Development, Teacher Practicum, and Instructional Methods).
2. Involved students as volunteers in academic summer camps for low-income children in the community.

2004 - 2005

Director of Training and Support

Sapientis

<http://www.sapientis.org>

San Juan, Puerto Rico

Responsibilities and Accomplishments:

1. Created, implemented and evaluated a Summer Training Institute for teachers and the Training and Support Program for beginning teachers acquiring alternative certification.
2. Ensured that participants became effective teachers through onsite supervisions, ongoing mentoring, monthly meetings, professional development and follow-up.
3. Developed program curriculum and training support materials.
4. Created partnerships with local universities for professional development initiatives.
5. Developed partnerships with Department of Education officials throughout the island to place teachers in historically underserved schools.
6. Represented the organization in events as needed.
7. Managed a staff of two to achieve all program goals.

1999 - 2004

Educational Director

Centro Educativo Ixtliyollotl

<http://inixtli@gemtel.com.mx>

San Andres Cholula, Puebla, Mexico

Responsibilities and Accomplishments:

1. Management and evaluation of a K-12 charter school. This program was awarded Department of Education “Excellent School Award” in 2002 by Mexico's Department of Education.
2. Coordinated and supervised multidisciplinary group of 25 education professionals and over 15 volunteers.
3. Headed the development and implementation of research-based academic, after-school and summer programs.
4. Created partnerships with universities, private and non-profit organizations to develop educational innovations and support programs to serve student needs, and raise educational outcomes.
5. Headed curriculum and teaching innovation at the institution.
6. Established accountability measures to raise teacher effectiveness and student achievement.
7. Grant writing with private and public institutions, nationally, and internationally.
8. Represented the institution with partner and sponsoring institutions nationally and internationally.

1996 - 2000

Curriculum and Planning Facilitator

Centro Educativo Ixtliyollotl

<http://inixtli@gemtel.com.mx>

San Andres Cholula, Puebla, Mexico

Responsibilities and Accomplishments:

1. Assisted science and mathematics teachers in planning, creating learning environments, improving teaching and assessment.
2. Facilitated appropriate teaching and learning resources for teachers.
3. Provided professional development and coaching on research-based teaching strategies.
4. Collaborated with the administration to implement school plans, achieve educational goals and create accountability measures for teachers and students.
5. Coordinated vertical alignment of the science and mathematics programs in grades k-12
6. Monitored and collected data on student achievement progress and used it to assist teachers to make necessary pedagogical adaptations.
7. Worked as a liaison between the administration and the teacher teams.
8. Conduced classroom observations and provided evaluative feedback to teachers.

1995 - 2000 **Science and Mathematics Teacher**
Centro Educativo Ixtliyollotl
<http://inixtli@gemtel.com.mx>
San Andres Cholula, Puebla, Mexico

Responsibilities and Accomplishments:

1. Planned the programs of study, prepared lessons and created an engaging and innovative classroom environment to fit students' needs, interests, and abilities.
2. Assessed learning; provide progress reports, aids students in achieving curriculum and learning goals.
3. Assisted administrations in a variety of tasks, including implementing policies.
4. Communicated and created opportunities to help parents get involved in schools activities and support student's learning.
5. Participated in school/district activities and events, including meetings and professional development.
6. Created the first inquiry science and constructivist math lab at the school helping fellow teachers incorporate research-based hands-on teaching pedagogies in K-9 science and math courses.
7. Improved student achievement scores in science and mathematics.
8. Subjects taught:
 - 3rd and 6th grade science
 - 1st and 2nd grade mathematics
 - High school chemistry
 - Science Lab and Math lab coordinator
 - After-school character education - preschool level

1996 - 2002 **Undergraduate Instructor**
Iberoamerican University
<http://www.iberopuebla.edu.mx>
Puebla, Puebla, Mexico

Responsibilities and Accomplishments:

1. Taught undergraduate education courses
 - Educational Foundations, Curriculum Development, Teacher Practicum, and Instructional Methods.
2. Involved students in a variety of practicum and volunteer educational opportunities with neighboring low-income communities.

1994 - 1995 **Graduate Research Assistant**
Solar Solutions
<http://tlac.tamu.edu>
Department of Teaching, Learning, and Culture
Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

Responsibilities and Accomplishments:

1. Designed an innovative hands-on science curriculum for elementary science teachers in Bryan ISD, TX.
2. Conducted research on innovative science teaching strategies to aid teachers implement alternative energy education in their classrooms.
3. Implemented a month-long professional development institute for elementary science teachers in Bryan, Texas.

