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**SANDRA ACOSTA**

*Curriculum Vitae – December, 2009*

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Assistant Professor –Bilingual Education  
Educational Psychology Department  
Texas A&M University  
107F Harrington Tower MS 4225  
College Station, TX 77843

(979)458-4211  
fax: (979)458-0192  
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**EDUCATION**

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Ph. D.                      Educational Psychology  
                                 Texas A&M University  
                                 College Station, Texas (Graduation Date May, 2010)

M.Ed.                      Public School Administration  
                                 St. Thomas University  
                                 Houston, Texas

M.A.                        Spanish Philology  
                                 University of Wisconsin at Madison  
                                 Madison, Wisconsin

B.A.                        Spanish Literature  
                                 The University of Texas at Austin  
                                 Austin, Texas

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**PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATES**

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Superintendent of Schools (Texas)  
Mid-Management Administrator (Grades PK – 12, Texas)  
Educational Diagnostician (Grades PK – 12, Texas)  
Elementary Teacher Self-Contained (Grades PK – 05, Texas)  
Bilingual/ESL (Grades PK – 05, Texas)  
Facilitator for IEP Meetings (Special Education)  
Virtual Instructor Certificate (Center for Distance Learning, Texas A&M University)

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**LANGUAGES**

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Fluent English and Spanish, basic sign language, French, Portuguese

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**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**


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2008-Present Assistant Professor  
*Texas A&M University  
 Bilingual Education Program  
 Educational Psychology Department*

2005-2008 Lecturer and Undergraduate Coordinator  
*Texas A&M University  
 Bilingual Education Program  
 Educational Psychology Department*

*Public School Administration Experience*

2003-2005 Bilingual/ESL Coordinator  
*La Porte Independent School District  
 La Porte, Texas*

2000-2003 Assistant Principal  
*Jackson Middle School  
 Houston Independent School District  
 Houston, Texas*

1998-2000 Assistant Principal  
*Clemente Martinez Elementary  
 Houston Independent School District  
 Houston, Texas*

1995-1998 Bilingual Educational Diagnostician  
*Houston Independent School District  
 Houston, Texas*

*Classroom Teaching Experience*

1987-1995 Bilingual teacher  
 Kindergarten, 1st grade, 2nd grade, 3rd grade  
*Houston Independent School District  
 Houston, Texas*

1993-1995 Adjunct Professor  
*Houston Community College  
 Foreign Language Department*

Adjunct Professor  
*North Harris Montgomery Community College  
 Foreign Language Department*

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**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**


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American Educational Research Association - AERA

Southwest Educational Research Association - SERA  
 National Association for Bilingual Education – NABE  
 Texas Association for Bilingual Education – TABE  
 Houston Area Association for Bilingual Education - HAABE  
 Professional Hispanic Network, Texas A&M University  
 Women’s Faculty Network, Texas A&M University  
 Kappa Delta Pi

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### AWARDS, HONORS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

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- Houston Poetry Fest, juried poet, 2005.
- President’s Award Scholarship, Educational Psychology, Texas A&M University (\$5,000), 2005-2006.
- TCWSE Conference Scholarship, awarded by the Texas Council of Women School Executives (TCWSE), 2003.
- Assistant Principal of the Year, awarded by the Association of Hispanic School Administrators (AHSA), 2002.
- Project Blueprint Class XX [Leadership institute for leaders of non-profit organizations] United Way of Houston, 2000.
- Academic Excellence in Communicative Disorders, Department of Communications Honors Award, Texas Southern University, 1998.
- First Prize, José Martí Literary Award Competition, Institute of Hispanic Culture, *Is The Poetry Of Gabriela Mistral Meaningful To The Present Day?* (\$1,000), 1995.
- Earthwatch Teacher Fellowship, “The Mexican Art of Building,” Central Valley of Mexico, 1991.
- Teacher/Staff Member of the Year, awarded by Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS), Houston Independent School District, 1990.
- Earthwatch Teacher Fellowship, “Pre-Columbian Peoples,” Arica, Chile, 1990.
- Impact II Grant Winner, Houston ISD, 1989, 1990, 1995.
- Bilingual Teacher of the Year, Dow School, Houston ISD, 1989.

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### DISSERTATION

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*High-Stakes Reading Assessment and English Oral Language Development: A Study of Third Grade English Language Learners in a Texas School District.* Doctoral dissertation. Texas A&M University, College Station (2010).

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### GRANTS

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- 2009 – *Mad about Science: Improving Science Literacy Through Family Libraries and Classroom Literacy Groups.* Barbara Bush Literacy Corps Grant. College Station, TX: Barbara Bush Foundation (\$1,500).

- 2008 - *Brazos Valley Aggies*. Minority Recruitment and Retention Leadership Team Grant. College Station, TX: Texas A&M University, (\$4,995) with David Byrd.
- 2006 - *Instructional Materials Award*. [18 Woodcock-Muñoz Language Survey-Revised (WMLS-R) testing kits, Spanish and English] Olympia, WA: Woodcock- Muñoz Foundation, (\$6,100) with Rafael Lara-Alecio.

