

**DEBORAH KELT**  
 The University of Texas at Austin  
 George I. Sanchez Building  
 1912 Speedway  
 Austin, TX 78712  
 Department of Curriculum and Instruction

## EDUCATION

M.A., Curriculum and Instruction, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX <i>On Tagging, Tupac and Myspace: High School Students and their Outsider Literacies</i> ; Advisors: Dr. Randy Bomer, Dr. Allison Skerrett	2008
B.A., American Studies, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX	1987

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor of Practice, Curriculum and Instruction, The University of Texas at Austin	2018 – present
Cohort Coordinator, UT Urban Teachers	2018 – present
Director, Heart of Texas Writing Project	2017 – present
Lecturer, Curriculum and Instruction, The University of Texas at Austin	2013 – 2018
Co-Director, Heart of Texas Writing Project	2013 – 2017
Reading Teacher, Akins High School, Austin Independent School District, Austin, TX	2007 – 2013
Curriculum Specialist, Travis High School, Austin Independent School District, Austin, TX	2003 – 2007
Reading Teacher, Travis High School, Austin Independent School District, Austin, TX	2000 – 2007
Reading Teacher, Rockland High School, Rockland Independent School District, Rockland, MA	1995 – 2000
Reading Teacher, Duxbury Jr./Sr. High, Duxbury Public Schools, Duxbury, MA	1994 – 1995
Reading Teacher, Kimball High School, Dallas Independent School District, Dallas, TX	1993 – 1994

## PUBLICATIONS

### Non Peer-Reviewed Articles/Essays/Chapters

**Kelt, D.** (2016). Tattoos: Marked for life. In K. Bomer (Ed.) *The journey is everything: Teaching essays that students want to write for people who want to read them.* (pp. 193-195). Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann.

**Kelt, D.** and Warrington, A. (2015, July 6). Counterstories from the writing classroom: Resistance, resilience, refuge. *Writers Who Care.* 843 words.  
<https://writerswhocare.wordpress.com/2015/07/06/counterstories-from-the-writing-classroom-resistance-resilience-refuge/>

**Kelt, D.** (2014). With a compassionate gaze. In L. Reynolds (Ed.) *Imagine it better.* (pp. 126-132). Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann.

**Kelt, D.** (2014). Bringing outside literacies in. *Heinemann Blog.* 1672 words.  
<http://digitalcampus.heinemann.com/reference-library/resource-detail?rid={5EF3085C-2862-4292-A4FB-5F5A92966FFF}>

**Kelt, D.** (2004). South Austin morning meditation. In E. Carton & S. Gale (Eds.), *Writing Austin's lives,* (pp. 2-4). Austin, TX: The UT Humanities Institute and Waterloo Press.

**Kelt, D.** (2004, July/August). South Austin morning meditation. *Alcalde,* 1071 words.

### OTHER SPONSORED PROJECTS: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT FUNDING

#### *Completed:*

**Sponsor:** National Writing Project; Account: 26-3973-2860

**Project Title:** Panda Cares

**Funding Period:** 2020-2021

**PI:** Skerrett, A., The University of Texas at Austin

**Role and contribution of the candidate:** Director; Recruited master teachers to support new teachers during academic school year.

**Total funding:** \$10,5000

**Sponsor:** National Writing Project; Account: 26-3973-2860

**Project Title:** John Legend Show Me Campaign

**Funding Period:** 2017-2018

**PI:** Skerrett, A., The University of Texas at Austin

**Role and contribution of the candidate:** Co-Director; Oversaw implementation of professional development in Bastrop ISD.

**Total funding:** \$20,000

**Sponsor:** National Writing Project; Account: 26-3973-2860

**Project Title:** SEED Leadership Development

**Funding Period:** 2016-2017

**PI:** Bomer, R., The University of Texas at Austin

**Role and contribution of the candidate:** Co-Director; Oversaw and delivered professional development for Austin-area writing teachers.

**Total funding:** \$15,000

**Sponsor:** Texas Education Agency; Account: 26-3973-2860

**Project Title:** Write for Texas

**Funding Period:** 2016-2017

**PI:** Bomer, R., The University of Texas at Austin

**Role and contribution of the candidate:** Co-Director; Coached teacher leaders and delivered professional development for Austin-area writing teachers working in high-need schools.

**Total funding:** \$128,000

**Sponsor:** Texas Education Agency; Account: 26-3973-2860

**Project Title:** Write for Texas

**Funding Period:** 2015-2016

**PI:** Bomer, R., The University of Texas at Austin

**Role and contribution of the candidate:** Co-Director; Coached teacher leaders and delivered professional development for Austin-area writing teachers working in high-need schools.

