

## ABBREVIATED CURRICULUM VITAE

**KATHLEEN TOPOLKA-JORISSEN**  
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**Director, Executive EdD in Educational Leadership**  
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### EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSES

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***Doctor of Philosophy***

Educational Policy and Administration  
University of Minnesota, 2000

Dissertation: *Becoming an Urban Teacher: Factors in the Persistence of Black Teachers Prepared in Alternate Route Certification Programs*

***Master of Arts***

Secondary Education/Curriculum  
University of Minnesota, 1979

***Bachelor of Science (with Distinction)***

English  
University of Minnesota, 1968

***Licensure—North Carolina***

Superintendent, Principal Grades K-12

### ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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***Associate Professor, 2011-present***

Western Carolina University  
College of Education and Allied Professions, Department of Human Services

***Assistant Professor, 2006-2011***

Western Carolina University  
College of Education and Allied Professions, Department of Educational Leadership and Foundations

***Assistant Professor, 2003-2006***

Bowling Green State University  
College of Education and Human Development  
School of Leadership and Policy Studies, Division of Educational Administration and Leadership Studies

***Lecturer, 2000-2003***

University of Minnesota  
College of Education and Human Development, Department of Educational Policy and Administration

***Adjunct Faculty, 2002-2003***

Winona State University, Winona, Minnesota  
Department of Educational Leadership

***Research Assistant, 1992-93***

University of Minnesota  
College of Education and Human Development, Center for Applied Research and Educational Improvement

**PUBLIC SCHOOL POSITIONS**

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***Principal, 1998-2003***

***Curriculum and Staff Development Coordinator, K-12, 1998-2000***

Kasson-Mantorville Intermediate and Middle Schools (enrollment 600)  
Kasson-Mantorville Public School District No. 204 (enrollment 1,400)  
Kasson, MN

***Assistant Principal, 1996-98***

Northfield Middle School (enrollment 960)  
Northfield Public School District No. 659  
Northfield, MN

***Assistant Principal, 1994-96***

Cambridge-Isanti High School (enrollment 1,385)  
Cambridge, MN

***Staff Development Coordinator, K-12, 1994-96***

Cambridge-Isanti Independent School District No. 911 (enrollment 4,600)  
Cambridge, MN

***Intern Assistant Principal, 1993-94***

Roosevelt Middle School (enrollment 1,450)  
Anoka-Hennepin Independent School District No. 11  
Coon Rapids, MN

***Interim Director, 1992-93***

Metropolitan Principals Academy  
Metropolitan Educational Cooperative Services Unit of the Twin Cities  
Minneapolis, MN

***Coordinator of Staff Development, 1979-1992***

Anoka-Hennepin Independent School District No. 11 (enrollment 38,000)  
Coon Rapids, MN

*English Teacher, 1968-1979*

Anoka High School

Anoka, MN

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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The nexus of policy and practices that affect **educator effectiveness and capacity building**

## PUBLICATIONS

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### *Journals and other periodicals*

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#### **Manuscripts accepted for publication**

Topolka-Jorissen, K., and Wang, Y. (accepted for publication in 2015). Focus and delivery of doctoral programs in educational leadership. *International Journal of Educational Reform*.

#### **Published**

Allen, A. S., and Topolka-Jorissen, K. (2013). Using teacher learning walks to build capacity in a rural elementary school: repurposing a supervisory tool. *Professional Development in Education*, 39, 1-16. DOI: 10.1080/19415257.2013.851104

Tonnsen, S., Alexander, A., Topolka-Jorissen, K. & Jacobs, J. E. (2011). Influences of early life experiences on the generative leadership roles of four female professors of educational leadership. *Advancing Women in Leadership*, 31, 34-39.

Buskey, F. C. & Jorissen, K. T. (2010). No more silos: A new vision for principal preparation. *Educational Leadership Review*, 11(2), 112-122.

Jacobs, J., Buskey, F., Topolka-Jorissen, K., Szlizewski, L. & Allen, A. (2010). Creating program transformation through a mantra. *International Journal of Educational Leadership Preparation*, 5(2). Retrieved from <http://ijelp.expressacademic.org/article.php?autoID=371&issueID=74>

Hershberger, A., Spence, M., Cesarini, P., Mara, A., Jorissen, K. T., Albrecht, D., Gordon, J. J., & Lin, C. (2009). The ripple effect: Lessons from a research and teaching faculty learning community. *Journal on Excellence in College Teaching*, 20(3), 145-173

Jorissen, K. T., Salazar, P., Morrison, H., & Foster, L. (2008). Instructional coaches: Lessons from the field. *Principal Leadership*, 9(2), 16-19.

