

KAREN L KOHLER
Assistant Professor
Texas A&M University-San Antonio
kkohler@tamusa.edu

EDUCATION

EdD 2016 Capella University
 Doctor of Education
 Specialization in Reading and Literacy

MEd 2004 Texas State University, San Marcos
 Degree: Elementary Education

BA 1999 California State University, Chico
 Degree: Social Studies and Spanish

Certification

Texas EC-4 Generalist
Texas 4-8 Reading and Language Arts
Certified Academic Language Therapist – Qualified Instructor (In Progress)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University Teaching Experience

Texas A&M University-San Antonio, San Antonio, TX

Assistant Professor; August 2020 - Present
Assistant Professor Professional Track; January 2020 – July 2020
Lecturer; August 2019 – December 2019
Adjunct Professor; January 2018 - August 2019

Courses Taught

EDCI 1301 Introduction to Teaching
EDCI 3303 Knowledge of Pedagogy and Assessment
EDCI 3321 Education Interventions (Hybrid)
EDCI 3347 English/Language Arts Methods: Elementary Level
EDCI 3348 Classroom Management: Early Childhood – Elementary (Hybrid)
EDCI 3349 Social Studies Methods: Early Childhood - Elementary
EDCI 4301 Teaching and Pedagogy: Early Childhood and Elementary Teachers
EDCI 4309 Legal and Ethical Issues in Education (Hybrid)
EDRG 4325 Disciplinary and Content Area Reading (Hybrid)
EDCI 5301 School and Community Partnerships

University of The Incarnate Word, San Antonio, TX

Adjunct Professor; August 2016 – August 2019

Courses Taught

EDUC 2305 Foundations of Education
EDUC 3307 Essential Literacy Instructio

EDUC 3327 Developing the Fluent Reader
 EDUC 3337 Developing the Strategic Reader
 EDUC 3347 Differentiated Literacy Instruction
 EDUC 6318 Disciplinary Literacy and the English Learner

K-12 Experience

North East Independent School District, San Antonio, TX 2012 - 2018

- Family Specialist

Comal Independent School District, New Braunfels, TX 2001 - 2005

- 4th Grade Teacher (Bilingual and General Education)
- Bilingual Department Coordinator

Consulting

Celebrate Dyslexia Schools, San Antonio, TX 2022 – Present
 Institute for School and Community Partnerships, San Antonio, TX 2022 - 2023
 Education Alliance, New Braunfels, TX 2005 – 2011

SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES

Researcher

Spring 2025

Community of Practice in collaboration with Charles Butt Foundation, US PREP, City Education Partners, and local San Antonio school districts to develop comprehensive solutions that enhance teacher quality, retention, and professional development, ultimately creating sustainable environments where both teachers and students can thrive.

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- Kohler, K. L.**, Sampson, S., Cano-Sampson, A., & Moody, J. (2025). Road to allyship: Motivation to advocate and support marginalized groups in educator preparation programs. *Urban Education*. [Submitted].
- Piper, R. E., **Kohler, K. L.**, Kapavik, R. R., & Mary, M. (2024). Encouraging teacher candidates to be responsible, organized, and ready. *The Texas Forum of Teacher Education*, 15, 8-13.
- Espinoza, K. & **Kohler, K. L.** (2023) "I did not realize that my teacher had taken away part of my identity": Bilingual preservice teachers' virtual libraries project. *Journal for Multicultural Education*, 17(2), 168-183. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JME-06-2022-0069>
- Gerzel-Short, L., & **Kohler, K. L.** (2022). A New Lens: Addressing Literacy Inequities by Reconnecting With Families. In K. Fox, & L. Szech (Ed.), *Handbook of Research on Family Literacy Practices and Home-School Connections* (pp. 196-211). IGI Global. [10.4018/978-1-6684-4569-3.ch012](https://doi.org/10.4018/978-1-6684-4569-3.ch012)
- Piper, R., Webb, L. & **Kohler, K.** (2022). Teachers, Students, and the Pandemic: How do we Move Forward?. In E. Langran (Ed.), *Proceedings of Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education International Conference* (pp. 684-687). San Diego, CA, United States: Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE). Retrieved April 27, 2022 from <https://www.learntechlib.org/primary/p/220812/>.
- Webb, C. L., Barrios, A. M., & **Kohler, K. L.** (2021). Classroom Management, Lesson Planning, and Technology Integration . . . Oh My!: Ways to Cope With Online Pedagogical Practices. In M. Niess, & H. Gillow-Wiles (Ed.), *Handbook of Research on Transforming Teachers' Online Pedagogical Reasoning for Engaging K-12 Students in Virtual Learning* (pp. 583-603). IGI Global.
- Webb, C. L., **Kohler, K. L.**, & Piper, R. E. (2021). Teachers' preparedness and professional learning about using educational technologies during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Journal of Online Learning Research*, 7(2). 113-132.
- Barrios, A. & **Kohler, K. L.** (2020). Unpacking cultural barriers in the secondary classroom using multicultural literature. *Texas Association for Literacy Educators 2020 Annual Yearbook*, 7, 19-23.

