

Dr. Gina Conner

Clinical Assistant Professor, Arizona State University
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BIOGRAPHY

Gina Conner received her Doctorate in Educational Leadership and Innovation from Arizona State University, her Master's Degree in Early Childhood Special Education from Arizona State University, and her Bachelor's Degree in Special and Elementary Education from Arizona State University. Throughout her career in education, she has been a classroom teacher, instructional coach, clinical assistant professor, program and department chair, associate vice president of curriculum and instructional design, program strategist, senior program strategist, and recently transitioned to director of professional learning.

Dr. Conner's teaching interests include special education methods, inclusive practices in education, professional experience courses, and educator leadership. Her leadership and research interests include the expansion of flexible and personalized learning pathways for educators in any stage of their career, curriculum design and development, online learning, high-impact professional learning for educators, and alternative teacher certification. Dr. Conner's service interests include mentoring college faculty in their leadership development, contributing to community organizations that support K12 schools and education, and inclusive education and student supports.

EDUCATION

Doctor of Education

Year Awarded: 2009

Arizona State University

- Program of Study: Educational Leadership and Innovation
- Dissertation: Supporting Teach for America Special Educators through Professional Development: The Journey to a Community of Practice

Master of Arts in Education

Year Awarded: 2005

Arizona State University

- Program of Study: Early Childhood Special Education

Bachelor of Arts in Education

Year Awarded: 2002

Arizona State University

- Areas of Certification: K12 Cross-Categorical Special Education and K8 Elementary Education
- Award: Summa Cum Laude

EXPERIENCE

Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona

I have assumed multiple leadership roles over the last five years, while also having teaching responsibilities. For each leadership role, I have indicated major responsibilities and my teaching load assigned to the role.

Clinical Assistant Professor: August 2017-Present

- Teaching responsibilities: 5 course load per semester, has varied with each leadership role
- Coach, mentor, and evaluate alternative certification special education teachers
- Teach graduate and undergraduate teacher preparation coursework in special education

Director of Professional Learning: June 2022-Present

- *Teaching responsibilities: One course per year*
- Establish a public portfolio of high-quality professional learning products and services reflective of MLFTC's mission, priorities, and values, with a range of facilitated and self-paced experiences for professional educators and leaders.
- Generate business and marketing plans for professional learning informed by market research, college data, and partner/user feedback.
- Create operational guidelines, processes, and systems to support learning enterprise growth, including bridging into academic degree programs in collaboration with college and university teams/units.
- Generate blueprints that establish information for long-term planning of purpose, timeline, design, development, marketing, launch, and maintenance for professional learning experiences.

Senior Program Strategist: August 2020-May 2022

- *Teaching responsibilities: One course per semester*
- Lead redesign and program development work for graduate teacher preparation.
- Successfully launched seven online and Sync
 - Early Childhood Education MEd - standalone degree & certification concentration (2022)
 - Elementary Education MEd - standalone degree & certification concentration (2021)
 - Secondary Education MEd - standalone degree & certification concentration (2021)
 - Special Education MEd - standalone degree & certification concentration (2021)
 - Graduate Certificates in Teacher Certification (EED and SED) (2021)
- Designed and supported a collaborative work culture that distributes responsibility for improving teaching and learning in graduate programs
- Partnership development with internal and external units and organizations

Special Education Program Strategist: August 2019-July 2020

- *Teaching responsibilities: 3 courses per semester*
- Provide leadership for the SPE programs, as well as curriculum redesign initiatives in SPE/EED programs
- Create curriculum maps to determine program alignments with CEC, InTASC and ISTE standards
- Support with staffing and scheduling

Lecturer/Clinical Instructor: August 2007-2011

- *Teaching responsibilities: 5 courses per semester*
- Coach, mentor, and evaluate alternative certification special education teachers (Teacher Advancement Program (TAP) evaluation of apprentice teachers)
- Teach graduate and undergraduate teacher preparation coursework in special education

