

# Curriculum Vitae

(1/24/10)

Tracy L. Smiles  
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## CHRONOLOGY OF EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Education, University of Arizona, 2005  
Major: Language, Reading, and Culture  
Minor: Teaching and Teacher Education

Dissertation chair: Dr. Kathy Short  
Dissertation title: *Student Engagement within Peer-led Literature Circles:  
Exploring the Thought Styles of Adolescents*  
Defense Date: June 17, 2005

M.S. in Education, Texas Wesleyan University, 1992

B.A. English & Elementary Education, University of Texas at Arlington, 1989

## MAJOR FIELDS/RESEARCH INTERESTS

English language arts/literacy education; children's and adolescent literature, teacher preparation and professional development in elementary/middle school education; teacher beliefs and knowledge; professional coursework in teacher education; case methods with emphasis on teacher research.

## CHRONOLOGY OF EMPLOYMENT

9/2005- Present: ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF LITERACY/TEACHER EDUCATION  
Coordinate literacy program and teach undergraduate and graduate courses in literacy and language development; advise undergraduate and graduate students working towards a reading endorsement and/or master's degree.

8/2003- 5/2004: 8/2000-5/2001: GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT OF  
LANGUAGE, READING AND CULTURE, College of Education,  
University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ. Undergraduate teaching of LRC 480:  
Children's Literature in the Classroom

8/2000-8/2001: GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT, Spencer Foundation Grant:  
"Mentoring Teacher Researchers in Academic Writing and Publishing."  
Served as a writing mentor to other teacher-researchers, working as an

apprentice in academic writing and publishing with *Language Arts*, assisting teacher-researchers in preparing and revising manuscripts for publication, networking nationally and internationally with teacher-research communities and publications that support teacher-research, working on my own professional writing and reading.

8/2001- 5/2003: 8/1994-8/2000: ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER, Catalina Foothills School District, Tucson, Arizona. Taught all subjects in grades 3, 4, & 5, taught writing and literature in grades 7 & 8. Taught writing and literature summer school 1999 and 2000 to grades 6, 7, & 8.

8/1989-5/1994: ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER, Arlington Independent School District, Arlington, TX. Taught all subjects in grades 1 and 3. Served as team leader for third grade team 1992-1994.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### *Peer Reviewed*

Smiles, T. (2008). *The white darkness*. *WOW Review: Reading Across Cultures*, 1(2), <http://wowlit.org/on-line-publications/review>.

Smiles, Tracy L. (2008). Connecting literacy and learning through collaborative action research. *Voices from the Middle*, 15, 32-39.

Short, Kathy G. and Smiles, Tracy L. (2008). Preparing and submitting your research manuscript for publication. In Lassonde, Cynthia A. and Israel, Susan E. (Eds.). *Teachers taking action: A comprehensive guide to teacher research*. Newark, DE: International Reading Association, 147-160.

Fahrenbruck, Mary; Schall, Janine; Short, Kathy G.; Smiles, Tracy; and Storie, Monique (2006). Journeying through Life and Literature. Manuscript accepted to the *Journal of Children's Literature*, 27-36.

Smiles, Tracy & Short, Kathy G. (Summer, 2006). Transforming teacher voice through writing for publication. Manuscript accepted to *Teacher Education Quarterly*, 33, 133-147.

Crowell, Caryl, Costell, Sandra; Cribett-Bell, Carol; Lohse, Kathy; Martinez, Carmen; Redondo, Liz; Smiles, Tracy & Short, Kathy G. (1998). Talking about books: Celebrating linguistic diversity. *Language Arts*, 75, pp. 43-50.

### *Invited*

Lejeune, M., Smiles, T., Wojcikiewicz, S. & Girod, M. (In press). Teacher Work Sample Methodology as a Frame for Action Research. In Pelton, R. (Ed.). *Action Research: Best Practices Guide for Teacher Candidates*. Lanham MD, Littlefield and Rowan Publishers.