- Barrios, A., **Kohler, K. L.**, & Gerzel-Short, L. (2020). Shifting from involvement to engagement: Strategies for supporting families virtually. *The Texas Forum of Teacher Education*, 10, 24-30.
- Kohler, K. L.**, Gerzel-Short, L., & Hicks, R. (2020). Increasing family engagement: Using the "CAPs" strategy. *New Teacher Advocate* 27(3), 20-21. bit.ly/NTASP20v27

Non Peer-Reviewed Publications

- Alvarez McHatton, P., Moody, J., **Kohler, K.**, & Lisic, E. (2023). *BranchED Framework for the Quality Preparation of Educators: An Inclusive Instruction*. Peachtree City, GA: Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity
- Grotewold, K., **Kohler, K. L.**, & Krimbill, E. (2022). Pay it forward: Realizing the promise of OER for the next generation of learners. In C.J. Ivory & A. Pashia (Eds.), *Using Open Educational Resources to Promote Social Justice*.
https://www.ala.org/sites/default/files/acrl/content/publications/booksanddigitalresources/digital/9780838936771_OA.pdf
- Kohler, K. L.**, Barrios, A., & Gerzel-Short, L. (2021). Cashing in on family engagement: Using COIN during COVID. *Leader of Learners*, 15(1), pp. 3-8.
- Gerzel-Short, L., & **Kohler, K.L.** (2020). Blast off with formative assessments. In A. Quinzio-Zafran & E.A. Wilkins (Eds.), *The New Teacher's Guide to Overcoming Common Challenges: Curated Advice from Award-Winning Teachers* (pp.66-68). Routledge.
- Gerzel-Short, L., Miller, R., **Kohler, K.**, & Barrios, A. (2020, November). Shared learning spaces. *Difference and Disability Matters: Newsletter for the TESOL Supporting Students with Disabilities Interest Section*. Retrieved from <http://newsmanager.commpartners.com/tesolsswdis/issues/2020-11-05/2.html>
- Kohler, K. L.**, & Gerzel-Short, L. (2020). Hello, are you there? Strategies for communicating with families. In A. Quinzio-Zafran & E.A. Wilkins (Eds.), *The New Teacher's Guide to Overcoming Common Challenges: Curated Advice from Award-Winning Teachers* (pp.158-160). Routledge.

PRESENTATIONS

International Peer-Reviewed

- Kohler, K. L.** (2024, November 8). *Empowering future educators through chartering student organizations at hispanic serving institutions*. [Poster presentation]. International Conference on Urban Education (ICUE). Cancun, Mexico.
- Moody, C., Piper, R., **Kohler, K.**, Conway, N., Nichols, S. & Mudge, S. (2022, June 8). *Embracing diversity and social emotional learning in the elementary classroom through the arts*. [Paper presentation]. Hawaii University International Conference, Honolulu, HI
- Webb, L., Piper, R. & **Kohler, K. L.** (2022, April 11-15). *Teachers, students, and the pandemic: How do we move forward?* Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education 33rd International Conference.
- Piper, R., Webb, L. & **Kohler, K.** (2022). Teachers, Students, and the Pandemic: How do we Move Forward?. In E. Langran (Ed.), *Proceedings of Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education International Conference* (pp. 684-687). San Diego, CA, United States: Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE). Retrieved April 27, 2022 from <https://www.learntechlib.org/primary/p/220812/>.
- Gerzel-Short, L. & **Kohler, K.** (2022, January 28). *Culturally responsive formative assessments: The key to self-regulated learning*. Presented at the Learning Disabilities Association International Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Kohler, K.**, & Gerzel-Short, L. (2022, January 29). *Secret tips that help families engage with teachers*. Presented at the Learning Disabilities Association International Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.

