**MARY C. DIXSON, PhD**

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**SUMMARY**

A collaborative and innovative leader with over fifteen years of experience in academic administration and program building, including management of faculty training and development, libraries, online learning, civic engagement, grants acquisition and accreditation.

**ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE**

**The University of Texas at San Antonio**

**Associate Vice Provost, Teaching and Learning Services**

December, 2016 – Present

* Oversee Teaching and Learning Services to expand opportunities for faculty professional development, course improvements, pedagogical advances, faculty recognition, and teaching innovations
* Increased faculty participation in development programs by 20%
* Articulate and implement strategic vision for faculty development programming
* Manage team of teaching and learning consultants and instructional designers
* Create and direct inaugural faculty learning communities on diversity and inclusion
* Oversee online training and resource guides for inclusive teaching
* Deliver workshops and trainings in instruction and learning, including best practices for face-to-face, online, hybrid, and large-lecture classes
* Create Development on Demand online faculty development platform
* Develop online instructional program for orientation and development of adjunct faculty
* Organize and direct university wide teaching conference
* Recruit nationally known speakers and campus experts
* Serve on taskforces for online learning, classroom technology, and strategic planning
* Provide communication support on strategic initiatives
* Teach undergraduate courses as assigned

**Interim Dean, UTSA Libraries,** July 2015 – May 1, 2016

* Direct operations of UTSA Libraries including 100+ staff members, and 14 direct reports
* Oversaw restricted and unrestricted budgets of over $12 million
* Hired director of development and established development program for UTSA Libraries
* Added 3,900 sf of study space in prime location by moving low-use materials
* Increased use of library chat by 30% and adjusted staffing to meet increased needs
* Increased library number of students receiving library instruction by 15%
* Increased computing capacity by 93 computers through university partnerships
* Developed OpenStax partnership to increase faculty awareness and use of OER
* Lead library strategic planning effort to be in sync with the UTSA 2020 initiative
* Draft SACS documents for five-year report and provide support for on and off-site visits
* Developed Veterans Study room with $100,000 donation to respond to growing need
* Developed graduate student support program to increase awareness of library resources
* Successfully led efforts to increase awareness and support of libraries from UT System

**Assistant Dean of Faculty Services, UTSA Libraries**, April 2014 – November 2016

* Direct operations of UTSA Faculty Services to support success in teaching and research for all university faculty
* Manage 9 scholarly resource librarians to provide instructional and research support to faculty and students
* Articulate and implement strategic vision for university-wide library instruction.
* Oversee Teaching and Learning Services to expand opportunities for faculty professional development, course improvements, pedagogical advances, faculty recognition, and teaching innovations
* Manage a state-of-the-art Faculty Center to create space for innovation, development and cross-disciplinary collaboration
* Evaluate and improving Student Learning Outcomes assessment associated with information literacy and student research skills
* Direct the development of first year experience information literacy strategies including face to face instruction, module development, and ACRL Framework curriculum
* Raised funds and developed mini-grants for UTSA faculty in the areas of OER, Special Collections and teaching innovations
* Develop Open Education Resources adoption program for UTSA faculty
* Implement Research Impact Factor and Identification project to support faculty promotion of research and scholarly works
* Teach 1 undergraduate course each semester
* Serve on Quality Enhancement Plan Steering Committee and course redesign team to improve quantitative literacy and meet accreditation requirements
* Provide support for library donor relations

**Dean, Interdisciplinary Programs**

**Northwest Vista College**; July 2009 – April 2014

* Directed library operations including management of faculty and staff librarian team.
* Developed strategic vision for transforming library information literacy programming into college-wide QEP
* Directed faculty development operations including: orientation program for new faculty, online development for adjunct faculty, faculty newsletter, and pedagogical strategies for improving teaching and learning
* Oversaw distance learning program and online course improvement initiatives resulting in a 15 percent increase in course success and retention
* Author and Principal Investigator for 5-year, $2 million Department of Education HSI Grant to improve learning outcomes for Hispanic students
* Lead and primary author for SACS accreditation process including five year report, QEP Report, and acting as on-site reviewer for The Commission
* Lead learning outcomes development and assessment for SACS and THECB core course development
* Developed learning communities initiative across disciplines to promote student success and retention, particularly in core to core courses
* Improved and directed college-wide assessment, action planning, and reporting using WEAVE Online system
* Initiated faculty advising program to support graduation and retention initiatives
* Developed and expanded academic programs including peace and conflict studies, service learning, learning communities, and international programs
* Taught online courses in the field of communication to ensure an understanding of distance learning issues faced by faculty
* Directed dual credit operations for over 3,000 students including managing school district relationships, supervising dual credit student success team, and ensuring high academic standards

