

# **Kym Acuña**

## **Curriculum Vitae**

### **Education**

#### **Pepperdine University**

*Doctorate in Education Leadership, Administration and Policy, April 2013*

#### **Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey**

*Masters in Education, December 2004*

Graduated with Honors

#### **Ouachita Baptist University**

*B.A., Sociology and Political Science, May 1993*

Graduated with 4.0 grade point, Magna Cum Laude

Graduated first in Class of 1993.

Completed Carl Goodson Honors Program.

### **Professional Experience**

#### **Midwestern State University**

##### **Wichita Falls, TX**

*Chair Department of Graduate and Adult Education Aug 2021-present.*

*Associate Professor of Educational Leadership, Aug 2018- present.*

*Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership, Aug 2013-2018*

*Program Coordinator for MSU Doctorate in Education in Educational Leadership Program, 2021*

*Program Coordinator for Masters of Educational*

*Leadership, Aug 2014- 2022*

*Coordinator joint MSU-UNT Doctoral Cohort in*

*Educational Leadership, Aug 2014 – 2019*

*Graduate Coordinator, Aug 2015-present*

#### **Secundaria Tec Bilingüe**

##### **Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey**

##### **Zacatecas, Mexico**

*Junior High School Principal, Jan. 2007- Jul 2013.*

Open new junior high school.

Hire and lead all staff.

Review curriculum.

Select textbooks.

Coordinate student enrollment.

Administer all start up aspects regarding opening the school.

Teach English as a Second Language

Set and manage budget for the school

#### **Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey**

##### **Zacatecas, Mexico**

*High School Language Coordinator, Aug. 2002- Dec 2006.*

Teach various levels of English as a Second Language.

Assist in hiring of teachers.

Coordinate teacher training.

Review of curriculum and coordination of implementation.

Event Planning.

Teach English to High School and University Professors.  
Received High School Teacher of the Year Award, 2002-2003.  
Designed courses in Black Board technological platform.  
Plan and present at regional ESL conference. 2003 and 2004  
Participate on University system committee for establishing English level entrance guidelines throughout curricula.

**Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey  
Zacatecas, Mexico**

*University Adjunct Instructor, Aug. 2000 - May 2002*  
Taught university courses in English as a second language.  
Taught English to High School and University professors.  
Designed courses in Black Board technological platform.  
Designed courses in Learning Space technological platform.

**Division of Children and Family Services**

*Social Worker, Jan. 1994- Sept. 1998.*  
Conducted child abuse investigations.  
Supervised foster care unit.  
Juvenile Court Liaison.  
Spoke to local groups and gave training on child abuse.

**Teaching Responsibilities**

*Masters*

EDLE 5603 Introduction to Leadership  
EDLE 5683 Instructional Improvement and Staff Development  
EDLE 5653 Building School Communities for Diverse Learners  
EDLE 5583 Curricular Supervision for School Leaders  
EDLE 5593 Leadership and Communication Processes  
EDLE 5623 School Law and Personnel  
EDLE 5693 Graduate Practicum in Educational Leadership  
EDLE 5663 Community Politics and Public Relations

*Doctorate*

EDLE 6093 Cultural Foundations in Educational Leadership  
EDLE 6023 Curriculum, Instruction, and Evaluation  
EDLE 6023 Program Evaluation  
EDLE 6043 Human Resources, Supervision, and Staff Development  
EDLE 6053 Superintendent Internship  
EDLE 6103 Leading through Crisis  
EDLE 6123 Qualitative Decision Analysis  
EDLE 6133 Writing and Research Design for Education Leadership

*Undergraduate*

EDUC 2013 School and Society  
EDUC 2013 School and Society *Learning Community*  
EDUC 2013 School and Society *Academic Seminar*  
EDUC 2013 School and Society *Service-Learning Designated Course*  
EDUC 2013 School and Society *Study Abroad*

## Research and Scholarly Activity

### Publications

#### Refereed journals

- **Acuña, Kym** & Blacklock, P.J. (2021). Mastery teachers: How to Build Success for All Students in Today's Classroom. *Journal of Higher Education Theory and Practice*, 22(1).
- **Acuña, K.** (2021). Developing School Leaders for Diverse Learners through Online Service Learning. *International Journal of Education and Social Science*. 8(2). ISSN 2410-5171.
- Baron, F., Sorge, L., & **Acuna, K.** (2017). Examining Student Perceptions of Benefits of Participating in Learning Communities at a Public Liberal Arts Institution. *Journal of Education and Social Policy*. 4(2). ISSN 2375-0782.
- **Acuña, K.** (2016). Promoting a College Going Culture in First Generation Students through Early Intervention. *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science Review*. 2(7). ISSN 2415-1157.
- **Acuña, K.** (2015). Layering of Character Education and Bullying Prevention Programs to Reduce Bullying in a Mexican Middle School. *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science*. 4(13). ISSN 2220-8488.
- **Acuña, K.** (2015). Building Collaboration through Participatory Action Research. *International Journal of Education and Social Science*. 2(5). ISSN 2410-5171.

