

JENNIFER R. VACCA

Educator & Professional Development Facilitator

CONTACT

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REFERENCES

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English Program Supervisor

EDUCATION

Emerson College, Boston, MA—M.A. Publishing & Writing, 2005

University of St. Thomas, Houston, TX—B.A. English; minor, philosophy, 2002

TEACHING & ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Interim Adjunct Academy Director, Houston Community College, Houston, TX—2018-20

The HCC Adjunct Academy is a year-long, faculty-led, adjunct-specific interdisciplinary professional development program comprised of six workshops and two summits

- Graduated 130 HCC adjunct participants representing more than 30 programs
- Managed five (18-19)—six (19-20) cohorts and four (18-19)—six facilitators (19-20)
- Managed 66 four-hour workshops
- Organized four five-hour summits
- Managed near \$40,000 budget per year

English Instructor, Faculty, Houston Community College, Houston, TX—2009-Present

80 Sections taught

- 25 ENGL 1301, Composition I
- 34 ENGL 1302, Composition II
- 4 ENGL 2327, American Literature I
- 9 ENGL 2328, American Literature II
- 8 ENGL 2307/8, Creative Writing I & II

Additional roles & positions

- Katy Creative Faculty Advisor, 2011-2019
- Adjunct Academy Primary Facilitator & Trainer, 2015-17
- CPC-ISD Partnership Coordinator & Liaison, 2015-17
- NW Adjunct Academy Program Director, 2012-2014

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Account Executive, 20K Group, LLC, Houston, TX—2005-2009

20K Group, a Houston-based communications firm, provided a wide array of services

Clients included, not limited to:

- Baylor College of Medicine
- Contemporary Arts Museum Houston
- Devon Energy Corporation
- Houston Habitat for Humanity
- Oprah Winfrey Foundation
- Harpo Productions

Project assignment areas, not limited to:

- Writing and editing: media, web, and internal and external communications
- Interview and presentation training
- Media relations planning and execution
- Event management
- Event photography
- National and local news monitoring

AWARDS

2016 NISOD Excellence Award Recipient

TRAINING CERTIFICATIONS

Digital Storytelling Facilitator Training, StoryCenter, HCC Spring Branch Campus, 20-24 May 2019

Mental Health First Aid USA Certification, National Council for Behavioral Health, HCC District, 15 May 2019

Digital Storytelling Training Workshop, StoryCenter, HCC Northeast Campus, 8-10 April 2015

COMMITTEES

HCC Faculty Senate, Senator-At-Large, 2018-Present

HCC English Department, Professional Development Committee, 2016-present

HCC NW Student Awards, NW English Selection Committee, 2016 and 2018

TX House Bill 5, CPC-ISD Partnership Coordinator & Liaison, 2015-17

EVENTS & CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

Adjunct Academy 2018-19 Graduation Celebration, 2 May 2019, HCC West Houston Institute, Houston, TX. Primary Organizer.

Getting It Together: Life, Tech, and Real Solutions—HCC English & Affiliated Programs Retreat, 21 June 2018, HCC Alief-Hayes Campus, Houston, TX. Primary Organizer.

Adjunct Academy 2017-18 Graduation Celebration, 24 April 2018, HCC West Loop Campus, Houston, TX. Event Co-Organizer with Michael Ronan and Nicole Zaza.

Adjunct Academy 2016-17 Graduation Celebration, 27 April 2017, The Black Labrador, Houston, TX. Event Co-Organizer with Michael Ronan.

HCC 2017 College Readiness Summit: Building the Bridge to Student Success. 8 Feb. 2017. HCC West Loop Campus, Houston, TX. Primary Organizer.

Partners in Student Success, College Readiness Summit: A Look at College Preparatory Courses in English Language Arts & Mathematics, 2 March 2016, HCC West Loop Campus, Houston, TX. Primary Organizer.

HCC NW English Department Adjunct Faculty Retreat, 18 June 2015, Lora Jean Kilroy Visitor and Education Center at Bayou Bend, Houston, TX. Retreat Co-Organizer with Dr. Eva Foster and Michael Ronan.

Operation Swordfish: Just Keep Swimming! HCC NW English Department Faculty Retreat, 20-22 May 2015. Tremont Hotel, Galveston, TX. Retreat Co-Organizer with Dr. Eva Foster and Michael Ronan.

