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Areas of Professional Expertise

- Adult: Learning Disabilities, Literacy, College Readiness & Retention, Adult Basic Education, GED Preparation, English Language Learners with and without Learning Disabilities
- Adolescent: Reading, Illiteracy, Aliteracy, Learning/Reading Disabilities, Motivation/Agency, Special Education, Post-Secondary Planning
- Family: Student Advocacy, Parent/Family Advocacy, Family Literacy, Work Place Readiness, Job Coaching
- College: Developmental and Advanced Reading, Retention and Motivation, Review of Educational Evaluations for Disability Services and Accommodations

Education

2009	Doctor of Philosophy Walden University, Minneapolis, MN	Education (Focus: Adult Non- and Limited Readers)
1992	Master of Science NOVA Southeastern University, Ft Lauderdale FL	Reading (Focus: Adolescent and Adult Reading)
1989	Bachelor of Arts Saint Leo University, Saint Leo FL	English (Focus: Writing)

Current Teaching Certification: Florida

6-12 English K-12 Reading, Exceptional Student Education (ESE), English as a Second Language (ESL)

Professional Experience

- 2012-Present Florida State College at Jacksonville/Downtown**
Pathways to High School Equivalency: Reading/Language Arts Instructor
VERTICAL Adults with Disabilities Post-Secondary Program: Instructor & Curriculum Design
Thinking Maps Certified Professional Trainer
- 2011-Present Florida Literacy Coalition Trainer**
Learning to Achieve (LINKS) Certified Trainer
Adult Literacy Tutor Training (Reading, Diverse Learners, Techniques/Best Practices)
- 2011-2013 Akers Media Group, Staff Writer**
Copy editor, feature and informational article writer
- 2011-2012 Lake-Sumter Community College, Adjunct Professor**
Developmental Reading Courses REA 0007 and 0017
- 2008-2011 Beacon College, Reading Professor and Administrator**
2008-2010 Vice President of Educational Support Services and Outreach Programs, Reading
2010-2011 Vice President of Enrollment and Outreach Programs, Reading Professor
- 2005-2008 Crystal River High School Crystal River, FL**
Reading/Literacy Coach: Professional Development for Content Area Teachers, Assessment and Monitoring of Struggling Readers (FCAT Level 1 & 2),

2003-2005 Citrus High School Inverness, FL
Exceptional Education Classroom Teacher: English, Intensive Reading, Life Skills

1995-2003 Beacon College Leesburg, FL
2000-2003 Director of Admissions
1996-2000 Director of Student Services & Admissions
1995-1996 Academic Mentor/Coordinator of Academic Mentoring

1989-1995 Withlacoochee Technical Institute Inverness, FL
GED, Adult Basic Education, English as a Second Language Teacher

• **Professional Conference Presenter/Trainer**

Florida Literacy Coalition Conference May 2014, Daytona Beach FL
"But, teacher... is my writing good enough?"
"Increasing the Power to Make Things Happen: Nurturing Human Agency"

Literacy Lift Off: Reading Strategies for the Common Core September 2013, Tallahassee FL
Academic Summit sponsored by: FLDOE, FDLERS, FND, and POPIN
The Art and Science of Learning to Read (Keynote Speaker)
3rd Grade: "Best 3 (or 33) years of my life!"

Florida Literacy Coalition Conference May 2013, Captiva FL
It's alive! Frankenstein electrifies (and simplifies) informal reading assessment.
3rd Grade: "Best 3 (or 33) years of my life!"

Adult and Community Education (ACE) of Florida October 2012, Orlando FL
Learning to Read: Why it's so hard for some adults.

Florida Literacy Coalition Conference May 2013, Tampa FL
When Words Count: Fostering story writing in adult learners
Learning to Read: Why it's so hard for some adults.

Achieving in Higher Education with Autism/Developmental Disabilities (AHEADD)
Annual Conference: Autism Through the Life Span April 2011
Academic, Social, and Independence Transitions: College Freshmen with Autism, Asperger's, NVLD, and/or Learning Disabilities.

Florida Literacy Coalition Conference May 2011 Lake Mary, FL
Reading: Science of the Brain meets Art of the Mind (Request to repeat session from 2010)
Read to Me: Using Error Pattern Analysis to Guide Instruction for Struggling Readers

Florida Literacy Coalition Sept. 2010 On-Line Training
Identifying and Solving Reading Error Patterns.

College Committee on Disability Issues (Key Note Speaker) May 2010 Ontario, CANADA
Key Note Speaker: *Academic, Social, Independence Transitions: College Freshmen with Asperger's, Autism, NVLD, and/or LD*

Florida Literacy Coalition Annual Conference May 5-7, 2010 Captiva FL
Reading: Science of the Brain meets Art of the Mind (1st Session)
Reading as a Cultural Invention: Life Stories of Adult Learners (2nd Session)

College English Association Professional Conference March 25-27, 2010, San Antonio TX
Life Without Reading: Voices of Illiteracy, Aliteracy, and Literacy in Fiction and Non-Fiction

- **Presenter/Moderator**

Learning Disabilities Association of Massachusetts Conference Fall 1999, Fall 2000, Fall 2001
Panel Discussion: Post Secondary Options for Students with Learning Disabilities and Special Needs

Professional Accomplishments

- **Writer: Fiction, Non-Fiction, and Grant**

Florida Writer's Association Royal Palm Awards 2011
First Place Flash Fiction (Published): "The Visit"
Finalist/Flash Fiction (Unpublished): "The Taste of Regret"

Lake and Sumter Style Magazine (Akers Media Group)
Feature Article/September 2011: "The Final Frontier: The End of the Space Shuttle Program"
Feature Article/March 2012: "Homeless, but not hopeless" Focus: Lake/Sumter homeless children
Nature Coast Healthy Living Magazine (Akers Media Group)
Feature Article/March 2012: "Homeless, but not helpless" Focus: Citrus/Hernando homeless children

Florida Department of Education Grant "Democracy's Laboratory" – Collaboration with Beacon College Office of Institutional Advancement 3-year Grant Cycle: 2009-2011

nextStep Magazine March 2003 Co-Author
Support Services for College Students with Learning Disabilities

CitiBank Grants for Educational Opportunity --- Withlatchoochee Technical Center, Inverness Florida
Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) Summer Youth Work Program 3-year Grant Cycle 1995-1997

- **Professional Award**

Withlatchoochee Technical Institute's Teacher of the Year 1994

- **Academic Honors**

Graduated with 4.0 GPA, NOVA Southeastern University 1992
Graduated Suma Cum Laude, Saint Leo University 1989