

BRUCE THOMAS YELTON

EDUCATION

Ed. D., Evaluation, University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky, 1992.

Graduate study focused in the areas of exceptionally effective schools, social and political interactions with education, survey research, and statistical modeling. Dissertation title: *A Causal Path Analysis of Effective School Variables*. Served as graduate assistant in the Department Foundations of Education assisting in faculty research and classroom instruction.

M. A., History, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, North Carolina, 1976.

Major areas of inquiry included Native American acculturation and conflict, anti-evolutionary rhetoric, and the colonial period in North American history.

B. A., Psychology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina, 1972.

Degree in psychology emphasized the study of child development and operant conditioning. Worked as a research assistant in early childhood social research, 1971-72. Received North Carolina Science Foundation Grant for study of conditioned responses in rats in 1971. Also studied intensively in anthropology and worked for North Carolina Department of History and Archives as field archaeologist during 1970.

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

2000 – Current

Graduate Faculty, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC; Winthrop University (2003-2005), Rock Hill, SC.; University of North Carolina at Charlotte (2000-2001), Charlotte, NC. Adjunct Instructor for graduate courses in educational research methodology and statistics. Instruction in qualitative and quantitative methods, descriptive and inferential statistics.

1995 - Current

COO, Praxis Research, Inc., Charlotte, NC. Contract research and evaluation firm. Projects include design of educational evaluation plans, early childhood program effectiveness, elementary curriculum assessment, and vocational/technical program implementation.

1993 - 1996

Research Analyst, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, Charlotte, NC. Researcher, evaluator, data analyst for various programs including: "Benchmark Goals" (academic outcomes accountability), "CMS Student Surveys" (annual feedback from students on the performance of their schools/district), "Alternative and Management Schools" (evaluation of annual goals) "Secondary Schools Profile" (analysis of middle and high school performance outcomes).

1990 - 1993

Director, Child & Family Program, Wake Forest University, Bowman-Gray School of Medicine/ N.C. Baptist Hospital, Winston-Salem, NC. Responsible for all aspects of the operation of an employer sponsored child care program and associated family services. Ages infant through five years, enrollment 280. Staff of 60. National Association for the Education of Young Children accredited. Guest lecturer physician education program.

1988 - 1990

Research Associate, RMC Research Corporation, Hampton, NH. Major project included the design and implementation of "Retaining the Benefits of Early Childhood Education for Disadvantaged Children". Served as deputy director of this federally funded national research with a sample population of over 1,000 school districts. Also served as Director of Federal Title III technical assistance Northeastern Region and worked with Title I technical assistance.

- 1987 - 1988** **Research Associate**, Kentucky Career Ladder Commission, Louisville/Frankfort, KY. Collaborator in research design/data analysis of Kentucky Teacher Career Ladder Pilot Program. Two-year project included work with 93 school systems statewide and collection of a sample of 2,440 teacher surveys.
- 1985 - 1987** **Graduate Research Assistant**, School of Education, Department of Foundations of Education, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY. Assistant in ongoing faculty research and grant preparation. Proctor for research methods (descriptive and inferential statistics) class and survey research class (including creation of SPSS database and analysis).
- 1982 - 1985** **Director**, Temple Early Childhood Education Center, Louisville, KY. Director of program operations. Enrollment 160, ages infant through six years. Staff of 35.
- 1980 -1982** **Instructor**, Rockingham Community College, Wentworth, NC. Instructor for college parallel classes. Also taught vocational education classes in early childhood education (children's literature, administration, science).
- 1977 - 1980** **Education Coordinator**, Rockingham County Head Start, Reidsville, NC. Responsible for teacher supervision, curriculum implementation, and evaluation for rural Head Start program.
- 1973 - 1976** **Teacher/Program Evaluator**, High Point Kindergarten for the Handicapped, High Point, NC. Responsible for data collection, student placement, and classroom intervention design.

