

Resume

Dr. Steve J. Rios

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Overview

Offering nearly 15 years of experience as an educator, administrator, program evaluator and researcher at all levels (from early childhood to graduate education) of the educational continuum. Doctorate in education. Bilingual (English-Spanish). Currently serve as member of the Broward County Public School Black Male Task Force Leadership Team as part of my public service with Florida Atlantic University. Extensive experience in diverse communities throughout South Florida (from Palm Beach to South Miami). Long-time youth advocate.

Education

- Aug., 2008 **Doctor of Education, Adult Education and Human Resource Development**
Florida International University
Miami, FL 33191
- Dec., 1988 **Master of Science, Public Administration**
Florida Atlantic University
Boca Raton, FL 33431
- Dec., 1986 **Bachelor of Arts, Political Science**
Florida Atlantic University
Boca Raton, FL 33431

Professional Experience

- 1/09 – Pres. **Instructor, Research Methodology Program**
Department of Educational Leadership and Research Methodology
College of Education
Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL

Teach research methods, statistics, and measurement and evaluation. I work with graduate students to design quantitative and qualitative research studies. I teach students about Common Core standards and how to address the needs of ESOL, ELL and ESE students using universal design for learning principles. I teach graduate students to use SPSS and use SPS for my own research. I have published in educational journals using several types of research methods (qualitative, quantitative – descriptive, inferential statistics). As the college's representative to Broward County Public Schools Black Male Success Task Force, I work with the South Florida Education Research Alliance and District researchers to develop the evaluation of student success initiatives for Broward Schools.

4/06 – 12/08 **Director, Campus-based Programs, Program Evaluator**
Educate Tomorrow, Miami, FL

Developed all data gathering material, oversaw data input, conducted statistical analysis and presented results to Board of Directors and program auditors (national and local). Evaluated all Educate Tomorrow programs, including nationally funded mentoring program, foundation funded youth training program (camp), and on-campus staff training program. Helped secure additional year of a \$350,000 grant (the Children's Trust) through program evaluation activities. Directed a social service program that focuses on increasing knowledge and awareness, among secondary and post-secondary student support personnel, regarding the academic needs of youth in foster care.

6/05 – 4/06 **Director of Contracts, Monitoring and Assessment**
Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe, Miami, FL

Led a county-wide initiative to assess and improve the quality of early learning centers. Hired and trained more than 20 assessors. Directed multi-site program including contracts with county as well as two universities. Directed the development and negotiation of multi-million dollars contract between the Coalition and local governmental agencies. Directed and developed contract management and assessment departments with staff of 40.

6/01 – 6/05 **Specialist, Research and Test Development**
Department of Research, Evaluation, and Accountability
School District of Palm Beach County
West Palm Beach, Florida

Conducted ongoing research on effective educational practices. Helped develop psychometric measures, from conceptualization to construction, for assessment of students in grades 3-10. Also provided research support for superintendent's district and community presentations and directed a county-wide program that included training National Board Certified teachers on student-involved classroom assessment and coordinating professional learning teams throughout the district. Served as a trainer for district's innovation data warehouse initiative

1997 – 2001 **Accreditation Officer**
Office of Continuous Improvement
Florida International University College of Education
Miami, Florida

Worked closely with the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs as an integral member of the College's accreditation and program review self-study team. The college was among the first in the nation to successfully pass the performance-based review conducted by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Extensive experience in program evaluation, including development of wide variety of data gathering instruments.

1995 – 1997 **Director of Communications and Development**
Child Hope, Inc., / Christian Homes for Children, Inc.
Hialeah, Florida

Wrote and obtained grants totaling \$100,000 (Health Foundation of South Florida) to establish the Extra Mile Learning Center for children in foster care. Conducted foster parent training in Miami-Dade and Broward counties. For the center, established a tutoring program utilizing pre-service teachers from the FIU College of Education.

References

Randy Power, Manager

Department of Research and Evaluation
School District of Palm Beach County
(561) 434-8162
Randy.powell@palmbeachschools.org

Linda Blanton, Ph.D.

Professor of Special Education
Florida International University
11200 S.W. 8th Street
Miami, Florida 33199
Linda.Blanton@fiu.edu
(305) 858-3394

Bethany Sands, Director of Inclusion

Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade and Monroe
2555 Ponce De Leon Boulevard
Coral Gables, FL 33134
bsands@elcmdm.org
(305) 646-7220, ext. 281

Brett McNaught, President and CEO

Educate Tomorrow
1717 N. Bayshore Drive
Miami, FL 33132
mcnaught@educatetomorrow.org
(305) 374-3751

Research and Scholarly Activities

PUBLICATIONS

In Press

Rios, S.J., and Rocco, T.S. (Accepted for Publication, summer 2014). From foster care to college: Barriers and supports on the road to post-secondary education. *Journal of Emerging Adulthood*.

Brown, M., Rios, S.J., (Accepted for Publication, summer 2014). The effects of the Florida Ready-to-Work Program on TABE grade level equivalency scores. *Journal of Correctional Education*.

National Refereed Journals

Rios, S.J., and Reyes-Guerra, D. (April-June, 2012). Characteristics of teachers nominated for an accelerated principal preparation program. *International Journal of Adult Vocational Education and Technology*, 3(2), 35-46.