**Annette Strauss Institute, Associate Director** August 2002 – May 2008

**University of Texas at Austin**

* Directed day to day operations of academic research and outreach institute
* Increased annual budget from $175,000 to just over $1,000,000 over 4 year period
* Developed, funded, and directed 7 educational outreach and research projects targeted at high school, college, and young adult populations
* Worked with research faculty to obtain grant funding including first-ever civic education research grant from Gates Foundation and only non-scientific federal earmark for the University
* Created college mentoring program in at-risk high schools
* Created scholarship endowments to promote graduate and undergraduate research and service in the public and nonprofit sectors
* Acted as administrative advocate for research faculty within university systems such as accounting, human resources, and office of sponsored projects
* Created and managed UT VOTES student civic outreach organization
* Acquired UT’s Office of Survey Research operation and expanded its research services
* Hired and supervised a staff of 14 project managers, researchers, and assistants
* Delivered national presentations to donors, grant funders, and associations to increase visibility of our work
* Conducted fundraising campaigns, development initiatives and grant writing to acquire both general and project specific funding

**NONACADEMIC PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Bexar County Performing Arts Center Foundation**

**Executive Director;** May 2008 – June 2009

* Directed startup operations for of $132 million arts infrastructure project
* Set up Foundation operations including location and negotiation of office space, technology purchase and implementation, initial architectural and engineering assessments and hiring of staff
* Oversaw team of consultants in site studies and needs assessments
* Created budgets and accounting systems to track income, spending, and payments by the County
* Wrote Case Statement, grants, development materials, web site, and press releases
* Ensured milestones and targets within the legal agreements with the County and City were met

**FACULTY EXPERIENCE**

**University of Texas at San Antonio,** San Antonio, Texas

1998-2000 and 2015 - Present

College of Liberal and Fine Arts: Rhetorical Communication Analysis, Small Group Communication Theory, and independent study

College of Business: Business and Professional Communication

**Northwest Vista College,** San Antonio, Texas

January 2012 –May 2014

Interpersonal Communication courses online using Blackboard and Canvas

**Trinity University**, San Antonio, Texas

August 2001 – May 2002

Political Communication, Rhetorical Criticism, Rhetoric of the Women’s Movement, Group Communication, and Public Speaking.

**University of Texas at Austin,** Austin, Texas

August 1997 – June 2000

Business Communication Internship course coordinator

**San Antonio College,** San Antonio, Texas

August 1996 – May 1999

Business and Professional Communication, Fundamentals of Communication, and Public Speaking

**Texas A&M University,** College Station, Texas

January 1994 - May 1995

Public Speaking

**EDUCATION**

University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas

PhD, Communication Studies, 2002

Certification in Nonprofit Management, 2002

Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

Master of Arts, Communication, 1995

Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois

Bachelor of Arts, Communication and Philosophy, 1993

**PUBLICATIONS**ORCID ID: 0000-0002-8747-1619

“Imagining the American People: Strategies for Building Political Community,” with W. Jennings and R. Hart. *Journal of Communication*, 53 (2002), 1-17.

“Constructing the Electorate During Presidential Campaigns,” with R. Hart, *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, 29 (1999), 830-849.

“A Review of ‘Civic Literacy: How Informed Citizens Make Democracy Work’: by Henry Milner. *Political Communication*, 04/2005, Volume 22, Issue 2

**RESEARCH and PROGRAM GRANT ACTIVITIES**

Principle Investigator and Author

Department of Education, Title V HSI Program, $2,081.901. “Innovista” (October 2010 –

October 2015)

Minnie Stevens Piper Grant. $5,000 “Investigation of Financial Literacy in a First Year Experience.”

Reviewer

U.S. Department of Education; Investing in Innovations Program. 2010

Managed with Rod Hart, principle investigator for the Annette Strauss Institute

* Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, $250,000, “Prepared for Democracy? Evaluating Citizenship
* Education in the Nation’s Schools” with S. E. Jarvis (January, 2006–July, 2007)
* Department of Education Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education, $85,000, “Civic Involvement in the Nation’s Schools” (May, 2005-April, 2006)
* Texas Council for the Humanities, $7,500, “Piloting the American Trustees Project” (January, 2004-December, 2004)
* Hatton Sumners Foundation, $435,520, “Implementing the New Politics Forum” (January, 2003–December, 2007).
* Dorot Foundation, $85,000, “Speak Up, Speak Out” (December, 2002–October, 2004)

**Peer Reviewed Conference Presentations**

“Emotion Trumps Logic: The missing link of empathy in change management.” Presentation to the LEAPS Conference San Antonio. The Association for Training and Development. September 21, 2018.

“Assigning Group Work that Works.” Presentation to the Lilly Conference on Engaged Teaching. February 23, 2018.

“Lecture is Dead: Long Live the Lecture.” Presentation to the Sunshine State Teaching and Learning Conference. February 16, 2017

“Academics on the Edge: Engaging Communication Theory and Research in a Dialogue about Work - Life (Im)Balance” Presentation to the National Communication Association November 22, 2014

“The American Trustees Program: Inspiring a New Generation.” Texas Council for the Social Studies 2006

**PEER REVIEWED CONVENTION PAPERS**

“The Rhetoric of Compromise: An Analysis of the Arthur S. DeMoss Ads,” National Communication Conference 1998

“The Sound of Annihilation: The Rhetoric of Popular Music in a Nuclear Age,” National

Communication Conference 1998

**HONORS:** Phi Kappa Phi; Texas A&M Trustees Fellow; Augustana College Presidential Scholar