**Total funding:** \$100,000

**Sponsor:** National Writing Project; Account: 26-3973-2860

**Project Title:** SEED Leadership Development

**Funding Period:** 2014-2015

**PI:** Bomer, R., The University of Texas at Austin

**Role and contribution of the candidate:** Co-Director; Managed and delivered professional development for Austin-area writing teachers.

**Total funding:** \$10,000

**Sponsor:** National Writing Project; Account: 26-3973-2860

**Project Title:** SEED High-Need School Professional Development

**Funding Period:** 2014-2015

**PI:** Bomer, R., The University of Texas at Austin

**Role and contribution of the candidate:** Co-Director; Coached teacher leaders and delivered professional development for Austin-area writing teachers working in high-need schools.

**Total funding:** \$20,000

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

2022: Breakthrough Central Texas, Austin, TX

2022: IDEA Charter Schools, Midland, TX

2020-Present: Marble Falls Independent School District, Marble Falls, TX

2018-Present: Lockhart Independent School District, Lockhart, TX

2014-2022: Austin Independent School District, Austin, TX

2019-2020: Leander Independent School District, Leander, TX

2018-2019: IDEA Charter Schools, Austin, TX

2018-2019: NYOS Charter Schools, Austin, TX

2018-2019: Round Rock Independent School District, Round Rock, TX

2017: Del Valle Independent School District, Del Valle, TX

2016-2018: Bastrop Independent School District, Bastrop, TX

2013-2016: Manor Independent School District, Manor, TX

2015: College Station Consolidated School District, College Station, TX

2015: Harmony Charter Schools, Austin, TX

2014: Region 13 Service Center, Austin, TX

2014: Pflugerville Independent School District, Pflugerville, TX

2013: Del Valle Independent School District, Del Valle, TX

## **AWARDS AND HONORS**

2003 AISD High School Teacher of the Year finalist, Austin Independent School District

2003 Travis High School Teacher of the Year, Austin Independent School District

2002 Fulbright Memorial Fund (FMF) Scholar to Japan, Fulbright Memorial Fund

1997            8<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher of the Year, Rockland Independent School District

## **PRESENTATIONS**

“An Author Visit with Donalyn Miller.” National Writing Project’s Write Now Studio Space. Virtual. April 2022.

“Bigger than any assigned topic: How anti-racist/anti-bias teachers can help secondary writers tap into their complexities, contradictions, and multiple identities with authentic strategies (not teacher prompts!).” Co-presentation with J. Martinez-Esqueda. Teaching Literacy in Times of Change and Uncertainty Conference. Virtual. February 2021.

“¿Cuándo es la hora de escribir? How one bilingual elementary paved new curricular roads by embracing the power of writing workshop.” Co-presentation with K. Johnston, C. Sweet, C. Valdez. National Council of Teachers of English Conference. Virtual. November 2020.

“Learning from mentors: Studying author’s craft in our writing classrooms.” Heart of Texas Writing Project Workshop. Austin, TX. January 2020.

“Teaching for social imagination and a better world through book clubs.” Co-presentation with B. Nash. National Council of Teachers of English Conference. Baltimore, MD. November 2019.

“Increasing engagement and student strength in our workshop classrooms.” Heart of Texas Writing Project Conference. Austin, TX. November 2019.

“Multilingual mentor texts to support student writers.” Co-presentation with C. Haworth. Heart of Texas Writing Project Conference and UT College of Education Alumni Conference. Austin, TX. February 2019.

“Reading: Not just turning pages.” Heart of Texas Writing Project Conference. Austin, TX. January 2019.

“Addressing issues of equity and access.” Roundtable discussion facilitator. National Writing Project Annual Meeting, St. Louis, MO. November 2017.

“Beefing up our reading time: Mini-Lessons for student strength.” Co-presentation with A. Funderburgh and C. Haworth. Heart of Texas Writing Project Conference. Austin, TX. November 2016.

“Sowing seeds, growing change: Lessons learned from our work in urban schools.” Roundtable discussion facilitator. National Writing Project Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA. November 2016.

“Advocating for literacy: Working with experienced and preservice teachers to re-imagine the teaching of whole class texts.” Co-presentation with B. Nash and D. Weller. National Council of Teachers of English Conference. Atlanta, GA. November 2016.

“Starting a writing workshop: Common problems, practical solutions.” Heart of Texas Writing Project Conference. Austin, TX. September 2016.

“Even more essay with Katherine Bomer.” Co-presentation with K. Bomer. Heart of Texas Writing Project Conference, Austin, TX. April 2016.

“Building talk around text.” Co-presentation with C. Haworth. Heart of Texas Writing Project Conference. Austin, TX. November 2015.

“Teacher leadership: Growing our voices, our community, our resilience.” Roundtable discussion facilitator. National Writing Project Annual Meeting. Minneapolis, MN. November 2015.