Rios, S.J.. (2012). Book Review [Review of the book *The Handbook of Scholarly Writing and Publishing*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.] by T. S. Rocco and T. Hatcher and associates]. *Adult Learning Quarterly*.

Delgado, A., Rios, S.J., & Roberts, N. (2006). [Review of the book *Philosophical Foundations of Adult Education*]. *New Horizons in Adult Education and Human Resource Development*, 20(3), 43-46.

Articles in Statewide Journal

Rios, S.J. & Nevin, A.I. (2009). *What do former foster youth say about their academic journey to get into college? Implications for K-12 education*. *Florida Educational Leadership*, 9(2), 44-51.

Manuscripts in Process

Towell, J., Sands, B., Sands, G., & Rios, S.J. (in process). *Budding Readers: A collaborative project with FAU, the A.D. Henderson University School, and the Karen Slattery Educational Research Center*.

Unpublished Scholarly Work

Ligas, M.R., Starratt, G.K., Newman, I., Mills, D., Hecht, Rios, S.J., and Ban, R. High school scheduling research: A review of the literature. Literature review created for Broward County Public Schools, February 8, 2012.

Proceedings

Ligas, M.R., Starratt, G.K., Newman, I., Rios, S.J., Mills, D., Hecht, and Ban, R. On developing a collaborative consortium between universities and a public school system: A discussion of the process, implications, procedures, and roadblocks. Presented at the 35th Annual Eastern Educational Research Association Conference. Hilton Head, SC. February 15-18, 2012.

PRESENTATIONS

National

Rios, S.J. (2012, September). The Foster Youth Academic Achievement Model: A Research-based Model to Understand and Promote School Success Workshop presented at Daniel Memorial National Independent Living Conference. Atlanta, GA.

Rios, S.J. (2012, September). *The Promoting Academic Success Community Dialogue: How to Move a Whole Community to Action* presented at Daniel Memorial National Independent Living Conference. Atlanta, GA.

Bartram, L., Towell, J., Sands, R., Rios, S.J., (2012, April). *Reading Buddies Cross-Grade Literacy Program: A qualitative and quantitative analysis*. Presentation at the International Reading Association 57th Annual Convention. Chicago, IL.

Ligas, M.R., Starratt, G.K., Rios, S.J., Newman, I., Mills, D., Hecht, and Ban, R. *Facilitating the link between research, theory and practice*. Panel presentation at the Barry University PDK Bi-Annual Research Day Conference, Miami, FL, February 25, 2012.

Rios, S.J. (2010, September). *The wisdom of our youth: Seven strengths for academic success*. Workshop presented at Daniel Memorial National Independent Living Conference. National Harbor, MD.

Rios, S.J. (2010, May). *Lessons from our youth: What successful former foster youth can teach us about academic success*. Workshop presented at the Daniel Memorial Institute national foster care conference. Palm Bay, FL.

Rios, S.J. (2009, November). *What do former foster youth say about transitioning to college?* Poster session presented (by Ann Nevin) at the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children, Charlotte, NC.

Regional

Rios, S.J. (2008, March). *Educate Tomorrow: A holistic approach to a national problem*. Training presented at the Casey Family Programs Breakthrough Collaborative Conference, Tampa, FL

Rios, S.J. (2007, May). *Helping school districts meet the educational needs of dependent and delinquent youth*. Training presented at the Child Welfare League of American Regional Conference, Baltimore, MD.

State and Local

Rios, S.J. (2009, June). *How to help foster children succeed in school*. Training presented at the Florida Foster and Adoptive Parent Association Annual Conference, Palm Harbor, FL.

Rios, S.J. (2006, Fall). *Meeting the educational needs of delinquent youth and students in foster care*. Training presentation at a district-wide workshop of Juvenile Court Contacts with Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Miami, FL.

Rios, S.J. (2009, Fall). *How to help your child succeed in school: The seven strengths model*. Training presentation for Parkway Christian School Parent Teacher Association.

Service

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION SERVICE

- 2010 - pres. **Faculty Advisor**, FAU COE Student Achievement Council (SAC)
Boca Raton, FL
- 2012- pres. **Member**, FAU College of Education Scholarship Committee

STATE SERVICE

- 2013 – pres. Member, College Coach and Independent Living Evaluation State-wide Working Groups, Florida Department of Children and Families
- 2012 – pres. Chair, Broward County Independent Living Post-Secondary Academic Success Collaborative For the Florida Department of Children and Families
- 2012 Member, Statewide Task Force on Foster Youth Post-Secondary Outcomes Measures For the Florida Department of Children and Families
- 2012- pres. Member
Miami-Dade Foster and Adoptive Parent Association
Miami, FL
- 2012- pres. Co-chair, Teen / Independent Living Youth Summit
Miami-Dade Foster and Adoptive Parent Association
Miami, FL

LOCAL SERVICE

- 2013-pres.** **Co-founder**
Florida Reach (statewide network of higher education professionals and child advocates promoting educational success among youth in foster care)
- 2012 - pres.** **Chair**
Florida Reach: Broward County
- 2010 – pres.** **Co-founder**
Florida Reach: Miami-Dade
- 2011 – pres.** **Founding Member**
South Florida Educational Research Alliance
- 2007 - pres.** **Mentor**
Educate Tomorrow Foster Youth Mentoring Program
Miami, FL
- 2009 - 2012** **Member**
Parent Involvement Communication Council
School District of Broward County
Ft. Lauderdale, FL