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## PUBLICATIONS

### BOOK REVIEWS

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Acosta, S.(2001). *Language Diversity and Education*. [Review of book]. **NABE News**, June, 24.

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## PUBLICATIONS

### MANUAL

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Acosta, S.(2008) *Reference Manual: Bilingual Education Undergraduate Programs*. College Station: Texas A & M.

Acosta, S. & Walichowski, M. (2007) *Bilingual Education Programs: Undergraduate Teacher Preparation Student Advisement Handbook*. College Station: Texas A & M.

Acosta, S. (2005). *Handbook Bilingual/ESL Program*. La Porte, TX: La Porte Independent School District.

Acosta, S. (2003). *Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC) Manual*. La Porte, TX: La Porte ISD.

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## UNPUBLISHED WORK: IN PROGRESS

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Acosta, S. Review of the Test of Early Language Development-Third Edition: Spanish (by invitation, expected submission date, January, 2010). **The Mental Measurements Yearbook**.

Honore, H.H., Acosta, S., Goodson, P., & Latini, D.M. (under review). Genetic health literacy among college students: Implications for public health education and genomics. **Society of Behavioral Medicine**, Seattle, WA.

Acosta, S. & Hsu, H. Teacher biliteracy: Spanish academic writing. **TABE Journal**. (expected submission date, February, 2010)

Acosta., S., Goodson, P. Padrón, Y., Lara-Alecio, R., & Irby, B. High-Stakes Testing and English Language Learners: A systematic review of the literature. **Educational Researcher** (expected submission date, March, 2010)

Honore, H., Acosta, S., Pruitt, B.E., & Goodson, P. Predictors of sexual and reproductive intention: Quantitative data from the PGRID study. **Health Education & Behavior**. (expected submission date, March, 2010)

Acosta., S., Goodson, P., Honore, H., Padrón, Y., Lara-Alecio, R., Irby, B., & Rivera, V. English Oral Language Development and English Language Learners: A systematic review of the literature. **Review of Educational Research** (expected submission, April, 2010)

Acosta., S., Lara-Alecio, R., Irby, B., Padrón, Y., Goodson, P., Kwok, O., & Tong, F. High-Stakes reading assessment and English oral language development: A study of third grade English language learners in a Texas school district. **Journal of Research in Reading** (expected submission, May, 2010)

Honore, H., Acosta, S., Pruitt, B.E., & Goodson, P. Context matters: The problem of genetic numeracy. **American Journal of Public Health**. (expected submission date, May, 2010)

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### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS\*

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\*Names in italics indicate co-authors are/were graduate students from Texas A&M University.  
Names in italics with † indicate co-authors are/were undergraduate students from Texas A&M University.

#### PLENARY SPEAKER

Acosta, S. (2005, May). *State of TABE: Strategic Planning*. Region I Education Service Center 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Bilingual Symposium, South Padre Island.

#### FEATURED SPEAKER

Acosta, S. (2005, March). *TABE: Tomando acción, tu voz cuenta/Taking Action, Your Voice Counts*. San Antonio Association for Bilingual Education (SAABE) annual conference. San Antonio.

Acosta, S. & Green, J. (2000, October). Collaboration among professional organizations for English Language Learners, Collaborative summit, TEXTesol annual conference.

#### ORAL PRESENTATIONS

1. *Álvarez, C, Treviño, S. & Acosta, S.* (2009). *Transforming and Motivating the Struggling ELL reader: From Fluency to Prediction*. Texas Association for Bilingual Education (TABE) 37th Annual Conference, Houston.

2. †Dávila, M., †Huerta, B. & Acosta, S. (2009). *Science Inquiry for 1st Grade: Readers' Theatre and Note-Taking in a Concept-Based Thematic Unit*. Texas Association for Bilingual Education (TABE) 37th Annual Conference, Houston.
3. Garza, T. & Acosta, S. (2009). *Bringing technology into the Classroom: Podcasting. Workshop*. Texas Association for Bilingual Education (TABE) 37th Annual Conference, Houston.
4. Acosta, S. (2009, February). *High-Stakes Reading Assessment and English Oral Language Development: A study of 3rd Grade English Language Learners in a Texas School District*. National Association for Bilingual Education (NABE) 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Austin.
5. Acosta, S. (2009, February). *High-Stakes Reading Assessment and English Oral Language Development*. Southwest Educational Research Association (SERA) 32nd Annual Conference, San Antonio.
6. Acosta, S. (2008, February). *Using Wright's Rules in Path Analysis*. Southwest Educational Research Association (SERA) 31st annual conference, New Orleans.
7. Acosta, S. (2006, October). *The Bilingual Field Experience: An Emerging Delivery Model Framework to Accelerate English and Guide Pre-Service Teacher Development*. Texas Association for Bilingual Education (TABE) 34th Annual Conference. Galveston.
8. †Díaz, N., †Barragán, A. & Acosta, S. (2006, October). *Simple Machines: Designing concept-based units*. Texas Association for Bilingual Education (TABE) 34th Annual Conference, Galveston.
9. Acosta, S. (2005, October). *ESL Certification Review Courses: Certifying ESL Teachers in Texas Public Schools*. Region IV Education Service Center, 2nd Annual Bilingual Conference. Houston.
10. Acosta, S., & Romero, A. (2005, April). *ESL Program Models that Bridge the Gap for English Language Learners*. Mexican American School Board Association (MASBA), 4th Annual Conference, San Antonio.
11. Acosta, S. (2004, November) *Teaching Language Learners*, Accomplished Teachers' Academy, La Porte Independent School District, La Porte, TX.
12. Acosta, S. (2004, October) *Bilingual Education: Advocating for English Language Learners*. Panel member, Texas Association for Bilingual Education (TABE), 32nd Annual Conference, El Paso.
13. Acosta, S. (2001, October). *ABC's of Student Behavior Contracts*. Houston Area Association for Bilingual Education conference, Houston.
14. Acosta, S. (1999, January). *Their Future is in Your Hands: English Language Learners in the primary grades*. Featured speaker at the Winter Bilingual Conference, Alief ISD.
15. Acosta, S. (1998, November). *Equity and Excellence for All Learners: Special Education*. Prairie View A&M.
16. Acosta, S. (1995, October). *Ten Frame Fever: Increasing Math Fluency in the First Grade*. Houston Area Association for Bilingual Education annual conference, Houston.

