

JUDITH SEBESTA, PH.D.

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SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Twenty years of award-winning, innovative experience in higher education.
- Expert on adult learning and competency-based education policy and practice.
- Fifteen years as a full-time, learner-centered faculty member, including online.
- Researcher, editor, and widely published author on innovation in higher education.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

President, Sebesta Services, Austin, TX, February 2017 to the present.

- Assist institutions of higher education with online degree program development.
- Consult with professional organizations, for-profit companies, and state agencies on issues related to innovation in higher education.
- Conduct and disseminate data-driven research.

Adjunct Instructor, Texas A&M University-Commerce, Commerce, TX, April 2017 to the present.

- Teach THE 1310 (Introduction to Theatre) online in the competency-based BAAS in Organizational Leadership program.

Founding Executive Director, Institute for Competency-Based Education, Texas A&M University-Commerce, Commerce, TX, December 2015 to February 2017.

- Engaged in, and published on, data-driven qualitative and quantitative research on competency-based education (CBE).
- Consulted with a wide range of state and national stakeholders on CBE policy and practice.
- Assisted institutions across the state with the development of CBE programs and led the Texas Consortium for Competency-Based Education.
- Organized and led workshops, conferences, and webinars on best practices in CBE program development and delivery.
- Participated in the national Competency-Based Education Network.
- Managed a \$1.5 million budget and managed/mentored personnel.

Director of Innovation, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), Austin, TX, March 2015 to December 2015.

- Conducted data-driven higher education research related to CBE, underserved/low-income and adult students, college completion, online education, and program assessment.
- Provided expertise on innovation to THECB leadership, divisions, state legislators, and other higher education stakeholders to achieve the goals of the state's higher education strategic plan, *60x30TX*.
- Coordinated and led professional development activities related to innovation.
- Prepared and presented research and data for board and committee meetings as well as statewide and national meetings and conferences.
- Participated in the national Competency-Based Education Network.

Project Manager, College for All Texans Foundation, Austin, TX, August 2013 to February 2015.

- Organized a series of conferences titled “Framing the Future of Higher Education” on the purposes of, and instruction and learning in, higher education in the 21st century.
- Conducted research regarding marketable skills to support the development of the goals of 60x30TX.

Program Director for Distance Education and Policy Analyst, THECB, Austin, TX, January 2013 to August 2013.

- Coordinated and reviewed distance learning programs and policy at public higher education institutions statewide.
- Engaged in policy analysis for the state legislature.
- Provided support for programs focusing on online education, adult learning, and competency-based education funded by grants from EDUCAUSE, the Gates Foundation, and Lumina.

Chair and Professor, Department of Theatre and Dance, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX, 2009-2013.

- Taught such courses as Introduction to Theatre (online), Theatre History, Auditioning, and Directing, and advised all theatre majors.
- Led QM initiative for evaluation of online courses within the department.
- Developed innovative online courses in support of distance education.
- Managed the departmental budget, with revenue generation from a variety of sources.
- Supervised all department faculty and staff and conducted annual performance reviews.

Associate Professor, University of Missouri, Department of Theatre, Columbia, MO, 2007-2009.

- Advised a diverse student body and taught numerous courses, including Introduction to Theatre (online and blended), History of Musical Theatre, Performance and Contemporary Theory, Ethics of Live Performance.
- Mentored and advised graduate students, including leading and serving on thesis and doctoral committees.
- Led edtech professional development activities for faculty.
- Conducted, presented, and published research on online learning and theatre.
- Participated in departmental, institutional, and national committees and associations.

Associate Professor, Director of Graduate Studies, and Director of Diversity Enrollments, School of Theatre Arts, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, 2001-2007.

- Advised a diverse student body and taught such courses as Research Methods, Professional Development, Contemporary Trends in Theatre, Ritual and Performance in World Cultures, European Theatre History, and History of Musical Theatre.
- Mentored and advised graduate students, including leading and serving on thesis and doctoral committees.
- Conducted, presented, and published research on theatre.
- Led initiatives to increase diversity of student body.
- Participated in departmental, institutional, and national committees and associations.

Assistant Professor, Department of Theatre, University of Evansville, Evansville, IN, 1997-2001.

- Advised students and taught such courses as Theatre History, Introduction to Theatre, Cinema Studies, Dramatic Literature, Non-Western Theatre, World Cultures, Women's Studies, Seminar on Frank Lloyd Wright, Seminar on Biotechnology and the Humanities.
- Conducted, presented, and published research on theatre.
- Led the university honors program.
- Participated in departmental, institutional, and national committees and associations.

RECENT/FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

"Right on the Money: CBE Student Satisfaction and Post-Graduation Outcomes." Forthcoming in *Journal of Competency-Based Education*, 2017.

"5 questions to ask when starting a CBE program." *eCampus News*. February 1, 2017. <http://www.ecampusnews.com/alternative-pathways/5-questions-cbe-program/>

"Competency-Based Education: Saving Students Time & Money in Texas." With Carlos Rivers. *The EDUCAUSE Review*. Dec. 12, 2016. <http://er.educause.edu/articles/2016/12/competency-based-education-saving-students-time-and-money>

"A Manifesto for Building Bridges Between EdTech and Higher Ed." *The EvoLLLution*. November 1, 2016. http://evollution.com/managing-institution/higher_ed_business/a-manifesto-for-building-bridges-between-edtech-and-higher-ed/

"Competency-Based Education and Predictive Analytics: Learning from Transfers." With Carlos Rivers. *The EDUCAUSE Review*. July 11, 2016. <http://er.educause.edu/articles/2016/7/competency-based-education-and-predictive-analytics-learning-from-transfers>

"A Topography of Texas Competency-Based Education Today." *Journal of Competency-Based Education*, 1(2) 2016. <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/cbe2.1014/full>

"One Graduate's Elusive Achievement: Thanks to Competency-Based Education." *Frontiers Blog*. WICHE Cooperative for Educational Technology. May 2016. <https://wcetfrontiers.org/2016/05/11/one-graduate-and-cbe/>

SELECTED AWARDS

Extraordinary Service Award, Competency-Based Education Network, 2016
University Excellence in Teaching with Technology Award, University of Missouri, 2009
College of Fine Arts Outstanding Teacher of the Year, University of Arizona, 2006
Outstanding Professor of the Year, University of Evansville, 2000

EDUCATION

Certified DACUM Facilitator, The Ohio State University, 2016
Certificate in Nonprofit Management, The University of Texas at Austin, 2015
Ph.D. in Theatre History & Criticism, The University of Texas at Austin, 1997
M.S. in Theatre Studies, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL, 1991
B.A. in Communication Arts, Austin College, Sherman, TX, 1988