

APPENDIX F

Professional Biographies

MARY F. HELLER, Ed.D

Dr. Mary F. Heller is Professor & Chair of the Division of Education, University of Hawai'i , West O'ahu. Since joining the faculty in fall 2006, she oversees the development and implementation of UHWO elementary, and emerging middle-level and secondary teacher education programs that are especially dedicated to serving the underrepresented populations of Central and Leeward O'ahu . Dr. Heller's area of expertise is the English Language Arts, K-12. While serving the public schools in Oklahoma, she taught English in grades 7-12 and was a K-12 Reading and Learning Disabilities Specialist. Throughout her 30 year career in higher education, Dr. Heller has taught undergraduate and graduate courses, as well as conducted inservice professional development workshops on topics such as *Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum*; *Literacy in the Content Areas*; *Multicultural Literature for Children and Adolescents*; *Emergent Literacy*; *Teaching Writing, K-8*. She has published widely in education journals of national repute, is author of *Reading-Writing Connections: From Theory to Practice* (Taylor & Francis, 3rd Edition, in progress), and serves as Editor-In-Chief of *The Journal of Educational Research*. Dr. Heller's current research centers on children's written responses to multicultural literature that is written for and about the diverse populations of Hawai'i.

MICHAEL HAYES, PhD

Dr. Michael Hayes is in his first year as Associate Professor of Elementary Education in the University of Hawai'i West O'ahu Education Division. He is also coordinator for Community Engagement and Service Learning for the university. The focus of his teaching and scholarly work is education for citizenship, social justice, and equity. He is founder and former director of the Cultural Studies and Social Thought in Education PhD. program at Washington State University and is currently the editor of the International Journal of Illich Studies. His recent scholarly activity includes a documentary film *I Stay Here* about nonviolent social justice work in Palestine and a book titled *The Global Creative*, which presents a new perspective on education and global citizenship. Dr. Hayes engages his students in experiential and place-based education that involves them in global issues of social justice and sustainability. He recently took students to Palestine to build an early childhood school in a Bedouin community, and he took his students on a study abroad to American Samoa where they engaged in a service project writing electronic books in the Samoan language for young children. He was also a consultant for the American Samoa Head Start program, conducting training and developing a training video to instruct faculty and staff on the CLASS teaching and learning assessment. His UHWO elementary education students participate in service learning projects with schools on the Leeward coast of O'ahu, focusing on literacy and Place-Based education.

RICHARD JONES, Ed.D

Dr. Richard Jones is Assistant Professor of Science Education in the UHWO Division of Education. Dr. Jones holds B.S. degrees in Geology and Secondary Science Education a MS in Natural Science from the University of Wyoming and an Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction from Montana State University. He is in his fourth year at UH West O'ahu teaching Elementary Science Methods, Introduction to Earth Science and Introductory Meteorology courses. He has taught Elementary Science Methods at Montana State University-Billings, Environmental Science and Earth Science for Educators at the University of Wyoming and Oceanography, Atmospheric Science, and Climate courses through the American Meteorological Society. Dr. Jones also has over twenty years of teaching science in the public schools in Wyoming, Hawai'i and Montana and was one of the first two National Board Certified Science teachers in Montana. Dr. Jones has published in the areas of the Perception of Science by Young Women, Classroom Practice and Influence on Practice for Teachers of Native Americans, Fuel Cells in the Classroom and Antarctic Climate Studies. His most recent article, "Leveraging Your Professional Development" describes how to make a generic professional development experience more place-based, relevant, and ready to use on "Monday". This article, as well as several of his previous works have focuses on bringing relevant standards based science into the classroom in an effort to both improve teaching and to build student interest in science.

STEPHANIE KAMAI, EdD

Dr. Stephanie Kamai is in her second year as an Associate Specialist in the University of Hawai'i West O'ahu Division of Education. She earned her EdD from the University of Southern California. After 22 years of service with the Hawai'i Department of Education, Dr. Kamai joined the Education Division faculty as Field Experience Coordinator. Within this role, she develops partnerships and mentorships among Hawai'i Department of Education principals, mentor teachers, district, state personnel, and UHWO teacher candidates, faculty and staff. She also supports the Education Division by serving as liaison in the larger context of the education community. Dr. Kamai teaches the Student Teaching Seminar, as well as supervises teacher candidates as they work toward completing the requirements in their field experience. Education is dynamic, thereby fostering her interest in many areas. She has a passion to understand the clinical practices that support teacher candidates and what educators can do to support the development of an effective beginning teacher.