National Peer-Reviewed

- ***Kohler, K. L.**, Valdez, A., Reynosa, J., & Salazar, M. (2024, July 1). *Experiences of first-generation college students: Creating, engaging, and growing a community through an edrising collegiate*

- chapter*. [Conference breakout session]. Educators Rising National Conference, Washington, D. C.
- Kapavik, R. R., Piper, R. E., **Kohler, K. L.**, & Mary, M. (2024, March 28). *Empowering student success: one department's journey towards accountability*. [Paper presentation]. ATE Annual Meeting, Anaheim, CA, United States.
- Espinoza, K. & **Kohler, K. L.** (2023, April 16). "Convivimos todos juntos": Building culturally sustaining gatherings for students and their families and community. In M. Boucher (Chair), *Cultivating arts integration in urban schools focusing on students' and communities' identity construction*. [Paper presentation]. The American Educational Research Association Annual Conference. Chicago, IL.
- Krimbill, E. M., Espinoza, K., **Kohler, K.**, Korver, J., Stephenson, K., Burgard, K., & Jozwiak, M. M., (2023, April 16). *Creating and supporting an arts integrated school in a culturally, ethnically, and linguistically diverse community*. [Roundtable presentation]. The American Educational Research Association Annual Conference. Chicago, IL.
- Krimbill, E. M., Espinoza, K., **Kohler, K.**, Korver, J., Burgard, K., Stephenson, K., Jozwiak, M. M., (2023, January 31). *Community and university partnerships designed to support campus arts integration*. [Panel presentation]. The Kennedy Center Partners in Education Annual Meeting. Washington, D. C.
- Gerzel-Short, L. & **Kohler, K. L.** (2021, August 2). *Connecting through culturally responsive family engagement*. Association of Teacher Educators Summer Online Conference.
- Grotewold, K. & **Kohler, K. L.** (2021, April 13-16). *Open education resources OER and pre-services teachers: Introducing education majors to OER – promises and challenges*. The Association of College and Research Librarians, Virtual

State Peer-Reviewed

- Kapavik, R. R., Piper, R. E., **Kohler, K. L.**, Mary, M., & Savage-Davis, E. M. (2024, October 14). *Supporting teacher candidates to ROAR: Responsible. Organized. And. Ready*. [Conference presentation]. CSOTTE, San Marcos, TX, United States.
- *Espinoza, K., **Kohler, K.**, Kapavik, R., Cruz, N., Castañeda, J., Valdez, A., & López, V. (2023, March 3rd). *"I Needed This Space to Be Successful": First generation college students starting their own student organization* [Breakout session presentation]. Teach Tomorrow Summit, Round Rock, TX.
- Kohler, K. L.** & Grotewold. (2021, March 11). *Changing the narrative with pre-service teachers: From copyright restrictions to creative commons permissions & OER*. Open Texas 2021, Virtual.
- Kohler, K. L.**, Barrios, A., & Gerzel-Short. (2020, June 16). *Engaging families virtually: A response to COVID-19 and student needs*. [Round table]. Texas Association of Teacher Educators Summer Conference, Virtual.

Invited

- Kohler, K. L.**, Piper, R. E., Kapavik, R. R., Mary, M., & Savage-Davis, E. M. (2024, September 25). *Data empowerment: Facilitating conversations around student data* [Conference presentation]. Branch Alliance Fall Convening, Dallas, TX, United States.
- Kapavik, R. R., **Kohler, K. L.**, Mary, M., Piper, R. E., & Savage-Davis, E. M. (2024, September 25). *Empowering student success: One university's innovative strategy toward accountability* [Conference presentation]. Branch Alliance Fall Convening, Dallas, TX, United States.
- Kohler, K. L.**, & Mowrey, K. (2024, February 22). *Proper Dyslexia Identification and Leveraging Education for Social Justice*. Learning Disabilities Association of America International Conference, Orlando, FL.
- Stephenson, K., Krimbill, E. M., Espinoza, K., **Kohler, K.**, & Ramirez, L. (May 15, 2023). *Community and university partnerships designed to support campus arts integration: Year one and year two*. The Kennedy Center Partners in Education Online Conference, Virtual.
- Kohler, K.**, Moody, J., & Smith, S. (May, 2023). Centering inclusion in curriculum. [Featured Talk]. Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity (BranchED) Transformation Center Convening, Virtual.
- Kohler, K. L.** & Kapavik, R. (2022, October 6-7). *Preparing educators to recognize the signs of abuse and neglect*. 3rd Annual Domestic Violence Awareness Symposium, Virtual.