Smiles, T. (2008, Fall). Book review: *The sacred leaf*. *The Reader: The Mid-valley reading council newsletter*, 22(1), p. 3.

Smiles, T. (2009, Winter). Book review: *The white darkness, The arrival*. *The Reader: The Mid-valley reading council newsletter*, 22(2), p. 3.

### **SCHOLARLY WRITING IN PROCESS**

LeJeune, M. & Smiles, T. (in process). Action research as principled practice: Investigating literature based talk with adolescents. Rejected by the *Journal of Curriculum and Instruction*. Will be resubmitted to the *Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy* pending revisions.

Smiles, Tracy (in process). Seventh graders' engagement with literature and each other: Interpreting thought styles within peer-led literature circles. Paper presented to the National Reading Conference, Miami, FL. December, 2005.

Smiles, Tracy (in process). Teacher Research as Social Justice: Learning How to Listen. Paper accepted to the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Francisco, CA. April, 2006.

### **GRANTS**

Smiles, T., (P.I.), LeJeune, M. and Paraskvas, C. (2008). *Effective and Meaningful Literacy Instruction and Assessment*. FY 2008-09 No Child Left Behind: Oregon University/School Partnership Program. **Funded: \$65,000.00**

Fain, J., Smiles, T., Anderson, H. & Horn, R. (2008). *Children's Talk and Critical Literacy: Exploring Gender and Social Class*. Elva Knight Research Grant, International Reading Association. \$9,000.00 (unfunded).

Category I Faculty Development Grant- Round 2 (2008), Western Oregon University (Awarded \$950.00).

Category I Faculty Development Grant- Round 1 (2007), Western Oregon University (Awarded \$950.00).

Category I Faculty Development Grant-Round 2 (2007), Western Oregon University.  
(Awarded \$750.00)

Category I Faculty Development Grant-Round 1 (2006), Western Oregon University.  
(Awarded \$750.00)

Category I Faculty Development Grant-Round 1 (2005), Western Oregon University.  
(Awarded \$750.00)

Category I Faculty Development Grant-Round 2 (2006), Western Oregon University.  
(Awarded \$750.00)

“Out of Mind and Into Matter”: Literature discussions with young learners within a student-centered language arts program. Proposal submitted with Heather Anderson for the James Moffett Award Grant: Conference on English Education. (\$1,000.00, unfunded).

Learning and Leadership Grant: National Education Association. Proposal submitted with Jill Bryant, Ph.D. at Willamette University. (\$5000.00, unfunded).

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### ***National***

December, 2009: *Middle school engagement with the junior canon: Traditional texts meet transformative pedagogies*. Paper accepted to the National Reading Conference (NRC), Albuquerque, NM.

November, 2009: *Exploring Conversations and Connections with Critically Conscious Literature*. Proposal accepted to the 2009 National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) conference in Philadelphia, PA.

April, 2009: *Literature Discussion as Opportunities for Collaborative Meaning Making and Action Research with Students and Teachers*. Proposal accepted to the annual conference of the American Educational Research Association, San Diego, CA.

February, 2009: *Teacher Research and Creating Spaces for Partnership: Collaborative Inquiry with Students in Literacy and Language*. Proposal accepted to the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the International Reading Association (IRA) in Minneapolis, MN.

November, 2008: *Examining and Exploring Adolescents' Literate Lives: Creating Spaces for Partnership with Students in Literacy, Language, and Inquiry*. Proposal accepted to the 2008 National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) conference in San Antonio, TX.

November, 2007: *Research and Representation: Using Multiple Lenses to Analyze Peer-led Literature Discussions in a Seventh Grade Classroom*. Presentation at the National Reading Conference, Los Angeles, CA.

November, 2007: *Crossing Over the Hurdles of Critical Conversations Inside and Outside the School*. Presentation at the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) conference in New York, NY.

November, 2006: *Peer-led Literature Circles and Being Middle Class: Literacy as Affiliation with Business and Schools*. Presentation at the National Reading Conference, Los Angeles, CA.

