Mayra Ruiz Camacho

Education

Doctorate in Special Education
University of Central Florida – Orlando, Fl. August 2007

Master of Arts in Varying Exceptionalities
University of Central Florida – Orlando, Fl. May 2001

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology
University of Central Florida – Orlando, Fl. May 1998

Professional Certification/Endorsement

Board Certification in Behavior Analysis (BCBA) – National and International certification for behavior analysis practitioners. 2004

Florida Teacher Certification – Varying Exceptionalities (Grades K-12) Professional Educator's Certificate from the State of Florida Department of Education. 2001

ESOL Strategies for Elementary – 60 hour training on Instructional Development for students who are English Speakers of Other Languages. 2001

Professional Experience

Assistant Professor, *Lynn University* **(August 2007-Present)**. Preparation and delivery of courses in the field of education to undergraduate and graduate students. Coordinating the student teaching program and supervising students completing their internships.

Project Director, *Talleres en Español para las Necesidades de Familias en Educacion Especial –TENFEE (Spanish Workshops for the Needs of Families in Special Education)* **(November 2005 – Present)**. Grant writing, Institutional Review Board approval, research design, and interpretation of results. research recruitment, workshops' organization, coordination, and presentation. Collaboration with local agencies, interpretation of research results.

Assistant Editor, *Journal of International Special Needs Education (JISNE).* **(May 2005 – Present)**. Coordinating the review of manuscripts, editing and publication.

Board Certified Behavior Analyst, *Behavior Analysis Inc.* **(January 2007- June 2008)**. Conducting functional behavior assessments, development and implementation of support and cost plan, presentations at Local Reviews, data collection and interpretation.

Research Assistant, *University of Central Florida* **(August 2004 –August 2007)**. Assistance with Project ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorders) grant writing, course syllabus, alignment of standards, development and grading of assignments and tests, data collection, grant budget, local, state, and nationwide presentations. Collaboration in the development of modules for Nature of Autism and Methods of Behavioral Management. Created Project ASD Web site http://www.projectasd.education.ucf.edu

Co-Teacher, *University of Central Florida* **(January 2006- August 2007)**. Syllabus alignment, development and coordination of activities, presentation of traditional and online courses (EEX 2310: Exceptional Populations in School and Society, EEX 6938: Nature of Autism- Theory and Educational Practice, EEX 6612: Methods of Behavioral Management).

Field Experience Supervisor, *Lynn University* **(Spring 2007)**. Directing, guiding, and assisting students completing their student teaching and practicum assignments. Support of cooperating teacher and collaboration with school administrators.

Board Certified Behavior Analyst, *Behavior Support Services* **(June 2004 – December 2006)**. Consultation services to families and personnel working with individuals with behavioral difficulties. Conducting functional behavior assessment and analysis for the development, implementation, and supervision of intervention plans.

***Intern Supervisor**, University of Central Florida* **(Fall 2005)**. Observation and feedback to interns and teachers, monitoring the implementation of standards. Providing support on meeting portfolio requirements. Feedback on co-teaching strategies and collaboration.

***Web Courses Developer**, University of Central Florida,* **(Fall 2005)**. Development of pedagogical and technological strategies involved in delivering effective online courses. http://reach.ucf.edu/~eex6938b and http://reach.ucf.edu/~eex6612a

***Varying Exceptionalities Teacher**, Lake Como Elementary,* **(October 1997 – June 2004)**. Supervision of curriculum development, instruction, behavioral programming, social skills development, and supervision of classroom assistants in self-contained Varying Exceptionalities, including students with autism, class for (K – 5) students. Collaborative work in the inclusion of students in academic and social activities. Spanish Club 2001-2003, FCAT tutoring team 2002-2004.

***Bilingual Service Coordinator,** Center for Autism & Related Disabilities (CARD) – University of Central Florida* **(August 1997 – August 2004)**. Consultation with families, teachers, and support staff within seven counties, development of parent and professional training opportunities, assistance with communication, behavioral, and educational programming, development and presentation of workshops in Spanish.

***Behavior Specialist** – Behavior Support Services* **(June 1997 – June 2004)**. Implementation of behavior intervention plans, data collection and interpretation, support and training to parents and personnel working with individuals with behavioral difficulties.

Professional Memberships

- ***Holmes Scholar*** (development of diverse teacher education)
- ***National Association for Professional Development Schools***
- ***Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)***
- ***Division on Developmental Disabilities (DDD)***
- ***Division for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Exceptional Learners (DDEL)***
- ***Teacher Education Division (TED)***
- ***International Special Education and Services (DISES)***
- ***Florida Association for Behavior Analysis (FABA)***

Grant Writing

Toni Jennings Initiative Award, TENFEE Talleres en Español par las Necesidades de Familias en Educacion Especial (Spanish Workshops for the Needs of Families in Special Education). Awarded November 2005, July 2006, June of 2007, and renewed in June of 2008.

Awards

Hispanic Heritage Award, Granted by the Hispanic Heritage Scholarship Fund of Metro Orlando for commitment to academic excellence and personal success. 2006
Special Education Teacher of the Year, Granted by the Autism Society of Greater Orlando. 2000 and 2001.
Teacher of the year, Granted by Lake Como Elementary in Orange County. 2003.

Publications

Doctoral Dissertation (2007). Enhancing the Knowledge and Involvement of Hispanic Families of Children with Disabilities Through Specifically Designed Family Workshops. Library of Congress: Washington, DC.

Pearl, C., Wienke, W., & Camacho, M. (In Review). Project ASD: Preparing Teachers to Work with Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders. ***Education & Training in Developmental Disabilities***.