Monte Vista High School, Grossmont High School District, Spring Valley, California
Education Specialist, January 2016 – June 2017

- Special Education Department, specializing in supporting students with exceptionalities
- Provide targeted, differentiated interventions and supports for all students in inclusive classrooms
- Co-teacher in Inclusive general education classes, subject areas: Earth Science, Global Studies, Algebra, Biology, English, Tech Studies, Study Skills
- Facilitate IEPs and meetings for a caseload of 40 students

Ashford University, San Diego, California

Associate Professor (January 2011–December 2015)

- Developed graduate-level program and designed online courses, informed by INTASC, NAEYC, Lumina DQP, Professional Standards, and Quality Matters (QM)
- Taught graduate courses in special education and leadership to diverse adult students across the nation

Associate Vice President, Curriculum and Instructional Design (2015)

- Managed the Instructional Design team (7) and Quality Assurance Team (5) for curriculum design and development
- Developed curriculum design and development model for the university
- Cultivated a large community of practice for full-time remote faculty for professional development

Academic Department Chair for College of Education Graduate Programs (2013–2014)

- Led WASC Program Review for MA Ed. Program, Chair,
- Developed Faculty Peer Mentoring and Coaching Programs
- Supervised and redesigned online course development and alignment to national professional standards (CEC, INTASC, ISTE, Lumina DQP, QM)
- Conducted faculty reviews and evaluations

North Canyon High School, Paradise Valley Unified School District

Instructional Coach (August 2004–May 2006)

- Provided classroom coaching and modeling of instruction for teachers across the high school
- Developed teacher professional development on targeted areas of focus for the school
- Supported general education teachers through classroom observation, feedback, developing instructional goals and analyzing student data from formative and summative assessments

Special Education Teacher (January 2002–May 2006)

- Taught in math and English resource classrooms for students with disabilities in grades 9–12
- Co-taught in general education science and study skills
- Leveraged digital tools and assistive technologies for instructional purposes and student support
- Utilized backward design for unit planning
- Analyzed student data to drive instruction through formative and summative assessment
- Collaborated with parents, teachers, and administrators to provide excellent educational services to NCHS students

INSTRUCTIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Courses Taught

Arizona State University (2007-2011, 2017-present)

- TEL 570 Educator Scholar Community I (2021, 2022)
- TEL 571 Educator Scholar Community II (2022)
- EED 579 Apprentice Teaching EED, K8 (2020)
- SPE 222 Orientation to the Exceptional Child (2019, 2020)
- SPE 579 Apprentice Teaching: SPE K-12 (2007-2011, 2017-2020)
- SPE 593 Applied Project (2019, 2008-2011)
- SPE 555 Inclusive Practices for Diverse Learners (2017-2018)
- SPE 222 Orientation to Education of Exceptional Children (2019)
- SPE 541 Collaboration and Consultation in Special Education (2007-2011)
- SPE 598 Foundations of Special Education (2007-2011)
- RDG 531 Language and Literacy (2010-2011)
- EED 537 Math Curriculum and Methods (2010-2011)
- SPE 534 Assessment and Evaluation in Special Education (2007-2011)
- SPE 535 Curriculum, Methods, Technology and Adaptations in Special Education (2007-2011)
- TEL 501 Introduction to Research and Evaluation in Education (2008-2011)
- SPE 593 Applied Projects, Committee Chair for Master's Level Applied Projects (2008-2011)
- SPE 534 Assessment in Special Education (2007-2011)
- SPE 310 Professional Practices in Special Education (2007-2011)

Ashford University (2012-2015)

- EDU 620 Meeting Individual Student Needs with Technology
- ESE 631 Survey of the Exceptional Child
- EDU 498 Education Studies Capstone
- ESE 695 Characteristics of Students with Mild and Moderate Disabilities and Effective Strategies for Instruction
- EDU 658 Instructional Leadership