RESEARCH PAPERS PRESENTED (Selected)

Yelton, B. T., Plonski, P., Minick, R., & Jones, J. (2009) *Using Ready Schools assessment results*. Paper presented at the National Smart Start Conference, Greensboro, NC.

Yelton, B. T., Plonski, P., Minick, R., & Rasberry, M. (2009). *Interviews, Assessments and Evidence Used to Evaluate "Ready Schools"* Paper presented at the National Smart Start Conference, Greensboro, NC.

Yelton, B. T., Morgan, G., Plonski, P., & Gilbert, M. B. (2007). *The long road of longitudinal studies: Learning what to Do and NOT TO DO along the way*. Paper presented at the American Evaluation Association Annual Conference, Baltimore, MD.

Yelton, B. T., Morgan, G., Brown, E., and Plonski, P. (2007). *North Carolina College Tech Prep Data Summary: 2001-2006*. Paper presented at the National Tech Prep Network Conference, Louisville, KY.

Yelton, B. T., Plonski, P. & Miller, S. (2005) *Measuring Student Motivation and Sense of efficacy in a Middle College Evaluation Project*. Paper presented at the American Evaluation Association Annual Conference, Toronto, ON.

Yelton, B. T. & Plonski, P. (2004). *Using appreciative inquiry as process evaluation*. Paper presented at the American Evaluation Association Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Yelton, B. T. & Edge, M. (2004). *Evaluating the middle college program*. Paper presented at the National Tech Prep Network Conference, Minneapolis, MN.

Yelton, B. T. (2003, October). *What business wants?* Paper presented at the National Tech Prep Network Conference, Nashville, TN.

Yelton, B. T., Smith, K., Gift, G., Lucas, B. & L'Orange, C. (2001, July). *Workforce development in the new millennium: North Carolina's economic edge*. Paper presented at the SERVE/CREATE National Evaluation Institute, Wilmington, NC.

Yelton, B. T., L'Orange, C. (2000, October). *Evaluation without smoke and mirrors*. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the National Tech Prep Network, Charlotte, NC.

Yelton Resume

- Yelton, B. T., Whitcher, A. L. (1998, November). *Evaluating the longitudinal impact of Smart Start*. Paper presented at the National Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Conference, Toronto, Canada.
- Yelton, B. T., Meades, K., Domoto, M., & Karvonen, M. (1998, March). *Two-way language assessment: implementation and evaluation*. Paper presented at the National Association of Bilingual Education Annual Conference, Dallas, TX.
- Yelton, B. T., England, D. K., Freeland, E., & Gilbert, M. B. (1995, April). *Tech prep: A four year perspective of design, data collection and student achievement outcomes*. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the National Tech Prep Network, Atlanta, GA.
- Yelton, B. T., Miller, S. K., & Ruscoe, G. C. (1994, April). *The stability of school effectiveness: Comparative path models*. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Schiller, J., Ross, G., Gilbert M. B., & Yelton, B. T. (1994, April). *Making accountability real: Establishing goals at the schoolhouse*. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Yelton, B. T., Miller, S. K., & Ruscoe, G. C. (1993, April). *School effectiveness across elementary, middle, and secondary schools: Comparative path models*. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Atlanta, GA.
- Yelton, B. T., Miller, S. K., & Ruscoe, G. C. (1989, April). *Path analysis of correlates of school effectiveness: Model comparison across elementary, middle and high school*. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Francisco, CA.
- Ruscoe, G. C., Miller, S. K., & Yelton, B. T. (1988, April). *The reliability of multiple, overlapping measures of school effectiveness*. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Education Research Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Miller, S. K., Yelton, B. T., & Ruscoe, G. C. (1988, April). *The meaning and variability of multiple and overlapping indicators of school effectiveness*. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Education Research Association, New Orleans, LA.