Jorissen, K. T. & Edmister, J. (2007). A new core support tool for principals as instructional leaders. *Principal Navigator*, 3(1), 22-25.

Salazar, P. & Jorissen, K. T. (2007). The secondary principal: New roles-new preparation. *NCPEA Education Leadership Review* 8(2), 158-163.

Jorissen, K. T., & Edmister, J. (2006). Five steps to help teachers mine classroom assessment data: A roadmap for supervisors. *Principal Navigator*, 1(3), 16-20.

Jorissen, K. T. (2006). Three skillful moves to assessment for the busy principal. *Journal of Staff Development*, 27(1), 22-30.

Jorissen, K. T. (2004). Improving classroom assessment through effective supervision. *Ohio Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Journal*, 7(2), 4-9.

Jorissen, K. T. (2003). Successful career transitions: Lessons from urban alternate route teachers who stayed. *The High School Journal*, 86(3).

Jorissen, K. T. (2002). Ten things a principal can do to retain teachers. *Principal Leadership*, 3(1), 48-54.

Jorissen, K. T. (2002). Retaining alternate route teachers: The power of professional integration in teacher preparation and induction. *The High School Journal*, 86(1), 45-56.

### **Book Reviews**

Topolka-Jorissen, K. (2013). Review of the books *Coaching conversations: Transforming your school one conversation at a time* by L. G. Cheliotos and M. F. Reilly and *Opening the door to coaching conversations* by L. G. Cheliotos and M. F. Reilly. *Journal of Curriculum and Instruction*, 7(2).

Topolka-Jorissen, K. (2010). District leadership that works: Striking the right balance. [Review of the book *District leadership that works: Striking the right balance*, by R. J. Marzano & T. Waters]. *Mentoring and Tutoring: Partnership in Learning*, 18(3), 329-332.

Topolka-Jorissen, K. (2009). Sustainable improvement: Building learning communities that endure. [Review of the book *Sustainable improvement: Building learning communities that endure* by C. Mitchell & L. Sackney]. *Mentoring and Tutoring: Partnership in Learning*, 17(4), 387-389.

### **Newsletters**

Jorissen, K. T. (2002, May). Developing high performing middle schools: What can we learn from research? *Minnesota Middle School Association Newsletter*, 1-2.

Jorissen, K. T. (2002, December). Creating smaller schools: Reform or buffering? *The Leader*. [Online]. Available: <http://education.umn.edu/EdPA/licensure/leader/Fall2002/smallerchools.htm>

### **Book Chapters**

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Allen, A. L. & Topolka-Jorissen, K. (2011). Teacher leadership continuum: How principals develop and support teacher leaders. In E. B. Hilty (Ed.), *Teacher leadership: The new foundations of education* (pp. 165-174). New York: Peter Lang.

Young, M., Bryant, G., Creighton, T., Diehm, C., Drone, J., Ellena, D., Fede, H., Ferreira, A., Flanary, R. A., Jorissen, K. et al. (2007). Section 4: Implications and recommendations. In National Association of Secondary School Principals (Ed.), *Changing role of the middle level and high school leader: Learning from the past – preparing for the future* (pp. 31-59). Reston, VA: NASSP.

### ***Case Studies***

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Jackson-May, J. & Jorissen, K. T. (2010). The bumpy road to instructional improvement: Leadership that builds capacity to close the achievement gap in reading. In K. Henson, *Supervision: A collaborative approach to instructional improvement* (pp. 233-237). Long Grove, IL: Waveland.

### ***Proceedings***

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Jorissen, K. T. (2007). Professional growth models of teacher evaluation: How do they promote student achievement? In *Supervision and Student Achievement: Can We Make the Connection?* Staten Island, NY: College of Staten Island.

May, J. J., Jorissen, K. T., & Sanders, E. T. (2006, January). *The market ideology and the public good: The role of social justice in preparing administrators to meet the challenge and find the nexus*. Hawaii International Conference on Education, 2006, Honolulu.

### ***ERIC Documents***

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Jorissen, K. T. (2002, April). *Why they stay: Alternate route teachers' perspectives on their decisions to continue teaching after the induction period*. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, New Orleans, LA. ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED 466 457.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

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Topolka-Jorissen, K., and Brotherton, D. (2013, Nov.). *Redesigning a doctorate in educational leadership: The challenges of internal and external collaboration*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the University Council for Educational Administration, Indianapolis, IN.

Topolka-Jorissen, K. (2013, Oct.) *Preparing educational supervisors in Jamaica: Exploring goodness and effectiveness through multicultural lenses*. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual meeting of the Council of Professors of Instructional Supervision, State College, PA.