Curriculum Development

Arizona State University

- TEL 570 Educator Scholar Community I, co-designed with Dr. Ronald Beghetto (2020-2021)
- TEL 571 Educator Scholar Community II, co-designed with Dr. Ronald Beghetto (2020-2021)
- TEL 572 Educator Scholar Community III, co-designed with Dr. Ronald Beghetto (2020-2021)
- SPE 522 Instruction and Assessment for Learners with Exceptionalities II (2020)
- SPE 222 Orientation to the Education of the Exceptional Child (2019)
- SPE 555 Inclusive Practices for Diverse Learners (2018)
- Graduate Professional Experiences, in collaboration with graduate strategist team (2020)

Ashford University

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- ECE 695: Professional and Ethical Leadership in Early Childhood Education, Capstone Course (2015)
- ECE 600: Leadership, Innovation, and Social Justice in Early Childhood Education (2014)
- ECE 660: Action Research and Inquiry in Education (2014)
- ESE 633 Collaborative Relationships and Transition (2013)
- ESE 695 Characteristics of Students with Mild & Moderate Disabilities (2013)
- ESE 691 Behavior Management in the Classroom (2013)
- ESE 631 Survey of the Exceptional Child (2012)
- EDU 658 Instructional Leadership (2012)
- EDU 677 Monitoring and Evaluating Curriculum and Instruction through Systems (2012)

SERVICE CONTRIBUTIONS

Service to the College/Institution

Student Support Service

2022- Conducted evening student information session in collaboration with recruiting team for prospective Maple Leaf teachers interested in our graduate teacher preparation programs.

2019- Attended Graduate Faculty Meet & Greet for Prospective Students, Division of Teacher Preparation, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, Arizona State University.

2018-2019- Facilitated MAC Student Orientation SPE Breakout Session, Division of Teacher Preparation, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, Arizona State University.

2018-2019- Planned and facilitated SPE sessions for new InMAC Apprentice Teacher Orientation, Division of Teacher Preparation, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, Arizona State University.

2013- Dissertation Committee Member for Dr. Roxanne Garza (2010-2013), Arizona State University.

Committee, Working Group, and Task Force Service

2021 to present- Member of Principled Innovation Technical Assistance Team.

2020 to 2022- Graduate Design TAG Lead, Division of Teacher Preparation, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, Arizona State University.

2021 to 2022- Facilitated Community of Practice for graduate teacher prep faculty in collaboration with Faculty Development TAG and Principled Innovation team, Division of Teacher Preparation, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, Arizona State University.

2022- Member of review team for Foundations of Principled Change course development, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, Arizona State University.

2022- Member of hiring committee for Office of Digital Learning product manager position, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, Arizona State University.

2021- Member of hiring committee for New Education Workforce coordinator position, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, Arizona State University.

2020- Member of hiring committee for Graduate Teacher Preparation faculty positions, Division of Teacher Preparation, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, Arizona State University.

2019 to 2020- Undergrad & Graduate Redesign Ad Hoc Committees, Division of Teacher Preparation, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, Arizona State University.

2019-Member of working group related to Suicide Prevention in teacher preparation programs, Division of Teacher Preparation, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, Arizona State University.

2013-2014- Chair of Discussion Board Task Force, College of Education, Ashford University.

2013- Chair of Graduate Culture Task Force – Lead writer of guidelines and expectations of graduate level students and faculty, College of Education, Ashford University.

2013- Member of Curriculum Development Task Force – Developed course development training for faculty, College of Education, Ashford University.

2012- Member of WASC Accreditation Program Review Team, College of Education, Ashford University.

2007 to 2008- Member of InMAC program working group developing supports, tools and processes for supporting alternative-certification teacher candidates Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, Arizona State University.

Mentoring Service

2020 to 2022- Mentored Kristina Valles, Kelly Cutler, and Lindsie Spengler as new graduate program strategists, Division of Teacher Preparation, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, Arizona State University.

2021-2022- Mentored Laura Corr as new graduate teacher preparation faculty.

