

The Educator Network

Distinguished Educator Advisory Panel
Temporal Dynamics of Learning Center
NSF Science of Learning Center



Doris Alvarez, was born in New Mexico but has lived in San Diego for many years. She is presently directing *The Educator Network*. Doris is a retired principal with over 28 years of teaching and administrative experience. She served as principal of Hoover High for 12 years and The Preuss School for 9 years. She received her BA in English and Social Studies from San Diego State, her MS in Counseling and Guidance from San Diego State and her PhD in Education from Claremont Graduate University/SDSU joint doctorate program. Doris has had an interest in educational neuroscience and its applications to the classroom for many years. However, translational research has been sparse.. The Advisory panel provides an opportunity to join the best minds in classroom instruction with TDLC scientists to determine how best to translate ongoing and future research to the classroom.



Ann Dee Baird has been teaching for 34 years, primarily in middle school English and Social Studies classes in the San Diego Unified School District. However, she did spend a brief stint as an English/Resource teacher at Hoover High, but because she missed her middle school students, she returned to Challenger Middle School where she has remained for 15 years. While at Hoover, she coordinated the school's writing program during which time there was a 43 point gain on overall writing scores. In addition she has supervised student teachers and interns for over 22 years. Ann Dee received her undergraduate degree in 1969 from San Diego State and her MA in 1982 from San Diego State. Ann Dee's extensive experience in middle school teaching will be a plus for the panel not only because she has an insight into the strategies that increase motivation for this age group but because she has consistently increased achievement for her students. In 1995 she was a runner-up for Teacher of the Year. She has received numerous other awards including Distinguished Teacher, Excellence in Education and The National Council Teachers of English Award for Excellence.



Janet Burton, a National Board Certified Teacher since 2007, teaches 2nd grade at Darnall Charter School. She received a BA in Liberal Studies from San Diego State in 1995, an MA in Education with an emphasis on Teacher Leadership from National University in 2007, and a multiple subject teaching credential in 1997. She has taught at Darnall for 12 years, served as a Lead Teacher for five and has been a Master Teacher for UCSD, SDSU and National University. Janet has a reputation as an excellent teacher with boundless energy and will be an asset to the panel.



Ben Daley is the chief operating officer and chief academic officer for High Tech High. Ben, a native of New Hampshire, joined High Tech High to teach physics as a founding faculty member in fall 2000. He is the second director of High Tech High. A graduate of Haverford College, Ben majored in physics and is credentialed in secondary physics and math. He has taught math and science in an international school in the Philippines, physics in a girls' boarding school in Washington D.C. and physics at Pomona and Pitzer Colleges. He has also coached basketball at Pomona and Pitzer Colleges. He earned an MA in science education at UC Santa Barbara. Ben also teaches in the School of Education at High Tech High. He is a reflective practitioner writing frequent blogs that encourage faculty dialogue.



Cinda Doughty is the Director of Darnall Charter School where she has worked as an administrator since 2002. Prior to that, she worked as a classroom teacher in grades K through 6 for 18 years where she earned National Board Certification. In addition, she has been a peer coach, BTSA support provider, core adjunct instructor at National University, and a writing assessment consultant. She started in the charter world when she was a founding teacher for the 33rd charter in the state. Ms. Doughty's driving passion is learning, whether it is student learning or adult learning. At Darnall Charter School where 85% of the students are designated as Title I and 65% of the students are designated as English learners she and her staff have increased the API at from 588 to 780 with seven consecutive years of growth. Data drives collaboration and decision making under her leadership. In addition, to her expertise guiding students and teachers to improve academic achievement, she is active in the area of district-charter relations, representing San Diego charter schools on the district charter leader advisory council for the past four years. She has actively participated writing or renewing three charters. Ms. Doughty is an experienced teacher and administrator coach with over 100 hours of training and 10 years of practice.