Topolka-Jorissen, K., and Wang, Y. (2012, Nov.) *Doctoral program course structures and delivery systems*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the University Council for Educational Administration, Denver.

Allen, A. L. and Topolka-Jorissen, K. (2012, Nov.). *Preparing school leaders in a rural context*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the University Council for Educational Administration, Denver.

Allen, A. S. & Topolka-Jorissen, K. (2011, Oct.). *Preparing instructional supervisors: The power of cultural context*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Council of Professors of Instructional Supervision, Aguadilla, Puerto Rico.

Topolka-Jorissen, K. (2011, Nov.). *Activist pedagogy as praxis for preparing school leaders: How leadership programs change schools*. In the session "I am not built for academic writings. Action is my domain": *Preparing ethical leaders for social justice*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the University Council for Educational Administration, Pittsburgh.

Allen, A. S., Buskey, F. B., & Topolka-Jorissen, K. (2011, Nov.). *Developing the reflective practice of ethical school leaders*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the University Council for Educational Administration, Pittsburgh.

Allen, A. S. & Topolka-Jorissen, K. T. (2011, April). *Teacher learning walks: Promoting sustainable learning using a repurposed supervisory tool*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the AERA, New Orleans.

Topolka-Jorissen, K. (2011, April). *Action research for social justice: Re-imagining a signature pedagogy in educational leadership*. In the session *Integrity, fairness, and in an ethical manner: Exploring ISLLC standard 5 as a leadership foundation*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the AERA, New Orleans.

Topolka-Jorissen, K., & Allen, A. S. (2010, Dec). *Building capacity through whole school teacher learning walks*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Staff Development Council, Atlanta.

Allen, A. S. & Topolka-Jorissen, K. (2010, Oct.). *Building bridges from classroom to classroom: Adaptation of a supervisory practice to leverage change*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the University Council for Educational Administration, New Orleans.

Allen, A. S., Topolka-Jorissen, K., & Wilson, E. M. (2010, Oct.). *Sergiovanni's metaphoric influences on practice*. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual meeting of the Council of Professors of Instructional Supervision, Austin, TX.

Hazi, H. M., Topolka-Jorissen, K., Stronge, J. H., & Munoz, M. A. (2010, Oct.). *Teacher evaluation as reform strategy: The fix or dismiss syndrome*. Panel presentation at the annual meeting of the National Evaluation Institute, Consortium for Educational Accountability and Teacher Evaluation, Williamsburg, VA.

Topolka-Jorissen, K., & Allen, A. S. (2010, Oct.). *Assessing the reflective practice of prospective school leaders*. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual meeting of the National Evaluation Institute, Consortium for Educational Accountability and Teacher Evaluation, Williamsburg, VA.

Topolka-Jorissen, K. (2010, May). *Developing micropolitical competencies through issue memos*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Denver.

Buskey, F. C., Jacobs, J. E., & Jorissen, K. T. (2010, May). *Beyond compliance: Assessing the ability of a principal licensure program to develop sustainable ethical leadership*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Denver.

Holt, J., & Jorissen, K. T. (2010, May). *Innovation in beginning teacher support: leadership to increase teacher retention and impact student learning*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Denver.

Topolka-Jorissen, K. (2009, Nov.) *Developing micropolitical competencies through issue memos*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the University Council for Educational Administration, Anaheim.

Jorissen, K. T., & Allen, A. S. (2009, Nov.) *Using teacher walkthroughs to improve instruction: A leadership and school capacity building collaborative*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the University Council for Educational Administration, Anaheim.

Allen, A. S., Szlizewski, L., Buskey, F. C., Jorissen, K. T., & Jacobs, J. E. (2009, Nov.) *Critical choices in educational leadership program redesign: Learning how to create transformation using a mantra*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the University Council for Educational Administration, Anaheim.

Topolka-Jorissen, K., & Allen, A. S. Bradley, T., Topolka-Jorissen, K., Allen, A. S., & Rhoden, C. (2009, Oct.). *The path back to excellence using peer walkthroughs: One school's plan*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the North Carolina Association of Elementary Educators, Raleigh.

Topolka-Jorissen, K. & Allen, A. S. (2009, Oct.). *Promising practices in professional learning: Teacher learning walks*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Council of Professors of Instructional Supervision, State College, PA.

Allen, A. S., & Topolka-Jorissen, K. (2009, Oct.). *What happens when teachers participate in classroom walkthroughs?* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Evaluation Institute, Consortium for Educational Accountability and Teacher Evaluation, Louisville.

Jorissen, K. T. *Effects of teacher learning walks on school capacity*. (2009, Oct.). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Diego.