2017 to 2022- Course Coordinator role for SPE 222 (2017-2019), SPE 534/SPE 535 (2019-2021), SPE 555 (2018-2021), and TEL 570/571/572 (2021-2022), Division of Teacher Preparation, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, Arizona State University.

Professional Development Service

2019 - Planned and Facilitated six professional learning webinars for teachers and MLFTC teacher prep students related to High Leverage Practices in Special Education with Alissa Krantz (Special Education Director in Glendale School District and Janet Holt (Special Education Director at ASU Prep Digital).

2018- Developed and facilitated four professional learning seminars for InMAC apprentice teachers: High-Leverage Practices in Special Education, Strategies and Supports for Students with Dyslexia, Understanding Conner, G.

IEPs for General Education Teachers, and IEPs for Special Education Teachers, Division of Teacher Preparation, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, Arizona State University.

2004 to 2005- Member of faculty leadership working group for school-wide professional development. North Canyon High School, Paradise Valley Unified School District.

Other Service

2017 to present- ASU ILEP Fulbright Fellow Friendship Family, Division of Teacher Preparation, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, Arizona State University.

2019 to present- Graduate College Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award Reviewer, Graduate College, Arizona State University.

2021 to 2022- Name reader and stage support for graduates in MLFTC convocation Fall 2021 and Spring 2022, Division of Teacher Preparation, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, Arizona State University.

Service to the Profession

2021 to present- Playworks Regional Board Member

As a regional board member, I contribute personal time to share the mission of Playworks and support all board initiatives to improve the well-being of children by increasing opportunities for physical activity and safe, meaningful, and *inclusive* play in schools.

2021 to present- International Dyslexia Association, Phoenix Branch, Board Member

Arizona IDA is a non-profit organization that serves individuals affected by dyslexia, language and literacy challenges, and their families and communities that support them. I serve on the board to contribute to the overall mission and goals and to bring an educator and school perspective to the overall work of the board, including participation on the conference and community events committees.

2012 to 2014- Special Olympics, San Diego Regional Leadership Council and Volunteer

Served on the Regional Leadership Council to support organizational goals and volunteer recruitment for events that support individuals with disabilities in the community.

2009 to 2011- St. Joseph's Hospital - Barrows Brains Clinic, ASU MLFTC Faculty Service Role

Collaborated with Dr. Javier Cardenas (neurologist), at the request of the MLFTC Dean as part of my faculty service, to support the educational needs of the Barrows Brains Clinic's medical patients with Traumatic Brain Injuries through an interdisciplinary approach to supporting student needs.

Service to the Community

2021-2022- Great Hearts North Phoenix Preparatory, PSO President. Served as the president for the Parent Service Organization for Great Hearts North Phoenix Prep to support the parent, teacher, and student community.

2021 - K12 Student Workshop Facilitator. Designed, developed, and facilitated self-leadership workshops for 7th and 8th graders. These were implemented over 4 full days (taken as vacation days) to over 250 middle school students as a service to Great Hearts North Phoenix Preparatory.

SCHOLARLY CONTRIBUTIONS

Peer-Reviewed Book

Enz, B. J., Hurwitz, S. C., Carlile, B. M., Gerard, M., & Warren, G. (2010) [*Dual certification student teaching experience text*](#). Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.

External Grants and Funding

Ashford University Faculty Fellows Grant. (2015). Fostering Creative and Innovative Thinking in Educational Leaders and Change Agents. Amount awarded: \$700. College of Education, Ashford University.

Ashford University Faculty Fellows Grant. (2013). Kids Included Together (KIT) Affiliate Evaluation Project. Amount awarded: \$10,000. College of Education, Ashford University.

National and International Presentations

Conner, G. (2015, November). Fostering Creative Thinking in Early Childhood Education Leaders. Presentation at the London International Conference on Education 2015. London, UK.

Conner, G., & Gray, A. (2015, January). Kids Included Together (KIT) affiliation evaluation project: Inclusive practices in youth programs. Presented at the Hawaii International Conference on Education, 13th Annual Conference, Honolulu, HI.