Kerry Ensberg, an elementary teacher with over eight years of teaching experience, was born in San Diego and received her undergraduate degree in English from UCLA. After working in the publishing industry for several years, she completed her Multiple-Subject/CLAD credential at San Diego State. She received her MA in Teaching and Learning from UCSD in 2004. She has taught in Title One schools in San Diego Unified School District. She is currently a 3rd grade GATE/cluster teacher at Darnall Charter School where she is a member of school's Instructional Leadership Team, Programs Committee and School Capacity Committee. She is interested in curriculum differentiation and in finding ways to meet the needs of all students.

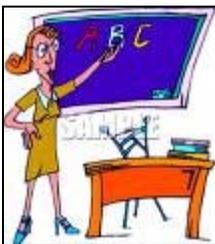


Phil Ensberg was born in Connecticut and has lived in California since 1975. He has 14 years of experience and presently teaches middle school English and high school yearbook at The Preuss School UCSD. Phil holds a B.A. in English Literature from Cal Lutheran, an M.A. in Teaching and Learning from UCSD and is currently working on his Ed.D. in Teaching and Learning at UCSD. He also is certified to teach Social Studies and Art in California. In 2005, Phil was recognized as the Middle School Teacher of the Year for the San Diego Unified School District and was a finalist for the San Diego County Teacher of the Year Award. In 2006 he received the National Teacher/Administrator Award from the Freedom's Foundation in Valley Forge.

Phil believes that assessment is a powerful tool to drive instruction and has done research in this area. He is also interested in research that would assist in addressing the achievement gap between lower SES students and their more affluent peers.



Tom Fehrenbacher has been teaching for over twenty years. He grew up in Eastern Oregon and received his undergraduate degree in Psychology from the University of Notre Dame. After graduation, he served as a Peace Corp volunteer in West Africa. When he returned, he worked for awhile and then went back to school to complete a Masters in Anthropology from San Diego State University. He then entered SDSU's credential program which led to working the next fourteen years at Hoover High School. In 2003, Tom joined the faculty of High Tech High, where he is currently teaching 11th Grade Humanities and Sociology. His passionate commitment to excellent teaching and project based learning is evident in the quality of student work produced under his guidance. Tom is a member of an interdisciplinary team of humanities, biology and math teachers whose students have produced and published a book of their work for the past five years. "By integrating curriculum a more meaningful context unfolds for each discipline. The books themselves bring authenticity, while their chapters and components allow student choice. Using (Ron Berger inspired) critique sessions to make decisions and improve student submissions furthers the constructivist classroom."



Sally Fox has been serving as a coordinator in the English Learner and Support Services unit of the Learning Resources and Educational Technology division of the San Diego County Office of Education since September of 2006. Additionally, she serves as an adjunct professor of education at InterAmerican College in National City. From 2001 to 2006, she was the lead resource teacher for La Mesa-Spring Valley School District's English Learner Program, At SDCOE, her focus is now professional development in the areas of English learners and world languages.

She began her career in education in 1991 and spent ten years at South Bay Union School District, first as a bilingual 3rd grade teacher at Oneonta, then as a Title I resource teacher at Nestor School, and finally as a teacher on special assignment in charge of the launching of the Gift of Time of before- and after-school program as part of the State's After School Learning and Safe Neighborhoods Partnership grant.

Sally earned a BA with a major in French literature and minor in linguistics (with highest honors) from SDSU in 1977, did her teaching credential work at Chapman University in 1990, and earned her educational administrative credential at California State University, San Marcos in 2000. She completed a master's degree in education at CSU San Marcos in June 2001.



Ryan Gallagher has been teaching math and science in the High Tech Middle organization for six years. He recently helped to start High Tech Middle in North County. He graduated with a BS in Biology and BA in Philosophy from UCSD and received his teaching credential from San Diego State. He is currently working on his Masters degree in School Leadership at the High Tech Graduate School of Education. Ryan is in a unique position to describe translational research as research of this nature is currently taking place in his classroom. Working with Terry Jernigan from TDLC, they are researching how the ALEKS math intervention program impacts the structure of the brain by looking at pre- and post- MRI scans for students using the program. Dr Tallal from TDLC is researching any similar effects with the use of FastForWord, a language intervention software. Ryan is also interested in bringing research opportunities to the school and to the HTH Graduate School of Education. Web-based and adaptive technologies are also an area of interest.



