

## **Sandra Ficker Vandercook, PhD**

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### **EDUCATION**

**Ph.D.** (Curriculum and Instruction), December 2012

University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA

Dissertation Title: "Exploring the Relationship between English Composition Teachers' Beliefs about Written Feedback and Their Written Feedback Practices"  
(Dr. John Barnitz, Dissertation Chairperson)

**Graduate Certificate.** Assessment Specialist, December 2022

James Madison University

**Master of Arts** (English), December 2006

University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA

**Master of Education** (Curriculum and Instruction), August 1996

University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA

**Bachelor of Arts** (Elementary Education), May 1985

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

#### **Additional Studies**

6 hours of graduate coursework earned towards a **Master of Divinity**, 2014

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, LA

**Fellowship.** Louisiana Assessment Group. 2021-2022.

### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

- University of New Orleans, College of Education and Human Development, Distinguished Alumni Award, 2014
- Doctoral Graduate Faculty Award, Curriculum and Instruction University of New Orleans, 2013
- Distinguished Dissertation Award, College of Education and Human Development University of New Orleans, 2013
- Marvin Jones Award for Excellence: Outstanding Classroom Teacher New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 2012
- Rosemary Pedotti First Place Scholarship Award World Trade Club of Greater New Orleans, 2008
- Teacher of the Year, Meraux Elementary School, Chalmette, LA 1992-1993

## CERTIFICATION

- AAC&U Written Communication VALUE Scorer
  - Training Completed August 2020
- SACSCOC Peer Evaluator
  - Faculty Credentialing Training Completed July 2019
  - Institutional Effectiveness Training Completed Summer 2023
- Louisiana Teaching Certificate Type A
  - Certified to teach elementary grades; Reading Specialist endorsement

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Associate Vice-President for Accreditation and Assessment**, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 2022-present

- Leading the Office of Institutional Assessment
- Acting as the Institutional Liaison for SACSCOC and ATS-COA
- Preparing and submitting accreditation reports
- Leading all assessment efforts for the institution
- Serving as head of the Assessment Oversight Committee

**Associate Dean**, Leavell College of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 2015-2022

- Performing administrative duties as assigned by the Dean, including but not limited to assessing academic credentials of possible adjuncts, reviewing and approving all syllabi for Leavell College, addressing student concerns
- Co-leading assessment and accreditation juries, particularly related to General Education and Degree Program evaluation
- Writing assigned sections of accreditation reports

**Associate Director for Accreditation**, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 2020-2022

- Assisting the Institutional Effectiveness office with reports
- Working with various divisions on assessment

**Professor of English and Education**, Leavell College of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 2015-present

- Teaching undergraduate courses in English (*English Grammar, English Composition, Introduction to Literature, Research and Writing, Senior Seminar*) and Education (*Teaching Methods*)
- Advising undergraduate students regarding their degree programs
- Overseeing the General Education assessment
- Serving on various faculty committees

**Associate Professor of English and Education**, Leavell College of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 2012-2015

- Taught undergraduate courses in English (*English Grammar, English Composition, Research and Writing, Senior Seminar*) and Education (*Teaching Methods*)
- Taught doctoral-level courses in Education (*Teaching in Higher Education, Advanced Pedagogy*)
- Advised undergraduate students regarding their degree programs
- Served on various faculty committees

**Assistant Professor of English and Education**, Leavell College of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 2007-2012

- Taught undergraduate courses in English (*English Grammar, English Composition, Research and Writing, Senior Seminar*) and Education (*Teaching Methods, Principles of Teaching and Learning*)
- Advised undergraduate students regarding their degree programs
- Served on various faculty committees

**Adjunct Faculty Member**, William Carey University, Spring 2013

- Taught graduate course in the Master of Education program (*Tests, Measurements, and Evaluation*)

**Full-time Adjunct Instructor**, Leavell College, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 2000-2007

- Taught undergraduate courses in English (*English Grammar and Research and Writing*) and Education (*Teaching Methods, Principles of Teaching and Learning*)
- Served on various committees related to SACS accreditation

**Classroom Teacher**, Meraux Elementary School, Chalmette, LA, 1991-1998

- Taught fourth grade (1991-1992) and fifth grade (1992-1996) in self-contained classrooms—all subjects taught
- Taught fifth grade (1996-1998) in a departmentalized setting—responsible for teaching Reading and Science
- Supervised student teachers (1996-1997)
- Sponsored extracurricular activities, including Academic Games, Yearbook, School Newspaper, and 4-H Club