Jorissen, K. T. *What do we know about principal evaluation? Research results and challenges*. (2009, April). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Diego.

Bradley, T., Bell, M., Martin, A., Owens, P., Jorissen, K. T., & Caram, C. (2009, March). *The path back to excellence using peer walkthroughs: One school's plan*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, Orlando.

## SERVICE TO EXTERNAL CONSTITUENCIES

### Workshops

*Executive EdD in Educational Leadership Orientation*  
Jackson Countywide In-service Day  
Sept., 2014

*Teacher Leadership and School Improvement*  
Workshop for candidates in Teacher Leadership master's degree  
June 21, 2011  
Mars Hill

*Introduction to Learning Walks*  
Workshop for math and Science Teachers Participating in the NC Quest Mentoring for Meaning in Math and Science Grant  
April 24, 2010

*Using Teacher Learning Walks to Build Capacity – Presentation, modeling, and guided practice*  
Swain West Elementary, Dec. 10, 2009; April 19, 2010  
Cullowhee Valley School, Jan. 25, 26, 2010  
Swain East elementary, Jan. 27, 2010  
Swain High School, Feb. 24, 2010; March 11, 2010

*Using Classroom Learning Walks in Mentoring*  
Workshop for new teacher mentors sponsored by SUTEP  
Sept. 30, 2009

*Using Classroom Walkthroughs in Mentoring*  
Workshop for new teacher mentors sponsored by SUTEP  
January 23, 2009

*Using Classroom Walkthroughs in Mentoring (Electronic presentation)*  
Workshop for new teacher mentors sponsored by SUTEP  
September 26, 2008

*Mentors and Mentees Learning Together: Using Classroom Walkthroughs to Inform Practice (with Chris Caram)*  
Workshop for Haywood County Mentors and Mentees  
November 29, 2007

*Using Classroom Walkthroughs in Mentoring*  
Follow-up workshop for new teacher mentors sponsored by SUTEP  
November 9, 2007



*Using Classroom Walkthroughs in Mentoring*  
Workshop for experienced teacher mentors sponsored by SUTEP  
October 5, 2007

*Using Classroom Walkthroughs in Mentoring*  
Workshop for new teacher mentors sponsored by SUTEP  
September 27, 2007

*Retention: How to Make it Work*  
Workshop for principals sponsored by the WCU School University Teacher  
Education Partnership (SUTEP)  
Cullowhee, NC., July 31, 2007

### **Consulting**

#### **Schools and School Districts**

1. *Critical Friend Support for Schools and School Districts*  
Brevard High School, 2010-2011  
Evergreen Community Charter School, Buncombe County Schools, 2010-2011
2. *Engaging Teachers in Learning Walks to Build School Capacity*  
Cullowhee Valley School, Jackson County, Dec. 16, 2009  
Swain County School District Administrators, Nov. 23, 2009  
Deyton Elementary School, Mitchell County, Oct. 28, 2009  
Martins Creek School, Cherokee Co., NC., March 2, 3, 2009  
Deyton Elementary School, Mitchell County, NC, Jan. 12, 13, 2009  
Yancey County, NC, Schools, Jan. 6, 2009  
East Franklin Elementary School, Sept., 2007-2011
3. *Implementing PLCs to Build School Capacity*
  - a. Evergreen Charter School, Asheville, NC, Dec., 2010
  - b. Brevard High School, Brevard, NC, Dec., 2010
  - c. Cherokee County Schools, NC, Nov. 21, 2008

### **HONORS, AWARDS, RECOGNITION**

1. Nominated for the WCU Taft Botner Teaching Award, Spring 2011
2. Distinguished Alumni Award, University of Minnesota College of Education and Human Development, November, 2010.
3. Nominated for the Jay M. Robinson University-wide Teaching Award for eLearning, Feb., 2010 (Western Carolina University)
4. Expert resource, *Promising practices for building an African American teaching force* (2008). Fairfax, VA: United Negro College Fund.
5. Nominated for the Jay M. Robinson University-wide Teaching Award for eLearning, Jan., 2007 (Western Carolina University)
6. Nominated for Who's Who in Education, 2007
7. Nominated for Who's Who in America 2006
8. Distinguished Alumni Award, Flint, Michigan, Central High School, May, 2005
9. Minnesota Middle School Association Leadership Award, June, 2002
10. Minnesota Administrators Leadership Forum Participant, 2001-2002

11. Bush Educational Leaders Fellow, 1996-1998
12. Minnesota Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Leadership Recognition Award, 1990
13. Governor's Commendation for Leadership in Staff and Curriculum Development, 1989