Rebecca (Becky) Gemmel has been a teacher at Escondido High School for 13 years. She has taught in the English and Performing Arts Departments. She received her undergraduate degree from Scripps College in Claremont Ca, her Secondary English credential from San Diego State University and her MA in Teaching and Learning from UCSD in 2003. While at Escondido High School she has served in numerous leadership positions including WASC Coordinator, English Resource teacher, Department Chair and On-site Supervisor of student teachers. Since 2001, she had been active in the San Diego Writing project and the California Association and National Council Teachers of English.. In 2009, she received the District Teacher of the Month Award and in 2005 the District "Lighthouse Award for outstanding leadership. On March 28, 2010, she received the District Teacher of the Year award.



Carolann Gladden is TDLC's Database Manager as well as prime Writer and Editor. Following a varied career including public relations and author, 20 years ago she relocated from Portland to San Diego. Here she served as Senior Developmental Editor of life science encyclopedias at Academic Press. The 4-volume *Encyclopedia of the Human Brain* made the biggest impression, and after Elsevier outsourced her major reference works group, she found her way to TDLC.



Sarah Golden has been teaching English at La Jolla Country Day School for six and a half years. Her background and experiences include teaching and coordinating ESL in the English Language Program at UCSD, co-founding a business that provided on-site corporate classes; working in International Schools teaching language arts, ESL and drama. Sarah received her undergraduate degree at Sarah Lawrence College in Bronxville, New York. A student who recommended Sarah for the panel calls her an amazing teacher with an ability to reach all students with her teaching. She brings extensive experience in teaching second language learners as well and the panel will benefit from her expertise in this area.



Kelly Hudson is a TDLC staff member and also provides support for Dr. Javier Movellan and Dr. Marian Bartlett in the Machine Perception Lab. Kelly primarily coordinates TDLC Executive Committee meetings and network meetings and helps to plan multiple large-scale TDLC annual events with other TDLC staff. She is the staff member to call for The Educator Network questions.. Kelly is a graduate of UCSD in Political Science and Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in Cleveland, Ohio.



Kenia Milloy was born in Venezuela and came to California when she was 10 years old. She has over 24 years of teaching experience, 11 of them at The Preuss School UCSD teaching Spanish and AP Spanish Literature and 14 at Good Shepherd School in San Diego. She earned her undergraduate degree in Bilingual/Bicultural Education and teaching credential in 1986 from San Diego State University. She earned a Master's Degree in Teaching and Learning from UCSD in 2004. Kenia's experience in language instruction and her novel ways to increase language learning at the high school level has implications for research in this area. Her passion is her students and her family and she has a keen interest in research on teaching and learning especially as it affects second language learners.



Carrie Pierce has been an educator for twenty-three years teaching math, physical science and physical education. She presently teaches algebra at Gompers Charter. She received her BS in Physical Education from Eastern Michigan University and a Master of Arts in Educational Administration from Chapman University She is credentialed in PE and mathematics. She has taught elementary, middle school and high school and served in various capacities as a teacher, resource teacher, department chairperson and mathematics coach. Carrie brings a wealth of knowledge and experience about classroom instruction to the panel. She embraces teaching as a life-long commitment and learns each day that she must make unique connections to every learner. She has received a Teachers are Heroes Award from Jefferson Pilot Communications and a Super Service Recognition award from the San Diego Unified School district.



Chuck Podhorsky is the Principal of Hoover High School. He earned his bachelor's degree from the University of California San Diego, his Masters in Educational Administration from San Diego State and his Doctorate from UCLA. in Education Leadership. His dissertation focused on Lesson Study as a method for facilitating. Chuck grew up in San Diego and previously taught math and physics. Chuck was a teacher, resource teacher and vice-principal before becoming Principal at Hoover. He believes in the power of community to reform and reshape education. Indeed, his focus on collaborative learning facilitated through lesson study is a plus for the panel's work together.