Sample of Conference Presentations

Providing Transitional Programming for Aging-Out Students with Disabilities on a College Campus. (October, 2008) Florida Council for Exceptional Children, Sarasota, FL

El Proceso Individualizado de Education (The Individualized Education Process). (August, 2008) Down Syndrome Association Annual Conference. Orlando, FL

Recursos para la Inclusion (Resources for Inclusion). (June, 2008) Congreso Internacional en Educacion Especial. Monterrey, Mexico

Enhancing the Knowledge and Involvement of Hispanic Families of Children with Disabilities. (April, 2008) Council for Exceptional Children 2008 Convention and Expo, Boston, MA.

TENFEE: Enhancing Interactions of Hispanic Families of Children with Disabilities with their Children's Schools. (February, 2008) American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, New Orleans, LA

Pathway to the Doctorate: Hispanic Holmes Scholars' Perspectives. (February, 2008) American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, New Orleans, LA

Partnering to Increase Educational Equity and Access Among Minority Groups. (January, 2008) Holmes Partnership National Conference, Orlando, FL

Mobilizing Educational Partnerships for Equity and Access. (January, 2008) Holmes Partnership National Conference, Orlando, FL

Puntos Claves en las Vidas de Personas con Autismo (Key Points in the Lives of Individuals with Autism). (January, 2008) Center for Autism and Related Disabilities State Conference, Orlando, FL

Hispanic Families' Participation in the Education of Their Children with Disabilities. (November, 2007) Council for Exceptional Children: Teaching Education Division National Conference, Milwaukee, WI

Closing the Achievement Gap of Hispanic Students with Disabilities Through Family Involvement. (October, 2007) National Evaluation Institute: Consortium for Research on Educational Accountability and Teacher Evaluation, Orlando, FL

Creando y Usando Ayudas Visuales para el Hogar, la Escuela, y la Comunidad (Creating and Using Visual Aids for the Home, School, and Community). (July 2007) International Special Education Forum. Lima, Peru

Special Education Leadership Preparation: Critical Need for New Doctoral Program Candidates. (July 2007) International Special Education Forum. Lima, Peru

Talleres en Español para las Necesidades de Familias en Educacion Especial (Spanish Workshops for the Needs of Families in Special Education). (June 2007) Family Café Annual State Conference, Orlando, FL

TENFEE: Spanish Workshops for the Needs of Hispanic Families in Special Education. (April 2007) Council for Exceptional Children National Conference. Louisville, KY

Holmes Scholars' Involvement with Best Practices at Professional Development Schools. (March 2007) Professional Development Schools National Conference. Las Vegas, NV

Health Initiative Across Cultures: A Data-Driven Study Conducted by Arbor Ridge Elementary in Partnership with the University of Central Florida. (March 2007) Professional Development Schools National Conference. Las Vegas, NV

Utilizing Holmes Scholars to Build a Strong Local Partnership. (February 2007) The American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE) Annual Conference, New York, NY

TENFEE: An Innovative Study Looking at Latino Family Involvement. (January 2007) Holmes National Conference. San Antonio, TX

Providing Significant Support to Hispanic Families in Exceptional Education. (April 2006) Kaleidoscope – Council for Exceptional Children National Conference, Salt Lake City, UT

Working Together to Create Visual Supports for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders. (April 2006) National Conference of the Council for Exceptional Children, Salt Lake City, UT

Barriers Equal to Opportunities for Growth. (March 2006) Professional Development Schools National Conference Orlando, FL

Creating Successful Partnerships. (March 2006) Professional Development Schools National Conference, Orlando, FL

Putting it All Together: Partnerships, Theory and Practice. (February 2006) The Holmes Partnership Tenth Annual Conference, Chicago, IL

Project Autism Spectrum Disorders: Master's Level Personnel Preparation (November 2005) National Conference of the Council for Exceptional Children Teacher Education Division, Portland, ME

Preparing Infant Toddler Specialists Through Web-based Coursework (November 2005) National Conference of the Council for Exceptional Children Teacher Education Division, Portland, ME

Working with Families to Create Visual Supports for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. (November 2005) National Conference of the Council for Exceptional Children Teacher Education Division, Portland, ME

Service Activities

Committee Member for Start Transition and Realize Success (STARS) conference: planning of 2009 conference in Palm Beach County (2008-present).

Project SOURCE Stakeholder Group Member: Exploration of postsecondary education options for students with intellectual disabilities in Florida (2008-present).

Florida Teacher Certification Examination (FTCE) Committee Member: Development of the 2009 FTCE for K-12 Exceptional Student Educators (2008-present).

Committee Member for the Council for In-Transition Youth (CITY): An interagency cooperation to create comprehensive objectives and methodologies in all phases of youth development in Palm Beach County (2008-present).

Transition Program Coordinator: Lynn University/Palm Beach County Public Schools Transition program for students with disabilities (2007-present)

Student Advisor: Academic advisor for Lynn University students at the Sophomore, Junior, and Senior level (2007-present).

Undergraduate and Graduate Committee Member: Revise the academic program for the Elementary Education K-6 Undergraduate degree as well as the K-12 Exceptional Student Education Graduate degree at Lynn University (2007).

Reviewer: Journal of Rural Special Education Quarterly (2007) and Journal of International Special Needs Education (2005-2007).

Student Representative: AACTE Day on the Hill (2007). Summer Institute in Washington, DC (2006).

Summer Program Volunteer: Volunteer at school for students with disabilities in Guanajuato, Mexico (2005).