Yelton Resume

- Yelton, B. T., Ruscoe, G. C., & Miller, S. K. (1988, April). *Teacher attitudes toward career ladders and teacher evaluation: Relation to measures of school effectiveness*. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Education Research Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Miller, S. K., & Yelton, B. T. (1987, April). *Correlates of achievement in affluent effective schools*. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Education Research Association, Washington, D. C.
- Yelton, B. T., England, D. K., Simmons, E., & Miller, S. K. (1986, November). *Individual differences, grouping practices, and the structure of inequality: Practitioner awareness?* Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Evaluation Association, Kansas City, MO.
- Yelton, B. T. (1986, October). *Foundations in schools: A local case study*. Paper presented at the Foundations Forum, Louisville, KY.
- Miller, S. K., Koppel, S., Sayre, K., & Yelton, B. T. (1986, April). *School Effectiveness Structural Components Inventory*. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Education Research Association, San Francisco, CA.
- Yelton, B. T. (1985, November). *Early childhood education and effective schooling*. Paper presented at the National Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.

PUBLICATIONS

- Yelton, B. T., Plonski, P., & Morgan, G. (2006). What makes you think you're so great? Creating an organizational model for CTP Success. *Connections*, 16(5).
- Plonski, P. & Yelton, B. T. (2004). Capturing participants and programs. *Family Literacy Forum*, 10(2), 34-37.
- Yelton, B. T. (2003). *An advocate for change*. Charlotte, NC: Praxis Research, Inc.
- Yelton, B. T., Smith, K., Gift, G. & L'Orange, C. (2001). *Workforce development in the new millennium: North Carolina's economic edge*. Raleigh, NC: North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.
- Love, J. M., & Yelton, B. T. (1989). Smoothing the road from preschool to kindergarten. *Principal*, 68(5), 26-27.

CONSULTING

1996-2009

Career Preparedness Programs

Multiple evaluations of various aspects of College Tech Prep and JobReady programs in North Carolina including responsibility for developing the North Carolina Business Symposia in 2000 and 2003.

Report of North Carolina career preparedness research and recommendations (*Workforce development in the new millennium: North Carolina's economic edge* and *An Advocate for Change*). Aggregate reports of statewide CTP data 2006 through 2008.

Early Childhood Programs

Responsible for evaluation of early childhood initiatives in North and South Carolina ("Smart Start" and "First Steps"). Evaluations include programs to improve the quality of child care, children's health, board function and family services. Projects include:

- Development and piloting of a board effectiveness assessment tool statewide;
- Evaluation of the state Even Start program;
- Home Visitor Program Assessments in Mecklenburg and Cumberland Counties,
- Longitudinal program effectiveness studies in Mecklenburg, Region A, Randolph, and Union County's
- Needs/asset assessments in Chesterfield, Fairfield and Aiken Counties in South Carolina and multiple counties in North Carolina;
- Evaluator for the Kellogg Foundation's SPARK project in North Carolina (a five-year, \$4 million project).

Language Dual Immersion Programs

Participated in the evaluation of two language dual immersion programs in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (Japanese-English, Spanish-English) over a period of three years. Japanese-English program was unique in that it was the only program in the United States that featured

kindergarten immersion. Currently involved in the evaluation of the Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol program for Second Languages in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools and Title III evaluation.

Museum Education/Technology Programs

Consulted with the Mint Museum of Art on the evaluation of an educational program for fifth grade students in Meso-American culture, history and archaeology (Deciphering Information from Great Societies (DIGS)). Included assessment of computer applications (web site, interactive cd-rom).

Currently involved in the evaluation of the *ImaginOn* technology installation. *ImaginOn is a collaboration of the public library of Charlotte-Mecklenburg County and the Children's Theater.*

Family Support/Community Advocacy Programs

Currently working with the Bill and Malinda Gates Foundation's "Achieve Together" Project as program evaluator to assess the implementation of this community advocacy project in Mecklenburg County, NC.

SPECIAL SKILLS

SPSS statistical analysis
Remark Web survey construction
Remark survey software
Maptitude mapping software
OptionFinder audience response survey software/hardware

Able to communicate effectively in Spanish at a working level and collaborate effectively with individuals from a range of cultures and backgrounds.