

Dr. Deborah Conrad



Dr. Deborah Conrad is an Associate Professor and Co-Chair in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at the State University of New York, Potsdam.

Research and Teaching Interests:

Deborah Conrad is an Associate Professor and Co-Chair in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at the State University of New York, Potsdam. Prior to her co-chair role, she served as program coordinator for the Childhood/Early Childhood Education program at the university and presently teaches courses in literacy methods, literacy assessment, instruction, and intervention. A former elementary teacher and special educator of 15 years in Trinidad and Tobago, Deborah is particularly interested in issues related to improvement of reading programs, professional development of in-service and pre-service teachers and the general promotion of literacy. Her research focus includes early literacy, intervention for struggling readers and writers, and, culturally relevant pedagogy in childhood literacy.

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

Deborah is currently the Co-program Chair 2012-2013. As the Co-program Chair, Deborah brings exemplary organizational and leadership skills to the SIG as she is currently engaged in executing her duties in preparation for the 2013 annual meeting program. Having been a member of the CASE SIG for the past five years, Deborah has consistently played an active role in the academic and scholarly life of the SIG. Her vision for CASE is to build stronger networks among all groups represented in the membership through opportunities to collaborate, participate, and contribute.

Dr. Sylvia Rose-Ann Walker



Dr. Sylvia Rose-Ann Walker is an Assistant Professor at The University of Trinidad and Tobago.

Research and Teaching Interests:

Sylvia Rose-Ann Walker, PhD Literatures in English (with high commendation) is an Assistant Professor at the University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT). A dynamic Caribbean scholar, her research interests are in the fields of Caribbean Literature, reading and literacy, pre-service teacher development, teacher efficacy, social ethics, and literary theology. Her professional outreach includes being a peer reviewer for EDUCAUSE and volunteering as a level 2 adult literacy tutor with the Adult Literacy Association of Trinidad and Tobago. Sylvia is a graduate of Columbia University, New York, and the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine. Her most recent work is published in *Justice and Peace in a Renewed Caribbean* (2012).

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

With hindsight, I realize that life placed me into positions of leadership, which molded me to lead authoritatively but function cooperatively; and one who knows when to be decisive or compassionate. I successfully served in positions including Cultural Chairperson of the Caribbean Students' Association of Columbia University, President of the National Drama Association of Trinidad and Tobago and navigated life's challenging waters with hope and purpose. Serving the CASE SIG will allow me to demonstrate the intrinsic me: an outgoing yet humble person, who functions with a strong sense of commitment. My vision for the CASE SIG is to see it continue to attract Caribbean and African scholars, who are committed to quality educational research that ultimately serve to make educational discourse truly inclusive.