

# RESUME

Sandra Mercuri

## Education

PhD in Education with emphasis in Language, Literacy and Culture. University of California at Davis. Expected date of completion December 2006.

M.A. in Bilingual Cross-Cultural Education, Fresno Pacific University, Fresno, CA May 2000.

Licenciada en Letras (equivalent of an M.A. degree) Universidad Nacional de Mar del Plata, Argentina, March 30, 1996 with a specialization in Spanish and literature.

**Topic of Dissertation:** The development of academic language across the content areas in bilingual students.

## Employment

2004-Present

### Bilingual Education Program Director

Directs the program, advises students, arranges courses and recommends Adjunct faculty for the department. Organizes and administers the BCLAD Exam at Fresno Pacific University.

### TESOL Program Director

Directs the program, advises students arranges courses and recommends Adjunct faculty for the department. Organizes and administers student placements for TESOL practicum. Represents Fresno Pacific University at the Higher Education Consortium in the Central Valley.

2001- 2004

EXCELL Grant Coordinator. Title VII grant for teachers and personnel at Fresno Pacific University. Total amount \$750,000.

This grant prepared student teachers for CLAD and BCLAD credentials and for teaching in dual immersion settings.

2000-2004

### Adjunct Faculty - Fresno Pacific University

Taught graduate classes in Bilingual Education, and Language Acquisition as well as teacher education courses in curriculum and foundations of language and literacy with a focus on English Language Learners.

1997-2001

Teacher - Sun Empire Elementary School, Kerman Unified School District.  
Taught in a multiage class of grades 4-6 for newcomers many of whom were limited formal schooling students. Directed the whole school production of "The Nutcracker" for four years and advised the yearbook and journalism clubs.

1988-1996

Chairperson of the Language and Literature Department, Instituto General Alvarado High School,  
Miramar, Argentina  
Director of the Arts and Modern Languages Institute, Miramar, Argentina.

### **Additional Experience**

2004-Present

Graduate Research Assistant – Linguistic Minority Research Institute at University of California at Davis.

Coordinator of the Biliteracy Consortium at the Linguistic Minority Research Institute.

2004-2005

Visiting Professor - National Hispanic University, San José, California.

Presented latest research on differentiated instruction, effective practices to work with students in dual language settings and on ways to close the achievement gap.

2004-2005

Lecturer – Weber State, Salt Lake City Utah.

Developed and implemented the Bilingual Endorsement coursework.  
Developed and administered to Salt Lake City School District teachers a comprehensive bilingual exam as a pilot for the State of Utah's Bilingual endorsement language proficiency level.

2003-Present

Editor -TESOL Bilingual Interest Section Newsletter

2003-Present

Educational Consultant – Salt Lake City School District, Utah

Work with bilingual teachers and program and district administrators developing and aligning programs across schools, developing appropriate dual language curriculum, and creating thematic units with appropriate materials in both languages. Course work and classroom observations followed by focus groups by site are implemented.

2003-Present

Educational Consultant – Parlier Unified School District

Work with 8-12 teachers on implementing Differentiated instruction across the disciplines. Lecture and demonstrations were given followed by classroom observation and focus groups with participant to provide opportunities for reflective practice.

Work with k-6 Teacher on Differentiated instruction for dual language settings focusing on academic language development in both languages.

2005

Reviewer - National Geographic School Publishing

Work as a reviewer with the National Geographic School Publishing Group based in Washington D.C to review their new literacy program for English Language learners.

Reviewer – Scholastic Publishing

Work as a reviewer with Scholastic Magazine department based in New York to review the k-2 Scholastic News magazine in both English and Spanish as support materials for teachers in the content areas.

**Staff Development**

Extensive work with 5 schools districts in the Central Valley of California (Parlier, Fresno, Lindsay, Laton and Hanford) as well as with schools in Los Angeles, California, Region XV, Texas and Salt Lake City, Utah.

**Professional Associations**

CABE (California Association of Bilingual Education)

NABE (National Association of Bilingual Education)

TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages).

NCTE (National Council of Teachers of English)

IRA (International reading Association)

AERA (American Educational Research Association)

2Way CABE (Dual Language California Association of Bilingual Education)

ATA (American Translation Association)

**Conference Presentations**

**National/ International**

**2005**

NABE            Using Realia to Teach Standard-Based Reading Strategies to English Language Learners (1).  
Dual Language Essentials for Curriculum , Reading and Planning (2)

TESOL Dual Language Essential for Curriculum and Reading  
IRA A Specific Strategy for Scaffolding the Development of Reading Comprehension by English Language Learners.

**2004**

NABE Pre-conference Two Way Institute (1) Students, Teachers and Good Curriculum in Dual language Programs (2) Meeting the Challenges of Implementing two Way Bilingual Programs

TESOL Academic Session – Preparation of Pre-service dual language Teachers.