“How reading workshop works.” Co-presentation with R. Ip and H. Lavender. Heart of Texas Writing Project Conference. Austin, TX. April 2015.

“New possibilities for appreciative lenses: Reclaiming teacher knowledge, community, and craft.” Co-presentation with G. Simpson, A. Warrington, and T. Williamson. National Council of Teachers of English Conference. Washington, D.C. November 2014.

“Writer’s notebooks: The backbone of workshop.” Region 13’s Library and Literacy Summit. Austin, TX. August 2014.

“Exploring essays that people will want to write and read!” Co-presentation with K. Bomer, I. Garcia, M. Hertz, S. Long, D. Ruggiero, G. Simpson, T. Spruce, D. Weller, and K. Watkins. Heart of Texas Writing Project Conference. Austin, TX. May 2014.

“Embracing cultural and linguistic diversity: Meeting the needs of multilingual and multicultural students through writing workshop.” Co-presentation with I. Garcia, J. Harvey, N. Valdez-Gainer, and K. Watkins. Heart of Texas Writing Project Conference. Austin, TX. February 2014.

“Building on strength: Teaching English as if adolescents already knew what they were doing.” National Council of Teachers of English Conference. Co-presentation with K. Bomer, R. Bomer, and A. Skerrett. Las Vegas, NV. November 2012.

“Teachers living a writing life.” Co-presentation with K. Alexander and F. Vitela. Heart of Texas Writing Project Conference. Austin, TX. October 2012.

“Outside literacies: Building on student strength.” Austin Independent School District Conference. Austin, TX. February 2012.

“Getting started with writer’s notebooks.” Austin Independent School District Conference. Austin, TX. August 2011.

“Outside literacies: Building on student strength.” Heart of Texas Writing Project Conference. Austin, TX. October 2010.

“Positive eyes: Revaluating middle and high school students’ writing and literate lives.” Co-presentation with K. Bomer and R. Bomer. National Council of Teachers of English Conference. San Antonio, TX. November 2008.

“Writer’s notebooks for real.” Co-presentation with S. Fleming. Heart of Texas Writing Project Conference. Austin, TX. November 2008.

## **ADVISING AND STUDENT-RELATED SERVICE**

### **Undergraduate Honors Thesis**

Hannah M. Shepherd, Humanities, 2016. (2<sup>nd</sup> reader).

### **Other Mentorship**

Yuritzi Lagunas, Women’s and Gender Studies, 2022. (Internship advisor).

## **RESEARCH PARTICIPATION**

The following authors/researchers cited my classroom work and/or the work of my students in these publications:

Skerrett, A. (2015). *Teaching transnational youth—Literacy and education in a changing world*. New York, NY: Teachers College Press.

Skerrett, A., & Bomer, R. (2013). Recruiting languages and lifeworlds for border-crossing compositions. *Research in the Teaching of English*, 47(3), 1256-1279.

Skerrett, A. (2012). "We hatched in this class": Repositioning of identity in and beyond a reading classroom. *The High School Journal*, 95(3), 62-75.

Skerrett, A., & Bomer, R. (2011). Borderzones in adolescents’ literacy practices: Connecting out-of-school literacies to the reading curriculum. *Urban Education*, 46(6), 1256-1279.

Bomer, K. (2011). *Starting with what students do best: How to improve writing by responding to students’ strengths*. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann, 2011. DVD.

Bomer, R. (2011). *Building adolescent literacy in today's English classrooms*. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann.

Bomer, K. (2010). *Hidden gems: Naming and teaching from the brilliance in every student's writing*. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann.

Bomer, R. (2007). The role of handover in teaching for democratic participation. In K. Beers, R. E. Probst, L. Rief (Eds.), *Adolescent literacy: Turning promise into practice*, (pp. 303-310). Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

### **Departmental Service**

AISD-UT Collaborative Committee, 2021-2022  
Committee for Texas Education Agency Audit, 2021-2022  
College Leadership Team to reconsider field work during COVID, 2020-2021  
Team Member, Raise Your Hand Texas, 2018-Present  
Director, Heart of Texas Writing Project 2017-Present  
Co-Director, Heart of Texas Writing Project, 2013-2017  
Cohort Coordinator, 2013-Present  
Admissions Committee and Faculty Liaison for UT Urban Teachers, 2013-Present

### **University Service**

Ambassador, Experiential Learning Initiative (ELI), 2020-2021

### **Professional Service**

Group Host, National Writing Project Website: Write Now Studio Space, 2022-Present  
Creator, Heart of Texas Writing Project YouTube Channel, 2020  
Member, National Council of Teachers of English, 2009-Present  
Teacher Consultant, National Writing Project, 2006-Present