DAVID W. KUPFERMAN, PhD

David W. Kupferman is an Assistant Professor of Middle/Secondary Education (with a focus on Social Studies) and Educational Foundations in the Education Division at the University of Hawai‘i West O‘ahu. He has a PhD in Educational Foundations and a graduate certificate in Pacific Islands Studies from the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa. Prior to joining the Education Division faculty in August 2013, he spent nine years in the Teacher Education and Liberal Arts departments at the College of the Marshall Islands in the region known as Micronesia. He has also taught middle school social studies in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and high school civics and US history in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. He has recently published his first book, *Disassembling and Decolonizing School in the Pacific: A Genealogy from Micronesia*, with Springer Publications, as part of their Contemporary Philosophies and Theories in Education series. He is on the editorial board of *The Contemporary Pacific* as the political reviews editor, as well as *Island Studies Journal*. His research interests look at the intersection of educational theory and practice in the middle and secondary social studies classroom and the various cultural contexts in Hawai‘i, as well as the impact of the growing diasporas of students and families from Micronesia.

PAULA MAJOR, EdD

Dr. Paula Major is an Associate Professor in the University of Hawai‘i West Oahu Division of Education. She earned her doctorate in curriculum and instruction, as well as her English as a Second Language certificate, from the University of Mississippi. For six years, she taught first and second grade in the Detroit Public School System. She also assumed a teaching positions in Maturin, Venezuela and Liu Zhou, China where she taught in bilingual settings for two years. Dr. [Major](#) joined the UHWO education faculty in 2008 and assumed teaching responsibilities for elementary social studies methods and multicultural education courses. She is also responsible for supervising field experiences and maintaining positive working relationships within O‘ahu elementary schools. Her research interests include identifying ways to use culturally responsive materials to stimulate classroom discussions, awareness, and appropriateness with regard to various cultural contributions to academic learning. She is currently comparing in-class social studies best practices to current social studies practices with regards to No Child Left Behind. Her soon to be published article, “While Peanut butter and jelly is more than just a sandwich!” will appear in an upcoming issue of *Social Studies Research and Practice*.

JULIA MYERS, Ed.D

Dr. Julia Myers is an Associate Professor of Math Education in the Division of Education at the University of Hawai'i West O'ahu. Dr. Myers holds a B.S. in Mathematics, with a specialization in Secondary Mathematics Education, from Purdue University, a M.A. in Mathematics from St. Louis University, and an Ed.D. in Curriculum & Instruction, with an emphasis in Mathematics Education, from Montana State University. This is Dr. Myers' seventh year at UHWO. Since 1989, she has taught mathematics courses at every level from middle school to college, and for the last 14 years has done extensive work with in-service and pre-service professional development for teachers of mathematics. Given her outstanding expertise in the discipline, Dr. Myers provides leadership in the development and implementation of both content and pedagogy courses in mathematics for teachers. She teaches MATH 111 and 112 (Math for Elementary School Teachers), as well as mathematics methods courses, and supervises candidates during practicum and student teaching. Dr. Myers's area of research interest is "Lesson Study," a scientifically-based method for enhancing the quality of teaching and learning in mathematics.

JONATHAN SCHWARTZ, PhD

Dr. Jonathan Schwartz is an Associate Professor of Literacy in the Division of Education at the University of Hawai'i West Oahu. He taught as an elementary school teacher for eight years before entering graduate school at the University of Arizona where he received a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Literacy Education and a minor in Special Education. Now in his seventh year at UHWO, he teaches courses in literacy, special education, and educational technology. As Taskstream Administrator for the division, Dr. Schwartz oversees electronic data collection and analysis associated with accreditation processes specified by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). His current research agenda examines the adoption, practice, and implementation of educational technologies in public school settings. Presently, Dr. Schwartz is collecting data as part of a one-to-one computing pilot program in the Hawaii Public Schools.