#### Book Chapters

- **Acuña, K.,** & Zamora Robles, S. (2023). Modeling Transformative Culturally Responsive Leadership with Teachers to Foster an Equitable School Culture. In B.Cager (Ed.), *Culturally Responsive Leadership for Academic and Social Equity and Justice in Schools*. IGI Global.
- Medellín, K., Gupta, D., & **Acuña, K.** (2021). Teaching Strategies During a Pandemic: Learnings and Reflections. In M. Niess, & H. Gillow-Wiles (Ed.), *Handbook of Research on Transforming Teachers' Online Pedagogical Reasoning for Engaging K-12 Students in Virtual Learning* (pp. 194-211). IGI Global. <http://doi:10.4018/978-1-7998-7222-1.ch010>

### Presentations

- Wilson, Gina, & **Acuna, Kym.** (2023). "Inclusive Teaching Practices in Leader Preparation Classrooms" International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership, Orlando.
- **Acuna, Kym** & Zamora Robles, Stephanie. (2023). "Modeling Transformative Culturally Responsive Leadership Framework within North Texas Schools: An exploration" Texas Council of Professors of Educational Administration, Austin.
- **Acuna, Kym.** (2022). "Framing and EdD Program through an Equity and Social Justice Lens" University Council for Educational Administration, Seattle.
- **Acuna, Kym.** (2022). "Stories from Leading through Crisis: Preparing Leaders for What Comes Next" International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership, Denver.
- Medellín, K., **Acuna, K.** & Gupta, D. (2022) "Teaching Strategies During A Pandemic: Learnings And Reflections" Southwest Educational Research Association Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- **Acuna, Kym.** (2021). "Building Cultural Capacity through Service Learning in an Online Graduate Course" Engagement Scholarship Consortium Conference, Virtual.
- **Acuna, Kym.** (2021). "Birth of an EdD Program in Educational Leadership: A Social Justice Foundation" International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership, Virtual.