PRESENTATIONS, PANELS, & WORKSHOPS

ACCEPTED/**EVENT CANCELLED**: Vacca, Jennifer R. et al. Presenter and Facilitator. "Want an Equitable and Inclusive Learning Environment? Don't Forget Adjuncts! How to Galvanize Adjunct Morale." NISOD: International Conference on Teaching and Excellence. 26 May 2020.

Cirillo, Jane, Parish Conkling, Nausheen Pasha-Zaidi, Jennifer R. Vacca. Presenters. "'O Adjunct! My Adjunct!'" HCC Faculty Conference, 7 March 2020, Westin Houston Memorial City Hotel, Houston, TX. Conference Presentation.

Higdon, Stacey and Jennifer R. Vacca. Presenters and Facilitators. "Where do ideas come from and how to nourish them." Comicpalooza, 11 May 2019, George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston, TX. Conference Presentation.

Higdon, Stacey, Melinda Mejia, and Jennifer R. Vacca. Presenters. "Shaping Student Voice—through Digital Storytelling Projects." HCC The Digital Classroom: Humanities, Literature & Composition: Spring 2019 English & Humanities Colloquium, 30 March 2019, HCC Central Campus, Houston, TX. Conference Presentation.

Cirillo, Jane, Remya Mohanraj, Victoria Mujahid, Jennifer R. Vacca, and Laura Williamson. Presenters. "Adjunct Success=Student Success." HCC Faculty Conference, 22 March 2019, Westin Houston Memorial City Hotel, Houston, TX. Conference Presentation.

Victoria Mujahid, George Oti, Jennifer Vacca. Panelists. "Humor & The Composition Classroom: A Potent Tool in Pedagogy." Writing in the Real World English Department Conference. 30 Nov. 2018. HCC South Campus-Willie Gay Hall, Houston, TX. Conference Presentation.

Miller-Waters, Melissa, and Jennifer R. Vacca. Facilitators. "Design Thinking Workshop: Design 2019-19 Adjunct Support Initiative." Getting It Together: Life, Tech, and Real Solutions—HCC English & Affiliated Programs Retreat, 21 June 2018, HCC Alief-Hayes Campus, Houston, TX. Conference Workshop.

Ronan, Michael, and Jennifer R. Vacca. Presenters and Panelists. "Organically Grow Instructors: Adjunct Professional Development & Mirrored Pedagogy." Innovations 2018. 19 March 2018. Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center, National Harbor, MD. Conference Presentation.

Higdon, Stacey and Jennifer R. Vacca. Presenters. "Buy Me! The Ad & Rhetorical Analysis—Intersection of the Classroom & Student Life, a Path to Student Success." R.A.I.S.E.—English Faculty Retreat, 15 June 2017. Conference Presentation.

Ronan, Michael, and Jennifer R. Vacca. Presenters & Panelists. "Growing the Next Generation of Five-Star Instructors: Adjunct Professional Development and Mirrored Pedagogy." NISOD: International Conference on Teaching and Excellence, 29 May 2017, Hilton, Austin, TX. Conference Presentation.

Lawson, Mary, Desmond Lewis, and Jennifer R. Vacca. Panelists. "From Critical Reading to Analytical Writing." HCC 2017 College Readiness Summit: Building the Bridge to Student Success. 8 Feb. 2017. HCC West Loop Campus, Houston, TX. Conference Presentation.

Vacca, Jennifer R. Presenter and Facilitator. "Academic Integrity and Plagiarism." 2016 English Department Adjunct Colloquium, 16 April 2016. HCC Central Campus, Houston, TX. Conference Presentation.

Miller-Waters, Melissa, and Jennifer R. Vacca. Presenters and Facilitators. "The Student & The Text." Operation Swordfish: Just Keep Swimming! HCC NW English Department Faculty Retreat, 21 May 2015. Tremont Hotel, Galveston, TX. Conference Presentation & Workshop.

Boone, Katherine, Charity Ezenwa, Nichelle Puder, Katherine Tuttle, and Jennifer R. Vacca. Panelists. "Stories from the Field: ELA/ INRW Frameworks" A+ Challenge, 30 April 2015, Hilton University of Houston, Houston, TX. Conference Presentation.