Kohler, K. L. & Schmitt, A. (2021, October 18). *Sitting at the meeting table: How families and schools can advocate for children with LD*. Learning Disabilities Association of America Webinar Series, Virtual

Gerzel-Short, L. & **Kohler, K.** (2020). *Engaging Families/Caregivers in the Virtual Learning Environment*. Presented as a part of edTPA: Support for Candidates Completing the edTPA

GRANTS

Savage-Davis, E. M., & **Kohler, K. L.** (2024). US PREP. *US PREP*. **Funded \$300,000.00**

Kapavik, R.R. & **Kohler, K. L.** (2023). Educator Preparation Program Planning Grant. *Teas Higher Education Coordinating Board*. **Funded \$25,000.00**

Burgard, K., PI; Krimbill, E., Espinoza, K., Jozwiak, M. M., Stephenson, K., Korver, J., & **Kohler, K. L.**, Co-PIs; Janysek, M., Program Evaluator. (2021). CULTIVAR: Communities uplifting learners through imagination and vibrant artistic reflections. Assistance for Arts Education Program (AAE). *Office of Elementary and Secondary Education. U. S. Department of Education Grant*. Grand total award amount: **\$3,346, 265.00** *Funded, September 28, 2021*.

Grotewold, K., **Kohler, K. L.**, Martinez, T., & Kulka, L. (2020). Teachers as content and knowledge creators: Understanding tools such as creative commons, open educational resources, and fair use to demonstrate critical thinking and ethical technology use. Proposal award through Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity. (Funding requested \$6,000.00). **Funding awarded: \$6,000.00.**

SERVICE

University

2022-2023	Parliamentarian Executive Committee Faculty Senate Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Compensation Review Committee Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Faculty Handbook Committee
2021	Distinguished Faculty Performance Awards Committee
2020	Common Experience Committee

College of Education and Human Development

2024-Present	Lead US PREP
2024-Present	Lead Raising Texas Teachers
2023-2025	Co-Lead Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity
2023-2024	Co-Lead Raising Texas Teachers
2023-2025	Co-Sponsor & Founder JagsTEACH; Texas Association of Future Educators
2022	Policies and Procedures Task Force
2022	Distinguished Faculty Performance Award Committee or University??
2022	Chair Faculty Senate Elections Committee
2021	Core Team Member for Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity
2020-2022	edTPA Committee Member
2020	New Student Orientation
2020	edTPA Director Search Committee
2020	Co-Advisor KDP

Department of Curriculum and Instruction

2025	Chair C&I Lecturer Search Committee
2024	Assistant Professor for Science Education Search Committee
2023	
2022	Reading Lecturer Search Committee x2??
2022	C&I Lecturer Search Committee
2022-2024	Faculty Evaluation Committee
2021-2024	Faculty Senator
2020	Faculty Mentor
2020	Curriculum Committee

Education Community

2023-Present	Conference Program Co-Chair; Learning Disabilities Association of America
2022-2024	Trustee-at-Large; Celebrate Dyslexia
2021-Present	President; Learning Disabilities Association of Texas
2018-2021	Board Member; Learning Disabilities Association of Texas
2021-2023	Board Member; KIPP San Antonio
2020-2022	Reviewer; <i>IGI Global</i>

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Distinguished Faculty
COEHD Faculty Service Award
Outstanding New Student Organization
Co-Faculty Advisor of the Year (2023, 2025)
TALA

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Education Research Association
Association of Teacher Educators
Texas Association for Teacher Educators
International Literacy Association
Texas Association of Literacy Educators
Learning Disabilities Association of America
Learning Disabilities Association of Texas
Kappa Delta Pi

SCHOLARLY INTERESTS

Family Engagement
Tiered Instructional Supports
Literacy
Dyslexia
Teacher Preparation