- Blacklock, P.J. & **Acuna, Kym**. (2021). *Mastery teachers: How to Build Success for All Students in Today's Classroom*. American Educational Research Association, Virtual.
- **Acuna, Kym**. (2021). "Supporting Principal Candidates through the Pandemic via Distance Learning" World Future Forum, Virtual.
- Medellin, K., Gupta, D., & **Acuna, K**. (2021). "Teaching Strategies During A Pandemic: Learnings And Reflections" MSU Texas Celebration of Scholarship, Wichita Falls, TX
- **Acuna, Kym**. (2020). "Developing School Leaders for Diverse Learners: Service Learning in Online Courses" International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership, Virtual.
- Blacklock, P.J. & **Acuna, Kym**. (2019). *Mastery teachers: Investigating self-efficacy, classroom management and professional development*. Association of Teacher Educators, Burlington, VT.
- **Acuna, Kym**. (2019). "Learn to Serve, Serve to Learn" MSU Texas TLRC
- **Acuna, Kym** & Duff, Jeremy. (2019). "Interdisciplinary learning, community engagement, and active learning" Engagement Scholarship Consortium, Denver, CO
- **Acuna, Kym**. (2018). "Implementing Service Learning in Learning Communities to Promote Interdisciplinary Understanding" National Learning Communities Conference, Bay City, MI
- **Acuna, Kym**. (2018). "Building Cross Curricular Understanding through Service Learning" Engagement Scholarship Consortium, Minneapolis, MN
- **Acuna, Kym**. (2018). Panel "Crafting Assignments to Create a Culture of UGRCA" Teaching and Learning Resource Center, Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, TX
- **Acuna, Kym**. (2018). "Hispanic First-Generation College Students Find Success through Mentoring Others" Southwest Council on Latin American Studies Conference, San Antonio, TX
- **Acuna, Kym**. (2018). "Interdisciplinary Courses" Teaching and Learning Resource Center, Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, TX
- **Acuna, Kym**. (2017). "Embracing Latino Success through Parental and Community de
- **Acuna, Kym**. (2017). Graduation speaker Secundaria Tecnológico de Monterrey, Zacatecas, MX.
- **Acuna, Kym**. (2017). "Transforming Learning Environments in Higher Education: A University in Process" Southwest Educational Research Association, San Antonio, TX.
- **Acuna, Kym**. (2016). "Community Education Development in Lilongwe, Malawi: Understanding a Community's Need for and Acceptance of Intervention by Community Organizations," International Organization of Social Sciences and Behavioral Research, San Antonio, TX.
- **Acuna, Kym**. (2016). "Live United: Expanding Community Impact," Southwest Council of Latin American Studies Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- **Acuna, Kym**. (2016). "Building Cultural Proficiency in Pre-Service Administrators through Service Learning Projects in an Online Graduate Program," Texas Council of Professors of Educational Administration Conference, Austin, TX.
- **Acuna, Kym**. (2015). Graduation speaker Secundaria Tecnológico de Monterrey, Zacatecas, MX.
- **Acuna, Kym**. (2015). Poster "Brain-based learning on the Road to College," Learning and the Brain Conference, Boston, MA.
- **Acuna, Kym**. (2015). "Service Learning Challenges: Personalizing Service Learning for Online Graduate Courses" at the International Higher Education Curriculum Design & Academic Leadership<sup>SEP</sup> Symposia in Hamilton, New Zealand.
- **Acuna, Kym**. (2015). Poster "Leading for Diversity: Service Learning as a Tool for Preparing culturally Proficient School Leaders", University of North Texas Educational Research Conference, Denton, TX.
- **Acuna, Kym**. (2014). Poster "Building Teacher Ownership of Service Learning Projects" at Engagement Scholarship Consortium Conference, Edmonton, CA.
- **Acuna, Kym**. (2014). "Engagement and Learning" at Hispanic Education Summit, Wichita Falls, TX.

- **Acuna, Kym.** (2014) “Teaching and Engagement-The Culturally Responsive Classroom” Midwestern State University Teaching and Learning Resource Center, Wichita Falls, TX.
- **Acuna, Kym.** (2014). “Layering of Character Education and Bullying Prevention Programs to Reduce Bullying in a Mexican Middle School” Southwest Educational Research Association Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Whitehouse, Pamela and **Acuna, Kym.** (2014). “Implementing QM: Using TPACK to Identify Strands of Resistance” QM Southwest Regional Conference, Santa Fe, NM.
- **Acuna, Kym.** (2012). “It Only Takes a Few: Becoming an International Change Agent” Character Education Conference, St. Louis, MO.
- **Acuna, Kym.** (2012). “Teachers’ and Administrators’ Experience in Implementing Service Learning” CEP National Forum on Character Education, Washington, DC.
- **Acuna, Kym.** (2011). “Using Action Research to Advance Character Education in Your School” Character Education Conference, St. Louis, MO.
- **Acuna, Kym.** (2011). “Using Participatory Action Research for School Improvement.” Hawaii International Conference on Education, Honolulu, HI.
- **Acuna, Kym.** (2010). “Community Connection: Students Can Make a Difference” CEP National Forum on Character Education, San Francisco, CA.
- **Rutherford, Kym.** (2005). “Designing Activities for Active Learning” International Association of Teachers of English as a Foreign Language Conference, Wales, UK.
- **Rutherford, Kym.** (2004). “Activities for Active Learning” ANUPI International Congress, Puebla, MX.
- **Rutherford, Kym.** (2003). “Using Projects for Language Production”, “Content Enriched Instruction”, and “Use of Video for Active Learning” Tec de Monterrey Regional EFL conference, Zacatecas, MX.
- **Rutherford, Kym** and Hoffman, Patrizia. (2003). “Strengthening of Intercultural Communication through Distance Technology” American School Foundation Conference: Teaching and Learning in a Digital Age, Mexico City, MX

## Applied research

- Created assessments and wrote Educational Leadership Constituent Council SPA report for program accreditation.