November, 2006: *Living on the Line: Teacher Researchers as Professionals Crafting Critical and Conscious Curriculum*. Presentation at the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) conference in Nashville, TN.

April, 2006: *Shifting Power: Students Engaging in Social Justice Issues*. Presentation to the annual conference of the American Educational Research Association, San Francisco, CA.

December, 2005: *Seventh Graders Engagement with Literature and Each Other: Interpreting Thought Styles within Peer-led Literature Circles*. Presentation at the National Reading Conference, Miami, FL.

November, 2002: *Making Knowledge Through Writing: Teachers Writing for Publication*. Presentation at the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) conference in Baltimore, MD.

### ***Local/Regional***

February, 2010: *Problematizing issues in literacy methods: Engaging with preservice and inservice teachers in critical thinking*. Proposal accepted to the Annual West Regional Conference of the International Reading Association, Portland, OR.

February, 2010: *Mathematical Tales: Bridging Math and Literacy Connections Through Children's Literature*. Proposal accepted to the Annual West Regional Conference of the International Reading Association, Portland, OR.

February, 2010: *Author Studies in a Digital Age: Building Inspiration for Reading, Writing & Inquiry*. Proposal accepted to the Annual West Regional Conference of the International Reading Association, Portland, OR.

February 27, 2009: *A Magnifying Glass and a Literacy Continuum: Tools for Navigating Literacy with Teacher Candidates in a Changing World*. Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Oregon Association of Teacher Educators (ORATE).

February 7, 2009: *Literacy Teacher Education at a Crossroad: Promoting Critical Thinking and Authentic Instruction in an NCLB Environment*. Presentation at the Annual Conference of the Oregon Reading Association, Portland, OR.

February 6, 2009: *Multi-genre Writing Invitations for Today's Classroom*. Presentation at the Annual Conference of the Oregon Reading Association, Portland, OR.

January 27, 2009: *Teaching Reading in Secondary Classrooms, Part 2*. Inservice workshop for high school language arts teachers in the Santiam School District.

November, 2008: *Practical Writing Instruction for Today's Classroom*. Presentation to the Mid Valley Reading Council's annual meeting.

October, 2008: *Teaching Reading in Secondary Classrooms*. Inservice workshop for middle and high school social studies and language arts teachers in the Santiam School District.

February, 2008: *Working towards critical thinking and justice in literacy teacher education*. Presentation at the Annual Conference of the Oregon Reading Association, Portland, OR.

February, 2008: *Using critical conversations to explore multiple perspectives through literature circles*. Presentation at the Annual Conference of the Oregon Reading Association, Portland, OR.

September, 2007: *Connecting Literacy and Learning through Critical Conversations*. Presentation at the Annual Conference of the Mid-valley Reading Council.

February, 2007: *Curriculum as Empowerment: Transforming Teaching and Learning through Constructing Curricular Frameworks*. Presentation at the Annual Conference of the Oregon Reading Association, Portland, OR.

March, 2005: *Creating a Place for Peer-led Literature Circles*. Presentation at the Conference on Literature and Literacy for Children and Adults. Tucson, AZ.

February, 2005: *Journeys of Life and Literature*. Presentation at ALTE (Arizona Literacy Teacher Educators) annual conference, Tempe, AZ.

October, 2004: *Creating Space to Honor Our Students through Literature and Response: The Significance of Voice*. Presentation at the Arizona English Teachers Association annual conference, Gilbert, AZ.

April, 2004: *Literature and the Journeys of Life*. Presentation at the Arizona State University Symposium on the Works of Ursula K. Le Guin.

September, 2001: *Teaching Critical Literacy in Middle School*. Presentation at the Tucson Teachers Applying Whole Language conference in Tucson, AZ.

April & June, 2001: *Resources and Support for Teacher Research*. Presentation to Teacher Research Course, University of Arizona.

Spring, 2004, Spring, 2002: *Implementing Literature Circles in Middle School*: Presentation to graduate Literature Discussion Course, University of Arizona.