1994 - 1995

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Department of Teaching, Learning, and Culture

<http://tlac.tamu.edu>

Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

Responsibilities and Accomplishments:

1. Taught Science Methods Courses.

1992 - 1994

Graduate Research Assistant

Colonias Program

Texas A&M University

http://archone.tamu.edu/chud/colonias_program

Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

Responsibilities and Accomplishments:

1. Participated in and assisted as part of a university-wide community reach-out initiative to support the educational, and community development needs of low-income communities in the Rio Grande Texas Border.
2. Conducted a literature review on available educational resources and organization to support the needs of the served populations.
3. Conducted field-based surveys of the educational needs of the target communities.
4. Created and presented reports on the educational needs of the target communities.
5. Represented the project in various forums.

1990 - 1992

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Department of Chemistry

Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

Responsibilities and Accomplishments:

1. Taught chemistry labs and assisted in the teaching of general chemistry courses.

PROFESSION SERVICE, MEMBERSHIP, and COMMITTEES

National Organizations

American Educational Research Association (2007-present)
National Association for Research in Science Teaching (2007-present)
National Association of Teachers of Mathematics (1993–present)
National Science Teachers Association (1993- present)
School Science and Mathematics Association (2007-present)
Southwest Educational Research Association (2007-present)

PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS

Educational Achievement of Minorities, Disfranchised and Underrepresented Populations
Educational Conditions of Minorities, Disfranchised and Underrepresented Populations
Education Policy
Education and Social Justice
Professional Learning Communities
Science Teaching and Learning
Situative and Sociocultural Factors in Education
Teacher Preparation and Education
Teacher Professional Development

HONORS AND AWARDS

2007-present PRISE Scholar Fellowship, Texas A&M University, College Station
1993 Kappa Delta Pi, Texas A&M Chapter

LANGUAGES

French Fluent Speaker and Proficient Written and Verbal Communication Skills
German Basic Written and Verbal Communication Skills
Spanish Native Speaker and Professional Level Written and Verbal Communication Skills

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Vasquez, C. (Ed.) (2003). *Atlequizayan: Un libro sobre la gente, lengua, tradiciones y oralidad de nuestra comunidad y pueblo totonaco. (Atlequizayan: a book about the people, language and oral traditions of our community and the Totonaco people)*. Ethno-linguistic, and cultural rescue created with the support of Fund for

Popular Cultures of Mexico's Indigenous Affairs Institute. Puebla, Mexico: INI.

Curriculum Materials

Vasquez, C. (2004). Sapiientis curriculum for alternative certification teacher preparation program. San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Vasquez, C. (2002). *Programa Amig@s, de Niñ@ a Niñ@, Album 1*. Character, peace and intercultural education curriculum geared at Indigenous and Mestizo children with the support of Mexico's Institute of Social Development. Puebla, Mexico.

Stuessy, C. & **Vasquez, C.** (1996). *Solar Solutions: a science thematic unit for the solution of contemporary problems*. Curriculum created for Bryan School District. U.S.A. WWW address - <http://www-coe.tamu.edu/worlds/wow.html>

Externally Reviewed Proceedings

Vasquez, C. (2008). As Grassroots meets Policy Research: on becoming a researcher. In Stuessy, C. L., *A Model for Preparing Policy Researchers in Science Education: Science Education Research and Graduate Education (SERGE)*. Paper presented and discussed within a special colloquium presented at the National Association for Research in Science Teaching, Baltimore, MD.

Kulm, G., **Vasquez, C.** & Burkhart, D. (1994). *Low educational achievement among low income Latino minorities: causes, symptoms and solutions*. Final document and Presentation of the Colonias Project. Department of Architecture and Urban Development. Texas A&M University. Texas, U.S.A.

Refereed Journal Articles

Stuessy, C. L., & **PRISE Research Group.** (2007). Literature review as an invitation to inquiry: Beginning research on Teacher Professional Continuum. *School Science and Mathematics*, 107 (2), 42-43.

REFERERED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

National

Stuessy, C.L., Bozeman, T.D., Hollas, T., **Vasquez, C.**, et al. (2008). *Preparing policy researchers in science education: A model for preparing policy researchers in science education –SERGE*. Symposium presented at the meeting of the National Association for Research in Science Teaching, Baltimore, MD.

International

Vasquez, C. (2002). *Experiencias en matematicas constructivistas e investigaciones cientificas en el salon de primaria (Experiences on Constructivist Mathematics and Scientific Research in the Elementary Classroom)*. Paper and workshop presented and the Educational Research Congress, Iberoamerican University, Puebla, Mexico.

REFERENCES

Available upon request.