

VITA  
Barbara Combs, Ph.D.  
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### **CURRENT POSITION**

Associate Dean for Teacher Education, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND

### **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND**

1995 Ph.D., English Education, (Minor in Educational Administration) School of Education, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY  
1983 MS, Education-Reading, State University of New York at Cortland, NY  
1979 BA, Early Secondary Education, State University of New York at Cortland, NY

### **TEACHING CERTIFICATES**

1983 Nursery-Grade 6 & English 7-9 Extension, #037333831, NYS  
1983 English Grades 7-12, #037332831, NYS  
1984 Reading Teacher, #085183851, NYS  
1999 School District Administrator, #102428166, NYS

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2006-present Associate Dean for Teacher Education  
2005-2006 Director, Teacher Education  
2003-2006 Director, Summer Reading Program at the University of North Dakota  
2002-present Associate Professor, Department of Teaching & Learning, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND  
2001-2002 Assistant Chair, Literacy Education Program, SUNY Cortland, Cortland, NY  
2002 Associate Professor, Department of Education, SUNY Cortland, Cortland, NY  
1998-2001 Assistant Professor, Department of Education, SUNY Cortland, Cortland, NY  
1998-1999 Teaching Center Coordinator, Jamesville-DeWitt/Syracuse University Jamesville-DeWitt Middle School, Jamesville, NY  
1996-1998 Assistant Professor, Department of Reading & Language Arts, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY  
1983-1987 Remedial Writing Teacher, Grades 7-12, Groton High School, Groton, NY  
1979-1992 English Teacher, Grades 9-11, Groton High School, Groton, NY

### **COURSES TAUGHT AT UND**

- T&L Independent Master's Project
- T&L 530 Foundations of Reading Instruction
- T&L 590 Literature in the Classroom
- T&L 590 Teaching Writing in the Elementary Classroom
- T&L 581 & 582 Resident Internship (Mentoring & Supervision of Resident Interns in Grand Forks Schools)
- T&L 410 Methods of Teaching Elementary Language Arts (TEAM)

- T&L 534 Basic Diagnosis and Reading Remediation
- T&L 583 Reading Clinic
- T&L 409 & 524 Reading in the Content Areas
- T&L 412 Intermediate Language Arts Instruction

## **INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE**

### University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND

- University Wide
  - Senate University Assessment Committee, 2006
  - University Budget & Planning Committee, 2005-present
  - Senate Summer Sessions Committee, 2005-present
  - PART (Program Assessment Resource Team) Committee, 2003-present
  - Honorary Degrees Committee, 2004-present
- Department & Program Area
  - Coordinator, Elementary Teacher Graduate Program, 2003-2005
  - Coordinator, Graduate Program Assessment Plan 2005-2005
  - Tenure & Promotion Committee, 2004-2005
  - Chair, Search Committee: Elementary Education Position, 2004-2005
  - Coordinator, Elementary Teacher Induction Program, 2002-2004
  - Early Childhood Education Position Search Committee, 2002-2003,
  - NCATE Assessment Plan Committee, on-going
  - Teaching & Learning Appeals/Advisory Committee, 2003-2004

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

- National/International
  - 2001-present Reviewer for *The Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy*
  - 2004-present Guest Reviewer for *Journal of Natural Inquiry and Reflective Practice*
  - 2005-Present Reviewer for *Reading Research & Instruction*
  - 2002 Manuscript Editorial Review Board for the 2003, *College Reading Association Yearbook*
  - 1997-present Member, Editorial Review Board, *Action in Teacher Education*
- State/Local
  - 2005 NCA Review Team, West Elementary School
  - 2004 Treasurer, Lake Agassiz Reading Council
  - 2004 NCA Review Team, Red River High School
  - 2003 NCA Review Team, Central High School
  - 2003-present Grand Forks School District Staff Development Team
  - 2003-2005 Member, North Dakota Department of Instruction Reading First Team
  - 2003 North Dakota Reading Association 2005 Conference Planning Committee

## **RECENT PUBLICATIONS**

- Articles

Combs, B & Gerving, K. (2006) "That's Why Those Pictures Are in My Head!"

