

Dr. Alana Biediger-Collins

Objective

Contribute to the graduate education of counseling and administrative candidates and other professionals in the field of education. Prepare counseling and leadership graduate students for successful completion of degree plans and passing state certification/licensing exams.

Summary

Currently full time at Texas A&M San Antonio teaching counseling assessment and career counseling graduate classes and selected electives. Advising and interviewing counseling candidates in program degree plans and certification/licensing requirements. Assisting counseling department in CACREP compliance work. Monitoring counseling graduates, post-graduation, in licensing tests and employment. Experience in maintaining/organizing school counseling, principal and superintendent candidates graduate files for educator (professional certification) preparation compliance. Thirty plus years experience in teaching, assessment, advising and administration in public schools and years experience in higher education. Seventeen years experience in educational administration, including administration of special programs and school law/due process hearing issues/procedures. Experienced and trained in all forms/levels of assessment, identification of special populations, and individuals with disabilities. Experience with dyslexia program, Section 504 programs and compliance, compensatory education, at-risk student identification and services, crisis management / prevention and conflict resolution. Moved Southwest ISD special education department and services from poorly ranked by TEA state compliance officers in 1995 to near perfect score on compliance review in 2003. Loyal, team-oriented, flexible, ethical professional focused on lifelong learning with extensive experience with students, public schools, businesses and communities in south San Antonio.

State Board of Educator Certification Certificates (7)

Professional Elementary Education EC-8 (Life)
Professional Learning/Language Disabilities (Life); Professional- Educational Diagnostician (Life); Professional Hearing Impairment (Life)
Professional Emotionally Disturbed/Autism; Professional - Mid-Management (Life)
Professional- Supervision (Life)

Professional Experience

1975-1977

Alamo Heights ISD

San Antonio, TX

Special Education teacher

Early Childhood, Self-Contained, Woodbridge Elementary School

1980-1983 *Medina Valley ISD* *Castroville, TX*
Elementary Special Education teacher

1983— 1988 *Hondo ISD Coop.* *Hondo, TX*
Middle School Special Education teacher
Administrative Asst., UIL Coach- McDowell Middle School

1989— 1991 *Northside ISD* *San Antonio, TX*
Self-Contained Teacher for emotional disturbed students, Wm. Hobby Middle School

1991— 2008 *Southwest ISD* *San Antonio, TX*
Educational-
Diagnostician
Supervisor, Director,
and Executive
Director District-
wide of Special
Education

2005— Fall 2016
August 2008 Part time Lecturer at Texas A&M University System Center San Antonio
Teaching early childhood, special education, and counseling undergraduate and graduate
courses, conducted TEXES reviews for teacher candidates and principal/counseling
graduate candidates
Advised alternative certification graduate students in preparing for state teaching tests.
Submitted State Board of Educator Certification and Texas Education Agency higher
education reports on teacher candidates and those admitted to Educator Preparation
Programs.
Coordinated teacher candidate website under Blackboard for 400+ students preparing for
state teaching tests. Included study preparation materials, practice tests, links, tutorials for
deficit areas, etc.
Maintained online Blackboard course sites for counseling, special education, and early
education.
Psychologically assessed college students with disabilities for accommodations in
coursework and state testing.

Fall 2016-July 2018

Field Faculty and Certification Specialist- Texas A&M University System Center San
Antonio, College of Education
Coordinated internships for school counselor, principal, superintendent, educational
diagnostician and reading specialist programs.
Opened professional certification TEXES exams. Monitored practice test administrations.
Trained graduate advisors. Maintained files for all graduate students in College of
Education, EPP department.
Taught educational diagnostician practicums.
Collaborated with professional certification departments to create handbooks for
graduates.

Adjunct taught assessment class EDCG 5325 and electives for Counseling Department.
Interviewed all professional certification candidates and completed rubric for TEA.

Fall 2018-present

Assistant Professional Track, Department of Counseling, Health and Kinesiology
Interviews School Counseling applicants for admission into program.
Lead instructor for EDCG 5325 Assessment and EDCG 5353 Career Counseling
Assists with maintaining MOU internship site files
Co-authored CACREP program objectives, and dispositions
Admission Committee for Counseling Applicants
New Student Orientation for Counseling Applicants
College of Education Recruitment Committee

Additional Experience

Certified by the National Institute for Crisis Prevention as a certified educator/trainer on Master level for crisis prevention. I have trained over 500+ adults in crisis intervention and team restraint, verbal and physical intervention.

Guest speaker for UTSA Masters' program in Educational Leadership

Guest speaker for OLLU's Masters' program in School Psychology

Completed post-doctoral coursework at OLLU and practicum (800+ hours)) in school psychology under Dr. Dina Trevino.

Conducted district wide staff development for Southwest ISD in educational law, behavioral management, state and federal program compliance, and teaching at-risk students.

Expert assessment witness and district representative in state due process hearings

Hearing officer for expulsion appeals and AEP placements for Southwest ISD.

Director of Dyslexia and Section 504 Programs in Southwest ISD

District investigator for Sexual Harassment complaints and Section 504 cases

Wrote grants and obtained funding for inclusive preschool daycare pilot for Southwest ISD which provided mainstream settings for children with disabilities ages 3-6.

Partnered with Texas State University, UTSA, Trinity University and OLLU to accept and train special education teachers and specialists in school psychology.

Collaborated with Head Start in south San Antonio to coordinate services for four and five year old students with disabilities in public school and partnered pre-k classes.

Conducted contracted adult intelligence and adaptive behavior testing that was court-ordered with incarcerated felons to determine intellectual functional and competence to stand trial.

Conducted staff development for The Children's Shelter on the topic of diagnosis and behavior management of children with autism (2019).

Education

Post-doctoral- School Psychology Program, 2003-2004 completed coursework, 800+ hours of practicum for licensed specialist in school psychology, Our Lady of the Lake University, under Dr. Cynthia Gonzales

Doctor of Philosophy

August 2000 Texas A&M University- College Station- Major Educational Leadership, Minor- Education and Human Resource Development

Masters of Science and Post-Masters' work

August 1979 Masters Major-Educational Psychology, ED/Autism certificate; Supervision certificate in 1993; obtained mid-management additional hours/certificate in 1995, Educational Diagnostician certificate/course work - 1991.

Bachelor of Science

Dec. 1974 Major- Elementary and Special Education, Minor- English, Southwest Texas State University. Summa Cum Laude

Professional and Community Memberships

National Career Development Association
Texas Alamo Region Counseling Association
National Association for School Psychologists
National Association of Alternative Certification