**Classroom Teacher**, Roosevelt Elementary School, West Palm Beach, FL, 1990-1991

- Taught third grade in self-contained classroom—all subjects taught
- Chaired grade level

**Classroom Teacher**, Escola Cristão Pan Americana, Saõ Paulo, SP, Brazil, 1988-1990

- Taught seventh grade Pre-Algebra and English (1988-1989)
- Taught eighth grade Algebra, Bible, English, and Reading (1988-1989)
- Taught self-contained third grade (1989-1990)
- Supervised student teachers (1989-1990)

**Classroom Teacher**, Palmetto Elementary School, West Palm Beach, FL, 1985-1988

- Taught self-contained second grade (1985-1986)—all subjects taught
- Taught Chapter I self-contained second grade (1986-1988)—all subjects taught
- Chaired the primary department (1987-1988)

## **PUBLICATIONS**

“Dear Birth Mother.” In *Lacustrine 4*, edited by Randy Bates. New Orleans: UNO Department of English, 2005.

## **ACCREDITATION COMMITTEES**

- Substantive Change Visit. Campbell University, Buies Creek, North Carolina. Fall 2024.
- Substantive Change Visit. Talladega College, Talladega, Alabama. Spring 2024.
- Reaffirmation Committee. Seminary of the Southwest. Austin, Texas. Spring 2024.
- Reaffirmation Committee. Carson-Newman University. Jefferson City, Tennessee. Spring 2023.

## **CONSULTING AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE**

- Invited Chapter Reviewer. “Focus on the Process AND the Product: Embedding Institutional Identity and Student Choice at an HBCU.” Book chapter for as-yet-untitled book on general education best practices and reform approaches, edited by C. Edward Watson, Caleb J. Keith, and Kate Drezek McConnell (AAC&U). AAC&U: Forthcoming Spring 2025.
- Invited Reviewer. Best Paper. Southern Association of Institutional Research. Spring 2024.
- Invited consultant with Dallas Baptist University. SACSCOC reaffirmation. Spring 2023.
- Scorer for AACU Written Communication VALUE Rubric. Spring 2020, Spring 2024.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

- Co-presenter with Michael Wang. “Improving General Education Assessment by Reinventing Your Process.” SACSCOC Annual Meeting. Orlando, FL. December 2023.

- Presenter. "General Education Assessment: The Basics." IUPUI Assessment Institute. Indianapolis. October 2023.
- Poster Session. "Using a Common Rubric to Assess General Education Competencies." IUPUI Assessment Institute. Indianapolis. October 2023.
- Presenter. "Creating a Sustainable Rubric to Assess General Education Competencies." Louisiana Association for Institutional Research. Lafayette, LA. July 26, 2023.
- Presenter. "When Stories Collide: The Relationship between Teacher Beliefs and Teacher Practices in Written Feedback." Association for the Assessment of Learning in Higher Education (AALHE) Conference. New Orleans. June 7, 2023.
- Presenter. Poster Session, "Written Feedback as Conversation." AAC&U Conference on General Education, Pedagogy, and Assessment. New Orleans. Feb. 9-11, 2023.
- Presenter. "General Education 101: Creating a General Education Assessment Process." IUPUI Assessment Institute. October 10, 2021. Indianapolis.
- Poster Session. "Creating a Common Rubric to Assess General Education Competencies." IUPUI Assessment Institute. October 9, 2021. Indianapolis.
- Workshop co-presenter with Karla McGehee and Thomas Strong. "Creating a Sustainable Rubric to Assess General Education Competencies." 3-hour workshop. SACSCOC Annual Meeting. December 2, 2021. Virtual.
- Co-presenter with Karla McGehee. "Starting Over: Reinventing Your General Education Assessment Process." IUPUI Assessment Institute. October 24-27, 2021. Indianapolis (presented virtually).
- "An Analysis of Teacher Beliefs and Feedback Practices." Conference on College Composition and Communication." March 27, 2020. Milwaukee, WI (presented virtually)
- Co-presenter with Dr. Karla McGehee and Dr. Thomas Strong, "Developing a Common Rubric to Assess General Education Competencies." SACSCOC Annual Meeting, Houston, Dec. 9, 2019
- "Feedback with Excellence: Written Response as Conversation," The Teaching Professor Conference, New Orleans, LA, June 8, 2019
- "How to Develop Leaders at Sea" and "How to Resource Leaders for Churches at Sea," Port Ministries International 2019 Conference at Sea, Carnival *Paradise*, May 31, 2019.
- Co-presenter with Karla McGehee and Thomas Strong, "Starting Over: Reinventing Your General Education Assessment Process," SACSCOC Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, December 10, 2018
- "The Relationship between Written Feedback Practices and Teacher Beliefs," The Teaching Professor Conference, Atlanta, GA, June 1, 2018
- "Am I Wasting My Time? Teachers' Beliefs about Written Response and Their Actual Written Response Practices," Conference on College Composition and Communication, Tampa Convention Center, Tampa, FL, March 19, 2015
- "Written Feedback and Beliefs about Written Feedback," Louisiana Association of College Composition, Xavier University, New Orleans, LA, February 7, 2014