Carol Sobek is the Head Counselor at Madison High School. She has been an educator for more than 35 years primarily in the area of guidance and counseling. Notably she has been the Head Counselor in three high schools in San Diego Unified district: Serra, Preuss and Madison. In all situations she has achieved remarkable results in counseling students for college. She received her BA in English from Arizona State University and her Pupil Personnel Services Credential from USIU. Carol will be a strong addition to the panel because of her instructional and counseling expertise. She brings the two areas together and achieves significant outcomes for her counselees. She was recognized in 2008 by the California League of High Schools as a Finalist for Educator of the Year, by San Diego State University As Outstanding Counselor in San Diego and Imperial Counties in 2008 and Finalist for Educator of the Year by the La Golden Triangle in 2001.



Lauriann Stanley has been teaching for over 20 years. She presently teaches AP Psychology at University City High School. Lauriann received her undergraduate degree at the University of New Hampshire, and, her MA at San Diego State University in Liberal Arts. Prior to beginning her teaching career she was a social worker helping struggling teens. A Third-generation San Diegan, she was raised in Julian and taught in the school she attended as a student for over five years. She, thereafter, began teaching in the San Diego Unified School district. She has taught at Hoover, SCPA and University City High. Her passion for teaching is evident in her classroom repertoire of teaching strategies and her commitment to developing the most dynamic and interactive curriculum possible. The panel will benefit from her background in teaching AP Psychology to students, while having to develop innovative strategies for engaging this unique generation about the brain, awareness, and presence as essential components in the learning process. She most recently received a Unity in Action Award from the San Diego Coalition Against Hate Crimes for a project she developed engaging dis-enfranchised with community service projects, a garden project and simple random acts of kindness.



Deborah Wesner Deborah Wesner has been teaching for ten years and is presently a Special Ed Resource Teacher at Gompers Charter School. She graduated from Muskingum College in New Concord, Ohio with a degree in Elementary Education. She also received her Masters in Education specializing in Intervention mild-moderate K-12. She has extensive experience as an Intervention Specialist in a self-contained classroom for grades 11 and 12. In her past assignment she also directed, moderated and assisted students in competing at local, regional, state and national industry competition as a Skills USA advisor. SkillsUSA is a national nonprofit organization serving teachers and high school and college students who are preparing for careers in trade, technical and skilled service occupations. It was formerly known as VICA (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America). Deborah is interested in interacting with other educators and increasing her knowledge of classroom instruction.



David Weber has been teaching high school Math and Physics for over 19 years , 15 1/2 in Canada and the last 4 1/2 at The Preuss School UCSD. He was born and raised in Canada and earned his Bachelor of Engineering and his M.A. in Education (Math and Physics) from McGill University in Montreal. He also earned his M.A. in Educational Administration from San Diego State University before completing a PhD in Education at McGill University. David has been a TEN educator for two years and has been featured on the TDLC website. David comes from a family of engineers. All four brothers, father, grandfather and sisters in law are engineers. So while he can't say he knows what it is like to struggle in math, his experience has taught him to know where most students struggle. In 2008, David was a finalist for Educator of the Year by the La Jolla Rotary.



Jacob Whitehill is a graduate student of computer science at UCSD and interested in developing automated teaching systems. For his dissertation he is developing an automatic algebra tutor for middle school students that uses facial expression recognition technology and stochastic optimal control theory to make teaching decisions. After graduating from Stanford in 2001, Jake worked in Switzerland for two years as a software engineer. Thereafter, he became a college lecturer of computer science in South Africa and later Rwanda. In 2005, he moved to San Diego to pursue his PhD in computer science. In addition to pursuing his research, he also volunteers as a mathematics tutor at the Preuss School and at Reflections, a school for juvenile offenders.