## **OUTREACH AND SERVICE**

### ***National***

2006-present: Middle Level Book Reviewer for WOW: International Collection of Children's and Adolescent Literature.

2006-present: Board of Advisors for WOW: International Collection of Children's and Adolescent Literature.

2002-2005: Guest Reviewer for *Language Arts: The Journal of the Elementary Section of the National Council of Teachers of English*

1995-2000: Manuscript Reviewer, *The New Advocate*

### ***Local/Regional***

June, 2009-present: President of the Oregon Association of Teacher Educators (ORATE)

May, 2009- WOU College of Education, author visit to students and local area teachers, author Deborah Hopkinson, COE

August, 2008-Present: University Representative to the Oregon Middle Level Association Advisory Board

September, 2008-Present: Adolescent book reviewer Mid Valley Reading Council.

September, 2008-Present: Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee, Western Oregon University.

September 2007-Present: Oregon Middle Level Consortium (currently co-chair).

April 2008-present- Faculty representative for the Oregon Middle Level Association.

September 2007-Present: Institutional Review Board Committee, Western Oregon University.

September 2006- Present: Honors Committee, Western Oregon University.

July, 2006- Present: Northwest Teacher Research Collaborative.

May, 2006-March, 2008: Faculty Senate, Western Oregon University

September, 2005-2006: Steering Committee, Division of Teacher Education, Western Oregon University

Spring, 1999: Preceptorship. Co-taught LRC 573: Teacher Research. Course designed as a collaborative, critical examination of teacher research.

1999/2000: Language arts curriculum revision team for Catalina Foothills School District

September, 1999: *Literature Circles for Life-Long Learning*. Panel presentation at the Tucson Teachers Applying Whole Language conference in Tucson, AZ.

99-00: Strategic Planning Committee, Esperero Canyon Middle School

99-2004: *Language Arts: The Journal of the Elementary Section of the National Council of Teachers of English* cadre team

1998 Site Council, Manzanita Elementary School, Tucson, AZ

1998 *"The Outsiders": A Case Study of Middle School Students' Perspectives on Failure, Success, and their School Experience*. Presentation at the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual LRC/TTE Graduate Student Colloquy. University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ.

1996 *Using Text Sets for Life Long Learning*. Presentation at the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Literature and Literacy for Children and Adolescents. University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ.

1995 In-service workshop on using thematic text sets for literacy instruction in grades K-5. Manzanita Elementary School, Tucson, Arizona.

1991 In-service workshop on *Project Reach*: Integrating multicultural education into the elementary curriculum. Thornton Elementary School, Arlington, TX.

1991 Supervising teacher for a pre-service teacher, Thornton Elementary School, Arlington, TX with Texas Wesleyan University, Ft. Worth, TX.

#### Thesis Committees

- Chair, Thesis Committee, Jennifer Gerner, DTE
- Chair, Thesis Committee, Cathy Osborne, DTE
- Chair, Thesis Committee, Melissa Lind, DTE

- Chair, Thesis Committee, Katrina Sangster, DTE
- Chair, Thesis Committee, Dana Garlinghouse, DTE
- Chair, Thesis Committee, Alyse Rostamizadeh, DTE
- Chair, Thesis Committee, Kenneth McChesney, DTE
- Chair, Thesis Committee, Ressi Miller, DTE
- Chair, Thesis Committee, Tara Stroup, DTE
- Member, Thesis Committee, Melissa Ball, DTE
- Member, Thesis Committee, Julia Jones, DTE
- Member, Thesis Committee, Candace Weston, DTE

### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

2001 Nominee, *Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant*, College of Education, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

2001 Nominee, *Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant*, Graduate and Professional Student Council, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

1991 Nominee, *Outstanding Graduate Student Award*, Texas Wesleyan University, Ft. Worth, Texas.

### **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

National Middle Level Association (NMLA)

Center for the Extension of Language Learning (CELT)

National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)

National Reading Conference (NRC)

International Reading Association (IRA)

Oregon Middle Level Association (OMLA)

Oregon Reading Association (ORA)

Mid Valley Reading Council