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## RESEARCH PROJECTS

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Hester, C. & Andrews, D. (1994-1995) *Student Learning Styles*. University of St. Thomas, Houston, School of Education, research assistant.

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## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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- *Consultant*, Promoting Outstanding Writing for Excellence in Research (POWER), graduate writing support services, College of Education and Human Development, Texas A & M, 2007-present.
- *Member*, Texas Textbook Review Panel, 2nd grade Spanish reading, 2009-2010.
- *Field Reviewer*, Conference proposals. Southwest Educational Research Association, 2008-present.
- *Editorial Board*, *Research in the Schools*, Mid-South Educational Research Association, University of Alabama, Birmingham, 2008-present.
- *Editorial Reviewer*, *The Mental Measurements Yearbook*, Buros Institute of Mental Measurements, University of Nebraska, Lincoln 2008-present,
- *Assistant Professor Representative*, Educational Psychology Department Executive Committee, 2009-2010.
- *Mentor*, Eddi Ying, Graduate Teaching Academy (GTA) Teaching Mentor Program, Texas A&M University, 2009.
- *Mentor*, Daniel de la Rosa, President of Bilingual Education Student Organization (BESO), winner of Jane Stallings Student Service Award Texas A & M University, 2008.
- *Advisor*, Stay in School, Continue Your Education, and Achieve Your Goals/ Sigue en la escuela, continúa con tu educación y alcanza tus metas (SCA), 2007-2009.
- *Member*, Committee Undergraduate Learning Outcomes, College of Education, 2007.
- *Mentor*, Sigma Lambda Gamma Student Academic Success Mentoring Program. Texas A&M, 2007.
- *Mentor*, Insights Alumni Mentoring Students Program. University of St. Thomas, Houston, 2006.
- *Member*, Search Committee for Bilingual Education Programs Full Professor Position, College of Education, 2006.
- *Advisor*, Brazos Valley Association for Bilingual Education (BVABE) Board of Directors, 2006.
- *Member*, Council on Teacher Education, College of Education and Human Development, Texas A & M, College Station, 2005 - 2008.
- *Member*, Special and Bilingual Education (SABE) Program Undergraduate Certification Committee, EPSY, Texas A&M, 2005 - 2008.
- *President*, Texas Association for Bilingual Education (TABE), 2004-2005
- *President-Elect*, Texas Association for Bilingual Education (TABE), 2003-2004
- *Vice President*, Texas Association for Bilingual Education (TABE), 2002-2003
- *Treasurer*, Texas Association for Bilingual Education (TABE), 2000-2002
- *President*, Association of Hispanic School Administrators (AHSA) 2003-2004
- *Scholar/facilitator*, Stories of Life, Love, and Work/Historias de vida, amor y trabajo [literary discussion group] NEH grant, Houston Public library, spring, 2001.
- *President*, Houston Area Association for Bilingual Education (HAABE), 1998-1999.
- *Representative*, Site-Based Management Committee (SDMC), Jackson Middle School, 2001-2003; Eliot Elementary, 1994-1995.
- *Representative*, Houston Independent School District Advisory Committee, 1994-1995.
- *Member*, Math Core Curriculum Committee, Houston ISD, 1994.

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## POLICY

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- 2005 - Testimony on funding proposals for bilingual education in public schools, Texas Senate Committee on Education.
- 2005 - Testimony on bilingual education, Texas State Board of Education
- 2003 - Testimony on impact local education agencies of inadequate funding of bilingual education, Texas Senate.

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## CONSULTANT

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*Research consultant*, Conduct research on whole grains to assist FNS in providing schools with technical assistance to increase the consumption of whole grain foods. United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service (USDA-FNS) and Texas A&M University. Washington, DC: Department of Agriculture, 2008-2009.