Guleserian, C.A., & **Conner, G.** (2023, January). Communities of Practice (CoPs) as a Model for Catalyzing Principled Innovation. Accepted presentation for 11th Annual Conference for Character and Virtues in Professional Practice, Jubilee Centre for Character and Virtues. Oxford, UK.

Ludlow, C., **Conner, G.**, Oakes, W. P., Pinkerton, T., & Thompson, N. L. (2021, October). Principled Innovation enacted in teacher preparation curriculum. A presentation at the Values and Principled Innovation Forum [virtual]. Oujda, Morocco.

Johnson, L. M., & **Conner, G.M.** (2014, November). Faculty or ID? Creating a culture of collaborative course design and development. Presented at the AECT Conference, Jacksonville, FL.

Klein, E., Hall, J., & **Warren, G.M.** (2013, November). Rules of engagement: Engaging adjunct faculty in course development, program review, and retention initiatives. Presented at the 19th Annual Sloan-C Consortium International Conference on Online Learning, Lake Buena Vista, Florida.

Phillips, M., & **Warren, G.M.** (2013, April). Implementing the principles of andragogy in a blended environment. Presented at the WASC Academic Resource Conference, San Diego, CA.

Warren, G.M., & Buss, R. R. (2010, April). Supporting induction via a community of practice. Presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

Warren, G.M., & Farrell, C. (2012, November). Influencing online instruction through peer mentoring of adjunct faculty in teacher education. Presented at the Council for Exceptional Children, Teacher Education Division Conference, Grand Rapids, MI.

Warren, G.M., & Foulger, T. (2007, November). Creating a professional learning community: Promoting individual commitment to organizational success. Presented to the Arizona Educational Research Organization, Phoenix, AZ.

Warren, G.M., Puckett, K., & Maldonado, C. (2012, April). Preparing for accountability: The TAP rubric and alternatively certified special education teachers. Presentation at the Council for Exceptional Children Annual Convention, Denver, CO.

Regional and State Presentations

Gray, A., McCusker, M., & **Warren, G.M.** (2008, November). Learning in community, learning from research in action: Giving voice to the doctoral student point of view. Presented to the Arizona Educational Research Organization, Phoenix, AZ.

Warren, G.M. (2011, April). Supporting families across educational, home, and medical environments. Presentation at the Barrow Neurological Institute 6th Annual Traumatic Brain Injury Symposium, Phoenix, AZ.

Warren, G.M. (2010, March). School reintegration for students with TBI. Presented at the Barrow Neurological Institute 5th Annual Traumatic Brain Injury Symposium, Phoenix, AZ.

Invited Contributions

2021- Invited Speaker for Utah State University presentation on Next Education Workforce Initiatives, Division of Teacher Preparation, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, Arizona State University.

Maxwell, D., & **Warren, G.M.** (2013, August 5). The power of a community of practice—Building the case. Retrieved from <http://forwardthinking.ashford.edu/the-power-of-a-community-of-practice-building-the-case>

Maxwell, D., & **Warren, G.M.** (2013, August 13). The power of a community of practice—Cultivating communities of practice in education. Retrieved from <http://forwardthinking.ashford.edu/the-power-of-a-community-of-practice-cultivating-communities-of-practice-in-education/>

Research Projects

2021- Teacher Preparation for Technology Integration study. The project was being conducted to determine how teacher preparation for the use of technology during instruction influences participants' intention to integrate technology into their instruction when they become teachers. Ongoing project with Drs. Ray Buss and Teresa Foulger.
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HONORS AND AWARDS

2022- ASU SUN Award from Ann Nielsen.

2021- Selected to be a member of the Leadership Academy peerLA Cohort IX, Arizona State University.

2020- Nominated by faculty colleague for ASU Women's Coalition Badass Woman of ASU recognition, a student-run campaign to celebrate women in the ASU community.

2018- Nomination for Graduate College Outstanding Faculty Mentor Awards in the category of Outstanding Masters Mentor.

2018- ASU SUN Award from Jodie Donner.