

Kate Lechtenberg, PhD

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Education

PhD, University of Iowa, 2020

Department of Teaching and Learning; Language, Literacy, and Culture Program

Dissertation: *Human Frames for Controversy: How Teacher Identities and School Contexts Inform Four White Teachers' Text Selections, Instructional Framing, and Discussion Facilitation About Sociopolitical Issues*

Advisor & Chair: Dr. Amanda Haertling Thein

Committee: Dr. Renita Schmidt, Dr. Carolyn Colvin, Dr. Sherry Watt, & Dr. Emily Knox

MA, University of Iowa, Library and Information Science, 2011

K-12 Teacher Librarian licensure

BA, University of Iowa, English, 2002

5-12 English Language Arts licensure

Professional Positions

Instructional Coach, North High School, Des Moines Public Schools, Des Moines, IA (2021-present)

Adjunct Lecturer, College of Education, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA (2020-present)

8th grade English language Arts Teacher, Merrill Middle School, Des Moines Public Schools, Des Moines, IA (2020-2021)

News Editor, Office for Intellectual Freedom, American Library Association (2016-2020)

Graduate Teaching & Research Assistant, College of Education, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA (2016-2020)

Adjunct Instructor, School of Library and Information Science, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA (2015-2021)

Teacher Librarian, Northview Middle School, Ankeny, IA (2012-2016)

High School English Teacher, Johnston High School, Johnston, IA (2007-2012)

High School English Teacher, New Canaan High School, New Canaan, CT (2003-2007)

Middle School English Teacher, M.S. 144, Bronx, NY (2003)

AWARDS & HONORS

Awards

- Iowa Academy of Education Dissertation Award (2020)
- American Association of School Librarians Research Grant (2020)
- Mary Bywater Cross and Robert P. Newman Research Award, University of Iowa College of Education (2020)
- Teaching & Learning Graduate Student Research Paper Award (2020)
- Outstanding Teaching Assistant, University of Iowa (2019)
- American Association of School Librarians (AASL) Frances Henne Award (2016)
- Iowa Association of School Librarians Outstanding Library Program Award (2016)
- Best Thesis Award, University of Iowa, Department of English (2002)

Fellowships

- Ballard and Seashore Dissertation Fellowship, Graduate College, University of Iowa (Fall 2019)
~competitive, merit-based award funding dissertation work in lieu of assistantships
- College of Education Dean's Fellowship, University of Iowa, (2016-2019)
~ awarded over three years to four incoming graduate students with outstanding academic achievements; additional funding awarded over three years for conference travel

RESEARCH

Referred Journal Articles

- Lechtenberg K. (2020). Beyond good intentions: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Teaching Tolerance's "Teaching *The New Jim Crow*: A Teacher's Guide." *Journal of Curriculum Studies*.
- Spiering, J., and Lechtenberg, K. (2020). Rethinking curation in school library education: Critical, collaborative, and conceptual. *School Libraries Worldwide*. 26(1), 83-98.

Book Chapters

- Lechtenberg, K., & Thein, A.H., & Rushek, K. (2020). Challenging hierarchies of reading and text selection in the Revised Publishers' Criteria for the Common Core State Standards. In B. Marshall; J. Manuel; D. Pasternak & J. Rowsell (Eds.), *The Bloomsbury Handbook of Reading Perspectives and Practices*. London: Bloomsbury.
- Lechtenberg, K., Spiering, J., Thein, A.H., & Amato, N. (2020). Troubling "Girls on Fire" in young adult literature about sexual assault: A critical examination of systemic violence and trauma in *Asking for It*. In S. Hentges & S.P. Connors (Eds.) *Teaching girls on fire: Creating consciousness, informing action*. Jefferson, NC: McFarland.

Lechtenberg, K. (2018). Curating against the canon: Collaborative curation for critical inquiry. In M. Macaluso & K. Macaluso (Eds.), *Teaching the canon in 21st century classrooms: Challenging genres* (pp. 3–17). Leiden, The Netherlands: Brill.

Burns, E., Mardis, M., Keeling, M., & Lechtenberg, K. (2018). The new National School Library Standards: Integrated learning and growth for innovative school librarian preparation. In B. A. Schultz-Jones & D. Oberg (Eds.), *Global action on school library education and training* (pp. 21–30). Boston, MA: De Gruyter.

Non-Refereed Journal Articles

Spiering, J. and Lechtenberg, K. (January/February 2021). Rethinking Curation. *Knowledge Quest*.

Garner, M., Lechtenberg, K., and Vibbert, C. (September/October 2020). School Librarians and the *Intellectual Freedom Manual*. *Knowledge Quest*. 49(1), 34-38.

Spiering, J., Lechtenberg, K., & Amato, N. (2020). Sexual assault and trauma: Young adult literature tackling tough topics. *School Library Connection*.

Lechtenberg, K., and Lucas, J. (2019). Journeying with the Standards. *Knowledge Quest*. 47(5), 6-7.

Lechtenberg, K., & Phillips, J. (May/June 2018). Speaking up for equity takes courage--But the Standards have your back. *Knowledge Quest*, 46(5), 56–63.

Online Publications

Lechtenberg, K. (November 2016-August 2020). Monthly blog posts on *Intellectual Freedom Blog*. Office for Intellectual Freedom, American Library Association.
<https://www.oif.ala.org/oif/?s=lechtenberg>

Lechtenberg, K.; & Phillips, Jeanie. (2018, May). “Using the Standards to foster a culture of deep learning.” Webinar, American Association of School Librarians.

Lechtenberg, K. (2017, October). “Managing Standards overload: Your educational compass meets the National School Library Standards” *Knowledge Quest Blog*, American Association of School Librarians.

