

Courtney D. Stewart

Department of Educational Leadership
Minnesota State
University, Mankato
115 Armstrong Hall
Mankato, Minnesota 56001
Phone: (507) 389-1116
courtney.stewart@mnsu.edu
courtneydstewart@gmail.com

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

- 2009 PhD
Brigham Young University, Department of Educational Leadership and Foundations, McKay School of Education, Provo, UT
Dissertation: *A multidimensional measure of Professional Learning Communities: The Development and Validation of the Learning Community Culture Indicator (LCCI)*
- 2007 M.Ed School Leadership
Brigham Young University, Department of Educational Leadership and Foundations, McKay School of Education,
Utah State Principal Licensure
- 2000 B.S., Conservation Biology, emphasis Wildlife Biology
Brigham Young University, Department of Plant and Wildlife Sciences

SCHOLARLY FOCUS

My primary scholarly focus is in school leadership and culture change. My current research efforts are in studying school reform efforts as an impact on culture and student achievement. A current reform effort for schools is the building of a learning community. I have worked closely with other faculty in developing and validating a comprehensive school culture survey instrument, which measures elements of learning communities based on existing literature in schools.

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2009-Present Assistant Professor: Minnesota State University
Department of Educational Leadership
- 2008- 2009 Adjunct Professor: Utah Valley University
Department of Education

- Foundations of Education Courses
- 2006– 2009 Graduate Research Assistant: Brigham Young University, Department of Educational Leadership and Foundations, with Dr. Joe Matthews, Dr. Ellen J. Williams
- Assisted in teaching Scholarly Writing, Education Foundations, and Instructional Leadership
 - Intensive research and scholarly literature review
 - Direct and facilitate Principals Academy with area partnership school districts
- 2006-2007 Principal Intern: Westridge Elementary, Provo School District, Provo, UT, Wasatch Mountain Junior High, Wasatch School District, Heber, UT
- Assisted Principal in various school duties, teacher observations, student discipline, and school organization.
- 2005-2006 Teaching Assistant: Brigham Young University, Department of Teacher Education with Dr. Skip Chilcoat
- Assisted in teaching Secondary Education History Teaching class
- 2004-2005 Integrated Science Teacher: Park City School District, Park City, UT, 8th Grade
- International Baccalaureate science curriculum
- 2004-2005 Part-time Faculty: Research Associate, Brigham Young University, National Science Foundation Grant with Dr. Keith Crandall
- DNA research with NSF Research Experience for Teachers (RET) Grant
- 2003-2004 7th & 8th Grade Teacher: Soldier Hollow Charter School, Midway, UT
- Environmental /outdoor place based curriculum for all core subjects
- 2002-2003 Integrated Science Teacher: Wasatch School District, Heber, UT, 8th Grade
- 8th grade science core curriculum
- 2001-2002 9th-12th Instructor: Horizonte Alternative High School, Salt Lake City School District, Salt Lake City, UT
- Biology, Physical Science, and Math high school core curriculum
 - At risk youth intervention, gang prevention, and urban education

OTHER RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE

- 2005-2009 Department of Educational Leadership and Foundations, Development and Validation of the Learning Community Culture Indicator (LCCI),
- School culture survey instrument based on 10 elements of learning communities as identified from literature
 - Validated using exploratory and confirmatory factor analysis and structural equation modeling
 - Administered nation wide and in many districts/ schools
- 2005-2009 Brigham Young University and Public School Partnership, Principals Academy,
- 25-30 principals participate in a two year study and training of professional learning communities
 - Consulted and facilitated instructional programs
- 2007-2009 AERA Campus Graduate Representative
- Liaison for AERA graduate affairs
- 2007 Washington Academy Public Charter School, Washington D.C.
- Volunteer consultant in helping an urban school develop into professional learning community
- 2001-2005 Park City Lacrosse Organization: Park City, UT
- Coach Varsity/ JV boys lacrosse team
- 1997-2000 Eco-Response Organization, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT
- Student environmental action and education for western states