## Professional involvements

- Member Texas Council of Professors of Educational Administration (TCPEA)
- International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership (ICPEL) Justice Equity Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) Committee member
- Organization of and Presentation at MSU Principal Leadership Academy “Leading Schools from Good to Great: Transforming Schools by What Principals Do Wells”, 2014
- Keynote speaker “Cultivating Good Children” at the Tec de Monterrey Parents Conference, Saltillo, Mexico, 2014.
- Organizer/Host 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Mexican National Character Education Conference, 2013
- Co-organizer 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Mexican National Character Education Conference, 2011
- Presenter COBAEZ training day for EFL teachers, 2007
- Reviewer for new Thomson ESL series *Pathways* 2007
- Participant- Cambridge Academy on Critical Thinking, 2006, Cambridge University, England
- Reviewer for new Richmond ESL series *Elevator* 2005
- Co-Planner EFL Regional Conference 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006

## Consultations

- Instructional coaching for Non-Commissioned Officers Leadership Academy Instructors at Sheppard Airforce Base, 2022-2023
- Director of Curriculum and Professional Development for Café con Leche, Wichita Falls, 2018-present
- Strategic consulting for Chisomo Idea Nonprofit Organization, Lilongwe, Malawi, 2016
- Appearance local radio program to discuss communication with adolescents, Zacatecas, Mex 2012
- Consultant for Secretary of Education State of Zacatecas to develop EFL program for public primary schools, 2005

## **Workshops**

- Instructional Workshop for Non-Commissioned Officers Leadership Academy Instructors at Sheppard Airforce Base, 2022
- Workshop *Road to College Instructor Preparation*, Wichita Falls, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019
- Series of five parent-teacher workshops, Kirby Middle School, Wichita Falls, TX, 2018
- Series of six parent-teacher workshops, Barwise Middle School, Wichita Falls, TX, 2018
- Workshop given “The Importance of Team” at Franklin Elementary School, 2014

## **Service**

### **University**

- Dean Search Committee, 2022
- MSU QEP Topic Selection Committee 2021
- MSU Service-Learning Coordinator, 2019-2020
- Signature Experiences Task Force/Committee, 2018-present
- University Assessment Committee, 2017-2021
- MSU Provost Search Committee, 2017
- Faculty Senate, 2015-2020
- Graduate Coordinator, 2015-present
- WCOE Fitness Alert Committee Chair, 2015-2021
- University Online Teaching and Learning Committee 2015-2016
- Poster Presentation Judge Celebration of Scholarship, 2015
- Chair of CAEP Standard 4 Committee for WCOE accreditation, 2015-2018
- Served on University Academic Readmissions Committee, 2014-2016
- Program Coordinator Doctor of Educational Leadership, 2021
- Program Coordinator Masters of Educational Leadership, 2014-2022
- Program Coordinator joint MSU-UNT Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership, 2014-2019
- Member of WCOE College Council, 2014-present
- Chaired WCOE Faculty Search Committees, 2021, 2022, 2023
- Served on WCOE Faculty Search Committee, 2014, 2018, 2020, 2021, 2022
- Served on University Admissions Committee, 2013-2015
- Service at various Mustangs Rally, Family Day, and Graduate Fair Events, 2013-present

### **Profession**

- Peer Reviewer UCEA Conference Proposals 2022
- Peer Reviewer ICPEL Conference proposals 2021, 2022,2023
- Peer Reviewer *Inquiry in Education*, 2016-2018
- Reviewer SERA 2014 Conference proposals
- ELCC SPA Reviewer 2014-present, Lead reviewer 2021-present
- Peer Reviewer *Journal of Leadership Education*, 2013 – 2018

## **Community**

- Member KERA Community Advisory Board
- Wichita Falls ISD Strategic Planning Design Team, 2018
- Wichita Falls Public Library Advisory Board, 2016-2022
- Co-Chair *Calle 8 Latin Festival* – Wichita Falls, TX, 2014
- WFISD Secondary Science Instructional Materials Committee, 2014
- Board Member Zavala Hispanic Cultural Initiative, 2014-2020
- Presentation to students at Baptist Student Ministries, 2015
- Grant writer for Zavala Hispanic Cultural Initiative, 2014-2020 (Obtained over \$192, 000 in grants for the organization during this time period)

## **Awards and Honors**

Received Charles Dunn Award from COPLAC 2022

Named Received High School Teacher of the Year Award, 2002-2003. Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey

Named the Ben Elrod Scholar, 1992-1993. Ouachita Baptist University.

Named Overall Academic Achiever for 1992-1993. Ouachita Baptist University.

Named Outstanding Sociology Student 1992-1993. Ouachita Baptist University.

Named Outstanding Political Science Student 1992-1993. Ouachita Baptist University.