

## Professional Experience

### **Graduate Research Assistant - Center for Evaluation and Educ. Policy**

*September 2011 – December 2014 Indiana University Bloomington, IN*

- Review research and literature on current education policy issues and incorporate into policy briefs
- Create presentations and reports for Center clients and collaborators, including Title VI centers and school district superintendents

### **Assistant Director – Cultural Immersion Projects**

*August 2009 – June 2011 Indiana University Bloomington, IN*

- Prepared Cultural Immersion Projects participants to student teach in a variety of cultural settings and to become immersed in their overseas, reservation, and urban communities
- Collaborated with Cultural Immersion Projects staff to plan and conduct monthly class sessions as well as an intensive weekend workshop for Overseas, Reservation, and Urban Project students
- Consulted with and guided Associate Instructors in evaluating student work and maintaining grade books
- Supervised Overseas Project participants during Indiana student teaching
- Guided Urban Project students in application and registration process for student teaching in Chicago Public Schools
- Conducted day-long professional development seminars at Diné College in Tsaile, AZ for American Indian Reservation Project student teachers

### **Associate Instructor – Urban Project**

*September 2008 – May 2009 Cultural Immersion Projects Bloomington, IN*

- Prepared for and taught monthly class sessions for Urban Project participants
- Supported student teachers while on site in Chicago Public Schools, as well as preparation-phase students with assignments, required coursework, and project-related activities

### **Teacher: Special Education & Reading Recovery**

*September 2003 – June 2008 Franklin Elementary School Madison, WI*

- Team-taught in inclusive classrooms, adapting lessons and providing differentiated instruction for students with disabilities
- Prepared Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) and facilitated IEP meetings with school faculty and parents
- Prepared and taught intensive 30-minute Reading Recovery lessons for individual 1<sup>st</sup>-grade students with reading difficulties
- Completed error analysis on daily reading records for each Reading Recovery student

## Related Experience

### **Staff Advisor – UNITE (Urban Needs in Teacher Education)**

*January 2010 – June 2011 Indiana University Bloomington, IN*

- Worked closely with teacher education students and School of Education staff to establish a chapter of the student organization UNITE at Indiana University Bloomington, utilizing model developed at Illinois State University
- Regularly provided guidance for student officers and chapter members in planning meetings, inviting guest speakers, and running fundraising events
- Facilitated communication between student officers and national chapter directors regarding administration, event planning, and professional development

## Student Teacher

Jan. 2003 – June 2003 *NaaTsis' Aan Community School Navajo Mountain, UT*

- Completed 16 weeks of student teaching on Navajo reservation through the American Indian Reservation Project at Indiana University, working closely with Navajo teachers to develop lessons for Navajo youth
- Volunteered and participated in community activities such as teaching martial arts at the Boys and Girls Club, assisting in cafeteria with food preparation and cafeteria clean up, assisted with after-school tutoring in dorms for K-8 students

## Education

*Indiana University Bloomington, IN*

September 2008 – December 2010

- Masters of Science in Education
- Major: International and Comparative Education
- Program Cumulative GPA: 3.97

*Indiana University Bloomington, IN*

September 2011 – Present

- Doctor of Philosophy in Education Policy Studies
- *Concentration: International and Comparative Education*
- Current GPA: 3.941

*Indiana University Bloomington, IN*

August 1998 – May 2003

- Bachelor of Science in Education  
*Certification: Special Education (K-6) and Elementary Education (K-6)*
- Dean's List 1999-2003, Cumulative 3.73 GPA
- Recipient: Laura Ann Rawlins Hinkle Scholarship (2003), awarded to support student teaching experience through American Indian Reservation Project

## Conference Presentations

- "Education in Dhaka's Slums: Understanding Opportunities and Barriers to Access" – Comparative and International Education Society (CIES) annual conference; March 2014
- "Partnering for New Possibilities: The Development of a Global Learning Certificate" – Comparative and International Education Society (CIES) annual conference, with Anne-Maree Ruddy; March 2015
- Mapping the Growth of Statewide Voucher Programs in the United States" – Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP) annual conference, with Anne-Maree Ruddy; Washington, D.C.; February 2015
- "Conceptualizations of Quality Primary Education: A Case Study of Multiple Actors in Bangladesh" – Comparative and International Education Society (CIES) annual conference, with Sudipta Roy; March 2013
- "Cultural Immersion in Chicago City Schools and Neighborhoods: A Replicable Student Teaching Model and Partnership for Urban Teacher Education" – Association of Teacher Educators (ATE) annual conference, with Dr. Laura Stachowski and Chicago Public Schools staff; 2010

## Publications

- Cierniak, K. & Ruddy, A. (forthcoming: 2016). Partnering for new possibilities: The development of a global learning certificate. In *International Education at Community Colleges: Themes, Practices and Case Studies*. Palgrave MacMillian.
- Prusinski, E.L., Ruddy, A., Plucker, J.A., & Cierniak, K.A. (forthcoming). "Chartering New Waters: The Indianapolis Mayoral Transition and the Charter School Community." *Educational Policy*. doi:10.1177/0895904813510776
- Cierniak, K., Heiman, J.R., & Plucker, J. (2012). "Sexual Violence Prevention in Indiana: Toward Safer, Healthier Communities." Special Report, Center for Evaluation and Education Policy.
- Plucker, J., Cierniak, K. & Chamberlin, M. (2012). "The Four-Day School

Week: Nine Years Later." Education Policy Brief, vol. 10, n. 6, Center for Evaluation and Education Policy.

- Spradlin, T., Cierniak, K., Shi, D., & Chen, M. (2012). "Attendance and Chronic Absenteeism in Indiana: The Impact on Student Achievement." Education Policy Brief, v. 10, n. 3, Center for Evaluation and Education Policy.

## Honors and Awards

- Critical Language Scholarship (Bengali), Summer 2012
- Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (Bengali); 2012-2013, 2013-2014
- Office of the Vice President for International Affairs (OVPIA), Pre-Dissertation Travel Grant, 2013
- Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (Urdu), Summer 2014
- Fulbright Student Research Grant, December 2014 – September 2015
- Mellon Innovating International Research and Teaching (MIIRT) Graduate Dissertation Research Grant (declined)

## Memberships & Activities

- CLS Alumni Ambassador; 2012-2013
- Secretary, Education Policy Student Association (EDPOSA); 2012-2013 & 2013-2014
- Graduate Student Representative, Graduate Studies Committee/Recruitment and Financial Aid Committee (GSC/RAFA), School of Education; 2012-2013 & 2013-2014
- Workshop Facilitator, Cultural Immersion Projects, American Indian Reservation Project; April, 2012
- Member, Comparative and International Education Society (CIES)
- Team Captain, Bleeding Heartland Rollergirls, LLC; 2011, 2012
- President, Bleeding Heartland Rollergirls, LLC; 2012

## Volunteer Experience

- *Volunteer Teacher (June 2006; Kunming, China; Global Volunteers)* – Taught conversational English to local elementary school teachers
- *Volunteer Teacher (July 2011; Jaipur, India; Global Volunteer Network)* – Worked with students with disabilities at a local informal school