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

University Council for Educational Administration (UCEA)
 American Educational Research Association Division A (AERA)
 Utah Association of Secondary School Principals
 National Staff Development Council (NSCD)

ARTICLES

- Williams, E.J., Matthews, L.J., **Stewart, C.**, & Hilton, S. (2008) The Development and Validation of the Learning Community Culture Indicator, (In progress)
- Escandon, B., **Stewart, C.**, & Boren, D. (2007) Teacher Attrition: Why do teachers stop teaching in Utah and what policies will encourage them to stay? *Utah Foundation*, Research Report Number 679, July
- **Stewart, C.** (2007) Vouchers: A Divisive Educational Policy, *Impact Journal UASSP*, 9 (3) June, 5-7

- Williams, E. J., Matthews, L. J., & **Stewart, C.** (2007) Defining a Professional Learning Community in an Elementary School, *Utah Association of Elementary School Principals* Summer, Summer (2), 3-6
- Williams, E. J., Matthews, L. J., & **Stewart, C.** (2007) What is a Professional Learning Community?, *Impact Journal UASSP*, 9(3) June, 6-11
- **Stewart, C.** (2007) Does Education Need Superman? *Impact Journal UASSP*, 9(3) April, 33
- Matthews, L. J., Williams, E. J., **Stewart, C.**, & Hilton, S. (2006) Learning Community Culture Indicator. Survey Instrument.

PRESENTATIONS

- “Assessment and Diagnosis of Professional Learning Community” National Staff Development Council Annual Meeting, Session Presentation, Washington, D.C., December 2008
- “Assessment of Professional Learning Communities in BYU Public School Partnerships” National Network for Educational Renewal, Annual Conference, Poster Presentation, Dallas, TX, September 2008 (invited)
- “The Development and Validation of the Learning Community Culture Indicator” Mary Lou Fulton Mentored Student Research Conference, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT, May 2, 2008
- “The Development and Validation of the Learning Community Culture Indicator” University Council for Educational Administration, Paper Presentation, Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., November, 2007
- “The Learning Community Culture Indicator” Mentored Research Conference, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT, May, 2007

COURSES TAUGHT

“Foundations of Education” Winter 2009, Adjunct Faculty, Utah Valley University, Undergraduate upper level cohort course for pre-service teachers

“Professional and Scholarly Writing” Spring 2008, Fall 2008, Co-Instructor, Brigham Young University, Graduate foundational writing course for leadership preparation program

“Personal and Group Leadership” Summer 2007, Instructor, Brigham Young University, Graduate foundational course in school leadership preparation program

“Foundations of Education” Summer 2006, Instructor, Brigham Young University, Undergraduate course for elementary education majors

COURSES ASSISTED TEACHING

“Instructional Leadership” Fall 2007, TA, Brigham Young University, Graduate foundational school leadership course for leadership preparation class

“Foundations of Educations” Spring 2005, Fall 2006, Winter 2007, Fall 2008, TA, Brigham Young University, Undergraduate course for elementary education majors

“Professional and Scholarly Writing” Fall 2006, TA, Brigham Young University, Graduate foundational writing course for leadership preparation program

GRANTS AWARDED

Research Grant, McKay School of Education, Continuation of Development and Validation of the LCCI, Dr. Ellen Williams, Dr. Joe Matthews, **Courtney Stewart**, \$12,600, Fall 2008

Research Grant, Center for Improvement of Teacher Education in Schools, Development and Validation of the LCCI, Dr. Ellen Williams, Dr. Joe Matthews, **Courtney Stewart**, \$12,464, Fall 2007

Research Grant, McKay School of Education, Graduate Research Student funding \$4,480, January 2007

Research Grant, Mentored Undergraduate Research, \$6,770, January 2007

National Science Foundation, Research Experience for Teachers (RET) grant. Dr. Keith Crandall, **Courtney Stewart**, \$10,000, Summer 2004