

Melissa L. Burgess
Literacy Specialist
Department of Language Literacy and Special Populations
College of Education

Degrees Earned

M. Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction, University of Missouri-Columbia, 2007

B. A. in English, University of Missouri-Columbia, 2004

Professional Licensure and Certifications

BlackBoard and WebCT Online Certification

Missouri Certification for teaching English, 9-12

Peer-Review Publications and Artistic Performances/Exhibitions

Burgess, M. L. & Caverly, D. C. (2009). TechTalk: Web 2.0, *Second Life*, and Developmental Education. *Journal of Developmental Education* 32(3), 36-7.

Burgess, M. L. (2009). Supplementing WebCT to Enhance Critical Reading Among Developmental Reading Students. *Journal of College Reading and Learning*, 39(2), 9-33.

Burgess, M. L. (2007). Changing the Behavior of Developmental Students: Supplementing WebCT tools, Discussion Board and Chat, into the Developmental Studies Classroom. *International Journal of Instructional Technology and Distance Learning*, 4.

Onwuegbuzie, A. J., & Burgess, M. (in press). Mixed methods research. In G. Ritzer (Ed.), *The Concise Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishing.

Funded External Grants

Burgess, M. L. (Primary Investigator), McCauley, J. (Co-PI), Fazarro, D. (Co-PI), Keren, N., & Stevens, A. (in process). *Developmental Readers as Digital Natives: Exploring Optimal Experience in Second Life*. Institute of Education Sciences (IES), \$800,000, Educational Technology Program, (2009-2013)

Bustamante, Rebecca (PI) and Melissa Burgess (Consultant), *Using Virtual Learning Environments to Develop Global Social Responsibility in Educational Leaders and Pre-service Educators*. Technology Innovation Mini-Grant (TIM), Department of Educational Leadership and Counseling, Sam Houston State University, Awarded \$10,000 (2009)

Peer-Review Presentations/Posters

Burgess, M. L. (2009, May). *Second Life* Demonstration for Dean and Chairs in College of Education.

Burgess, M. L. (2009, May). *Second Life* Demonstration for Vice President of Academic Affairs, Provost, and Deans, Sam Houston State University.

Burgess, M. L. (2009, April). *No Avatar Left Behind*, *Second Life* Workshop for Sam Houston State University College of Education faculty and staff.

Burgess, M. L. (2009, March). Invited demonstration of *Second Life virtual environment*. Virtual presentation for Mid-South Educational Research Association (MSERA) board members.

Burgess, M. L. (2009, February). *Developmental Readers as Digital Natives: Exploring Optimal Experience in Virtual Environments*. Paper presented at the Southwest Educational Research Association (SERA), San Antonio.

Burgess, M. L. (2008, April). *Developmental Readers as Digital Natives: Exploring Flow in Virtual Environments*. PPT presentation for the Annual Graduate Research Exchange at Sam Houston State University.

Baker, E. A., & Burgess, M. L. (2008). *Matchmaking.edu: How to Make a Classroom Web Site to Support your Literacy Program*. Workshop presented at the 53rd Annual International Reading Association Conference.

Burgess, M. L., & Jessa, S. (2007). "Using WebCT in the Developmental Studies Classroom." Professional development for Developmental Studies Adjunct Instructors at Kingwood College.

Work or Professional Experiences

Reading Center Literacy Specialist, 2008-present
Sam Houston State University

Courses taught: RDG 031 Developmental Reading; RDG 383 Reading and Writing in the Middle Schools; RDG 385 Vocabulary Skills; RDG 492 Reading and Writing in the Secondary Content Area Classrooms

Doctoral Assistant, 2007-2008
Sam Houston State University

Courses taught: RDG 031 Developmental Reading; RDG 492 Reading and Writing in the Secondary Content Area Classrooms

Instructor, 2006-2007
Kingwood College

Courses taught: Developmental Studies in Reading I, II; Developmental Studies in Writing II. Course is presented with WebCT supplementation.

Teacher, 2003-2004

Stephen F. Austin High School, Fort Bend ISD, Sugar Land, TX

Course: Advanced English IV (12th grade)

Title I Assistant Literacy Center (Reading Recovery), 1998-2001

Webster Primary School, Webb City R-7 School District, Webb City, MO

Duties: Provided individual and small group instruction for first and second grade students struggling in reading.

Honors and Awards

Doctoral Student, P.E.O. Scholar Award Nominee, Philanthropic Educational Organization, Award amount: \$15,000, 2009.

Doctoral Student, Outstanding Doctoral Student in Reading, Sam Houston State University, 2009.

Doctoral Student, Doctoral Reading Scholarship Award, Sam Houston State University, 2009.

Doctoral Student, Doctoral Reading Scholarship Award, Sam Houston State University, 2008.

Other Competencies

Member, Editorial Review Board, *Research in the Schools*, 2009.

Member, Technology Education Committee, Sam Houston State University, 2009.

Member, International Reading Association, Technology SIG member

Member, American Educational Research Association, SIG member Applied Research in Virtual Environments (ARVEL)

Member, Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education

Member, National Reading Conference (NRC)

Member, National Association of Developmental Education, Technology SIG member

Member, College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA) SIG Leader for Technology/Distance Learning and Editor for the CRLA Technology/Distance Learning [Webletter](#), 2008-2009

- Microsoft Office Suite,
- Web 2.0 technologies, Internet, Blogs, Wikis
- WebCT and BlackBoard online course development and instruction
- Web page development (FrontPage, Dreamweaver, blog, wikis)
- Virtual Environment (*Second Life*) development, analysis, and implementation