- “The Insights and Blindnesses of Social-Epistemic Rhetoric,” Louisiana Association of College Composition, New Orleans, LA, November 2007

## **OTHER PRESENTATIONS**

- “Eve: Focusing on the Good Things” and “Hannah: Learning to Wait.” Staff Training, Connie’s Home Orphanage, Chiang Mai, Thailand, July 2-3, 2019
- “Writing the Curriculum Vitae.” Different Voices: Faculty Hiring 101 Workshop, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, May 6, 2019.
- “Using Read-aloud Books to Foster Relationships,” Senior Fest Breakout Session, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, April 6, 2018
- “Head, Heart, Hands: A Biblical Approach to Teaching Scripture,” Mock Classroom Presentation, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, Preview Weekend, March 24, 2017
- “Feedback with Excellence: Using Written Feedback as a Teaching Tool,” Faculty In-service, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, October 14, 2016
- “Teaching for Lifechange: Head, Heart, Hands,” Youth Small Group Leaders’ Workshop, First Baptist Church, Covington, LA, August 28, 2016
- “Writing an A+ Paper,” Leavell College Orientation Breakout Session, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, August 20, 2015 (ongoing every semester)
- “Understanding Personality Strengths,” Mission Lab Training, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, May 19, 2010
- Sunday School Teacher Training, 6 sessions, Ames Boulevard Baptist Church, Marrero, LA, Fall 2009
- “Teaching That Transforms,” Sunday School Teacher Training, First Baptist Church, Slidell, LA, Spring 2009
- “Teaching That Transforms,” Sunday School Teacher Training, Cropwell Baptist Church, Pell City, Alabama, March 15-16, 2009
- “Teaching to Transform,” Sunday School Teacher Training, First Baptist Church, Lubbock, TX, August 17, 2008
- “Teaching That Transforms,” Sunday School Teacher Training, Scott Lake Baptist Church, Lakeland, FL, Spring 2006
- “Children and Salvation,” “Discipline and Motivation” and “Parent Training,” Day Camp Training, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, May 27, 2005
- Preschool Teacher Training, Alta Woods Baptist Church, Jackson, MS, November 2004
- Sunday School Teacher Training, 4 sessions, Franklin Avenue Baptist Church, Fall 2002
- Preschool Teacher Training, Munholland United Methodist Church Preschool, Metairie, LA, Spring 2001
- Monthly ministry articles, *The Anchor*—newsletter for Global Maritime Ministries, 1993-present

## **WEBINARS**

- “The Key to Teaching Online? Rapport.” Macmillan Learning. April 9, 2020.

- “Best Practices for Teaching Corequisite Composition Courses.” Macmillan Learning in conjunction with Conference on College Composition and Communication. March 27, 2020.
- “Responding to Student Writing.” Macmillan Learning in conjunction with Conference on College Composition and Communication. March 27, 2020.
- “Between Drafts: When the Magic Happens.” Macmillan Learning in conjunction with Conference on College Composition and Communication. March 27, 2020.
- “Your Endless Stack of Papers: Maximizing the Effectiveness and Fairness of Assessment in Composition Classes.” College Composition and Communication. March 13, 2020.
- “New Rules of Accreditation and Future of the HEA: What It Means!” Watermark. March 10, 2020.
- “ATS Redevelopment Seminar.” ATS. February 21, 2020.
- “Assessment: Paper Pusher to Improvement Hero.” Weave. March 13, 2019.
- “Teaching Content and Critical Thinking Skills Simultaneously.” Innovative Educators. April 4, 2019.
- “Academic Publishing: What You Need to Know.” Conference on College Composition and Communication. October 24, 2019.
- “Revised SACSCOC 2018 Principles of Accreditation: Addressing the New Standards.” Weave. March 27, 2018.
- “Tackling General Education Assessment.” Weave. September 27, 2017.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

- Louisiana Assessment Group
- Louisiana Association of Institutional Research
- Port Ministries International
- North American Maritime Ministry Association
- Society for Women in Scholarship, NOBTS