

CURRICULUM VITAE
March 2010

NORA F. MURPHY

University of Minnesota

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Education

- In process College of Human Development and Education, University of Minnesota
Ph.D. in Education, Curriculum, and Instruction—Family, Youth, and
Community
- M.A. Research Methodology, School of Education, Department of Psychology
in Education, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, 2005
GPA 4.0/4.0
- B.A. Major: Studies in Education, Minor: Biology, Earlham College, Richmond,
IN, 1996
GPA 3.9/4.0

Employment

- March 2010 **Co-Director and Founder, Tombolo, Minneapolis, MN**
- Sept 2009-
current **Research Assistant, Dr. Yvonne S. Gentzler**
University of Minnesota, Department of Curriculum and Instruction
Development of an innovative new graduate program in Family and
Consumer Sciences Education and Family, Youth and Community.
- April 2008-
Present **Owner, Murphy Educational Consulting, Chicago, IL**
Murphy Educational Consulting (MEC) provides evaluation, data analysis
and management and professional development for educational, not-for-
profit, private and public organizations. Current projects include a
literature review on developing urban school leaders, evaluation of

literacy non-profit's impact of student achievement, qualitative analysis of written observations from an inquiry based evaluation, data analysis for a non-profit using multiple years of survey results.

Dec 2006-
May 2008

**Director of Assessment and Evaluation, Perspectives Charter Schools,
Chicago, IL**

Oversee the ongoing evaluation of student learning, school culture and teacher quality; Conduct extensive analysis of student assessment data for each school to provide information for developing strategic and professional development plans; Collaborate with leadership to identify program outcomes and measure and evaluate student learning; Share formative and summative data both internally and externally; Provide professional development for key stakeholders

2000-2003

**Regional Program Manager, Student Conservation Association,
Pittsburgh, PA**

Designed, marketed and implemented all aspects of an outdoor service learning program for urban high school students including developing program partners and managing the budget; recruited and trained participants, targeting urban youth of color; trained and supervised a staff of up to 26 people with a focus on cultural sensitivity, conflict resolution, risk management and technical skills development; developed a curriculum focusing on leadership, life skills, outdoor skills, career exploration and environmental education; created assessment tools, evaluated and reported the necessary qualitative and quantitative data to the organization, funders and program partners

1999- 2000

**Education Program Coordinator, Student Conservation Association,
Hawley, MA**

Designed and implemented environmental education aspects of an AmeriCorps outdoor service learning program including developing program partners, training 20 program members on environmental education and cultural sensitivity; developed a curriculum with members to be used with student in grades K-12, focusing on ecology, botany, environmental awareness, leadership and outdoor skills; created assessment tools, evaluated and reported the necessary qualitative and quantitative data to the organization, funders and program partners

Consulting History

- Dec 2004-
Dec 2007 **Evaluation Consultant, PI: Dr. Catherine Nelson,
Rochelle Lee Fund, Chicago, IL**
Work with the principal investigator to generate formative and summative evaluative feedback by: developing rubrics, performing classroom observations, analyzing survey data using SPSS and creating power point presentations or written summaries of critical findings.
- Nov 2006 **Research Assistant, High School Reform Literature Scan, Lead
Researchers: Bill Bickel, Catherine Nelson, and Jennifer Iriti
Pittsburgh Public School District, Pittsburgh, PA**
Work with lead researchers to: review academic and program evaluation studies relevant to urban high school reform, develop profiles of district-level high school reform strategies in comparable and/or best practice urban districts and synthesize information on design elements of interest to Pittsburgh's high school re-design team.
- January 2006-
Sept 2006 **Study Manager, Pearson Education,**
Manage a teacher-randomized control study, with baseline and post treatment assessment, designed to assess effect on student achievement, inform design improvements, and best practice methods. Duties include site research and recruitment, proposal writing, creation of training materials and data management.
- May-
August 2005 **Research Assistant, PI: Dr. Willa Doswell,
University of Pittsburgh, School of Nursing**
Examined the difference between sexual behavior intentions, peer and family attitudes towards sexual behavior and actual engagement in sexual behavior in control and intervention groups of middle school African American girls.
- May 2003-
January 2004 **Consultant, Youth Standards Project, Community Quality
Institute, Pittsburgh, PA**
Evaluated programs serving youth ages 12-18 using quality standards, observations, interviews and document analysis; reported results and formative and summative recommendations to lead consultant
- Dec. 2003-
Dec 2005 **Data Manager, Pearson Education,**
Developed the coding schemes, trained and supervised data input specialists, maintained quality control of data sets and met data analysis requests as needed.

Employment History

Spring 2005 **Instructor, Department Psychology in Education, Applied Developmental Psychology, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA.**

Lead instructor for undergraduate Research Methods and Practice course (PSYED 1007)

The purpose of this course was to develop methods that are particularly useful for professional work in psychology and education at the intersection of research and practice, with emphasis on purposes of research, observation and interview techniques and communication.

Spring 2003-
May 2005 **Graduate Student Researcher, Impact of the PA System of School Assessment (PSSA), PI: Dr. Suzanne Lane, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA**

The PSSA Impact Project's aim was to look at the impact of the state assessment on instruction and student learning. Duties included helping develop coding schemes for the assessment of: instruction, assessment and test preparation activities and open ended survey items; statistical analysis of data; assisting in the writing of research reports; managing databases; supervising activities of other graduate student researchers on the project

1997 - 1999 **High School and Middle School Math and Science Teacher and Advisor, Parkmont School, Washington, DC**

Developed engaging lessons, managed behavior, graded papers and wrote reports for at-risk students grades 7 through 12 at an independent alternative school; participated in the development of Individualized Education Plans for LD and SED students; organized and lead two week camping trips for New England Ecology and Coastal Ecology Classes; acted as an advisor and mentor to students on both academic, personal and behavioral topics

1996 - 1997 **Math Teacher, Thayer High School, Winchester, NH**

Successfully taught Algebra I and II to an underprivileged group of students in a rural school; founded, fundraised and led trips for a school outing club, founded school math club; acted as an academic advisor to students struggling with their courses

Professional Organizations

American Educational Research Association
American Evaluation Association

2004-present
2005-present

Division H - Research, Evaluation and Assessment in Schools
Special Interest Group - Research on Evaluation

Honors and Awards

Network Award for Excellence, Perspectives Charter Schools, 2008

Excellence Award for Innovation, Student Conservation Association, 2001

Phi Beta Kappa, Academic Honors Society, 1996

College Honors, Earlham College, 1996

Departmental Honors, Earlham College, 1996

Student Athlete Award, North Coast Atlantic Conference, 1996

Computer Packages

SPSS, MS Access, MS Excel, MS Word, MS PowerPoint