IRA Keys for Success for Limited Formal Schooling and Long Term English Learners

**2003**

NABE Pre-conference Two Way Institute (1) Two Programs in Two States and (2) Developing Reading Proficiency in Two Languages. Keynote Speaker

TESOL (1) Dual Language Models for Academic Success - \Bilingual Interest Section

(2) Keys to Success for Older Learners,

**2002**

NABE (1) Effective Reading for Second Language Learners  
(2) Four Keys for Success – Keynote speaker  
(3) Project EXCELL: A Cutting Edge Approach to provide Teacher Education courses for Dual Language

TESOL Reading: Skills or Acquisition (1)

Strategies for Success for Limited Formal Schooling Students (2)

NCTE: Four Keys to Success for English Learners

**2001**

TESOL (1) Effective Reading for English Learners;  
(2) Organizing Curriculum around Themes

NABE (1) Limited Formal Schooling Students-Featured Presentation (2) Project Voice Grant Presentation; (3) Academic Success for Older English Learners: Featured Presentation.

**2000**

TESOL Effective Practices for English Learners

NABE Effective Reading Practices for English Learners

**1999**

NABE Featured Talk-Effective Practices for English Learners

NCTE Effective Literacy Instruction for English Language Learners

## **Regional /State Conferences**

### **2005**

- SCCOE Closing the Achievement Gap – Keynote (Third Annual Academic Success for English Learners and Migrant Students: Using Research-Based Practices Conference)
- CABE Contextualized Instruction for English Learners in the Mainstream Classroom. Reading for Real Boxes Strategy (1)  
Dual Language Essentials (2)
- 2Way-CABE Planning Thematic Units and Implementing Strategies in TWBI Instruction

### **2004**

- 2Way CABE Developing a Standard Based Curriculum for 2Way Bilingual immersion programs.

### **2003**

- CABE Transforming Teacher education with a Dual Language Strand  
TABE (1) Four Keys for Success for English Language Learners  
(2) Dual Language Essentials
- La Cosecha (1) Dual Language Essentials  
(2) Preparing Teachers for Dual Language Classrooms
- IABE Helping preliterate students to become bilingual and bicultural.  
Standard-based integrated instruction (Illinois Bilingual Conference)

### **2002**

- CABE Four Keys for Success for Older English Learners  
TABE Skills or Acquisition Approaches to Teaching Reading to English Learners
- 2WayCABE EXCELL Program, an innovative approach to prepare teachers for Dual Language schools.

### **2001**

- CABE Effective Practices for English Learners (plenary)  
CATESOL Effective Practices for English Learners

### **2000**

- CABE Helping Preliterate Intermediate Students to Succeed  
Effective Reading Instruction for Second Language Learners

### **1999**

- CABE Developing Units for the Bilingual Classroom

**1998**

CABE Effective Practices for Bilingual Learners

**Local Conferences**

**2002**

CATESOL Helping older emergent readers to succeed (Fresno Chapter)

**Parent Presentations in English and in Spanish**

Parlier Unified

Kerman Unified

Fresno Unified

Salt Lake City School District

**Awards**

Dean's Award as the outstanding graduate student, Fresno Pacific University, 2000.

Kerman Unified Teacher of the Year, Kerman 2001.

Fresno County 2001 Teacher of the Year finalist.

Rotary Club Educator of the Year, 2001.

UC Davis Fellowship Block Grant. 2003-2004

UC Davis Fellowship Block Grant. 2004-2005

**Publications**

**Books**

**With Drs. Yvonne and David Freeman published by Heinemann**

Freeman, Y.S., D.E.Freeman and S. P. Mercuri (2002). Closing the Achievement Gap, Meeting the Needs of Older English Learners. Heinemann. Portsmouth, NH.

Freeman D., Freeman, Y. and Mercuri, S. (2004). Dual Language Essentials for Teachers and Administrators. Heinemann, Portsmouth, NH

**With Denise Rea published by Heinemann**

Mercuri, S., & Rea,D, "Scaffolding and Contextualizing: Reading for Real with English Learners" in Linda Hoyt (ED). Spotlight on Comprehension. Building a Literacy of Thoughtfulness. Heinemann. Portsmouth, NH.

Mercuri, S., & Rea, D. (in press). Reaching Goals, Meeting Standards: Strategies to help second language learners in today's schools. Heinemann. Portsmouth, NH.

### **Articles and other publications**

- Mercuri, S. (2000). "Supporting Preliterate Older Emergent Readers to Become Bilingual and Biliterate." *Talking Points* 12(1): 8-13.
- Mercuri, S (2001). "Tips for Working with Older Students with Limited Formal Schooling". *Bilingual Basics* 4 (1):6-7
- With David and Yvonne Freeman "Keys to Success for Bilingual Students with Limited Formal Schooling." *Bilingual Research Journal* (2001) 25(1,2): 203-213.
- With David and Yvonne Freeman. "Helping Middle and High School Age English Language Learners Achieve Academic Success" *NABE Journal of Research and Practice*. (2003) 1(1):110-120.
- With David and Yvonne Freeman. "Supporting Older Bilingual Students: Keys for Success" *NYSABE Journal* (New York State Association for Bilingual Education). (2003) 14: 1-18.
- With David and Yvonne Freeman. "The EXCELL Program: Producing the Finest Dual Immersion Educators" *NABE News* (2003) 26 (6): 15-18.
- With David and Yvonne Freeman. "Supporting Literacy in Two Languages for Limited Formal Schooling Students". *Bilingual Basics* 4 (2): 3-7. (2003)
- With Denise Rea. "Refraining Instruction". *Language Magazine: the Journal Of Communication & Education*. March 2005.