- Comprehension Strategy Instruction in a 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading Workshop  
(manuscript under revision to *The Reading Teacher*)
- Combs, B. (2004) The blue-nosed pit bull and the high stakes test curriculum: A cautionary tale. *Journal of natural inquiry and reflective practice*, <http://www.und.edu/dept/ehd/journal>.
- Combs, B. (2004) Learner centered teachers approaches to literacy instruction: Are they best practice? *College Reading Association Yearbook*
- Combs, B. Jampole, E. & Oswald, R. (2003). Quality assurance: Assessing the candidate and program through portfolio review. In Sampson, M.B., Linder, P., Dugan, J. Brancato, B.(Eds.), *Celebrating the freedom of literacy: College Reading Association Yearbook*. (pp.296-318). Logan, Utah: College Reading Association.
- Paris, C and Combs, B. (2006). What teachers mean when they say they are learner-centered. *Teachers and teaching: Theory and Practice*, 12(5), 571–592.

- Books

- Combs, B. (2000). *Considering reflection: A foxfire teacher reader*. Mountain City GA: Foxfire Fund, Inc.
- Combs, B. & C. Stevens (Eds.) (1998). *Considering assessment and evaluation: A foxfire teacher reader*. Mountain City, GA: Foxfire Fund, Inc.
- Paris, C. with Combs, B. & Wooten, M. (1999). *Foxfire: The Level 1 Course Book*. Mountain City, GA: Foxfire Fund, Inc.
- McGuire, C., Petruzzi, D. with Combs, B. & Paris, C. (1999). *The Foxfire Facilitator Source Book*. Mountain City, GA: Foxfire Fund, Inc.
- Combs, B. (1995). *Reshaping change: The implementation of the senior project in one English classroom*. (Unpublished doctoral dissertation). Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY.

## PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

- Oct., 2005 *Are your going to teach me to read chapter books?* Roundtable presented at the College Reading Association annual conference in Savannah, Georgia (refereed).
- May, 2005 *Improving comprehension of 3rd Graders using a three tiered instructional approach*. A Research Poster presented with Ms. Sarah Bry at the International Reading Association Conference in San Antonio, TX (refereed)
- Feb, 2005 *Weaving a web of understanding: Integrating Technology into T&L 409: Teaching Reading in the Content Areas*. Session presented at the Association of Teacher Educators Conference in Chicago IL (refereed).
- Nov, 2004 *Using case method instruction to build a bridge for understanding and helping struggling readers*. Session presented at the College Reading Association Conference in Delray Beach, Fl (refereed).
- Nov., 2004 *Reaching beyond our borders: Are institutions all alike?* Session presented with Ellen Jampole, Ruth Oswald, and Deidre Frazier at the College Reading Association Conference in Delray Beach, Fl (refereed).

- Nov., 2004 *An inquiry approach to classroom assessment and instruction: Promoting teacher decision making and empowerment.* Chair of session presented by Julie Kidd and Kristy Dunlap at the College Reading Association Conference in Delray Beach, FL. (invited)
- Nov., 2004 *Building children's literacy through university summer reading programs: Sharing the best of what we do.* Symposium presented with Elaine Marker, Catherine Brooks, Susan Browne, Barbara Fox, and Pamela Summers at the College Reading Association Conference in Delray Beach, FL. (refereed)
- Feb., 2004 *A roadmap for quality: A university and school district collaboration to mentor and support first year teachers.* Program description presented at Association of Teacher Educators Conference, Dallas TX (refereed)
- Nov., 2003 *Literacy related instructional practices of learner-centered teachers: Do they reflect best practice?* Paper present at the College Reading Association Conference. Corpus Christi, TX. (refereed).
- Oct., 2002 *Using on-line literacy case discussions in a graduate literacy assessment course.* Paper presented at College Reading Association Conference, Philadelphia, PA (refereed).
- Oct., 2002 *Quality Assurance: Assessing the Candidate and the Program through the Literacy Portfolio.* Program description presented at College Reading Association Conference, Philadelphia, PA (refereed).
- August, 2001 *What teachers mean when they say they are learner centered.* Paper presented at the Association of Teacher Educators Summer Conference, Portland, OR (refereed).
- Feb, 2001 *Using jackdaws in an elementary language arts methods course.* Session presented at the Annual Association of Teacher Educators Conference, New Orleans, LA (refereed).
- Feb, 2001 *Portfolios: What, why and how?* Workshop presented at the Sixth Annual International Reading Association Latin American Conference in Guatemala City, Guatemala (refereed).

### **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

- **Assessment & instruction of struggling readers**
- **Professional development of pre and in-service teachers**

### **CURRENT MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

- International Reading Association
- Lake Agassiz Reading Council
- North Dakota Reading Association
- College Reading Association
- Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
- Action in Teacher Education
- American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education