Lechtenberg, K. (2015, September). “Confession: Sometimes Banned Books Week makes me cringe.” *Knowledge Quest Blog*. American Association of School Librarians.

Presentations

Refereed National Presentations

Lechtenberg, K. (2021, Dec 3) *Embracing the Mess: A Wide Angle Lens on Teaching Issues Labeled as ‘Controversial’ in Literature*. Literature Research Association Annual Conference [Accepted but unable to attend due to COVID].

Lechtenberg, K. (2021, Apr 9-12) *Accepting Responsibility for Interrogating White Teacher Identities*. AERA Annual Meeting (Virtual conference).

- Amato, N. A., Spiering, J. & Lechtenberg, K. D. (2020, Apr 17 - 21) *Conceptual Curation: Toward a More Collaborative and Critical Approach for English Language Arts Teachers and School Librarians* [Roundtable Session]. AERA Annual Meeting San Francisco, CA <http://tinyurl.com/w7swcep> (Conference Canceled)
- Lechtenberg, K. D., Thein, A. H., Amato, N. A. & Priske, K. (2020, Apr 17 - 21) *Disrupting Assumptions About Youth Readers: Constructing and Exploring Personas in a Young Adult Literature Course* [Roundtable Session]. AERA Annual Meeting San Francisco, CA <http://tinyurl.com/w7lcpsp> (Conference Canceled)
- Lechtenberg, K., Thein, A.H., Amato, N., Priske, K. (2019, December). *Imagining future students: Personas as a tool for complicating adolescent identity*. Paper to be presented at the Literacy Research Association Annual Conference, Tampa, Florida.
- Lechtenberg, K. (2019, November). *Spirited, critical resistance to standardized and commercialized education*. Roundtable session to be presented at the National Council of Teachers of English Annual Conference, Baltimore, Maryland.
- Lechtenberg, K. (2019, November). *Expanding the canon: Beyond Things Fall Apart*. Roundtable session to be presented at the National Council of Teachers of English Annual Conference, Baltimore, Maryland.
- Lechtenberg, K., Spiering, J., Thein, A.H., & Amato, N. (2019, November). *Sexual violence and despair: Why ambivalence and despondence matter in Asking for It*. Paper presented at National Council of Teachers of English Annual Conference, Baltimore, Maryland.
- Spiering, J., & Lechtenberg, K. (2019, November). *Process over product: Rethinking curation in school libraries*. Paper presented at the American Association of School Librarians National Conference, Louisville, Kentucky.
- Thein, A.H., Spiering, J., & Lechtenberg, K. (2019, April). *White teacher identities and pedagogical moves: Exploring racial tension in young adult literature courses*. Paper presented at the AERA Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada.
- Thein, A.H., Spiering, J., & Lechtenberg, K. (2018, November). *Leaning into racial tension: Cultivating emotion and discomfort in English education*. Paper presented at the Literacy Research Association Annual Conference, Indian Wells, California.
- Lechtenberg, K. (2018, November). *Dimensions of selection: Reviewing & revitalizing text sets for critical curation*. Paper presented at the Literacy Research Association Annual Conference, Indian Wells, California.
- Lechtenberg, K. (2018, November). *Critiquing social justice claims: A critical discourse analysis of Teaching Tolerance's "Teaching the New Jim Crow: A Teacher's Guide."* Paper presented at the Veal Research Seminar, National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention, Houston, Texas.

- Lechtenberg, K. (2018, November). *Curating against the canon: Collaborative curation for critical literacy*. Roundtable presentation at the National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention, Houston, Texas.
- Lechtenberg, K., Deichman, J., Lewis, K.R., Roberts, K. (2017, November). *Include and inquire with the National School Library Standards*. Presented at the American Association of School Librarians National Convention Phoenix, Arizona.
- Lechtenberg, K., Burns, E., Phillips, J., Roberts, K. (2017, November). *Investigate your National School Library Standards for learners*. Half-day pre-conference workshop presented at the American Association of School Librarians National Convention Phoenix, Arizona.
- Lechtenberg, K., Burns, E., Phillips, J., Roberts, K. (2017, November). *Affiliate Assembly's introduction to the learner standards*. Presented at the American Association of School Librarians National Convention Phoenix, Arizona.
- Lechtenberg, K., & Roberts, K. (2017, November). *Reflect, recharge, return: Standards beyond the conference*. Presented at the American Association of School Librarians National Convention Phoenix, Arizona.
- Wessling, S., Lechtenberg, K., Johnston, L., Moore, S., Arch, W., & Walker, E. (2012, November). *Core concepts in ELA curriculum*. Presented at the National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Accepted Referred National Presentations

- Lechtenberg, K. (2019, December). *Beyond good intentions: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Teaching Tolerance's "Teaching The New Jim Crow: A Teacher's Guide."* Paper accepted at the Literacy Research Association Annual Conference, Tampa, Florida.

Regional Presentations

- Lechtenberg, K., Moehlis, H., and Hope, H. (2019, October). *Tricky talk: Navigating complex conversations about literature*. Presented at Iowa Council of Teachers of English Annual Conference, Johnston, IA.
- Lechtenberg, K. (2018, October). *Responding to public and school library challenges*. Presented at Iowa Library Association Annual Conference, Cedar Rapids, IA.
- Lechtenberg, K. (2017, April). *Politics, morals, and ethics: Sticky intellectual freedom issues*. Presented at Iowa Association of School Librarians Annual Conference, West Des Moines, IA.
- Lechtenberg, K., & Kauffman, K. (2016, April). *Reading online: Research, tools, and strategies*. Presented at Iowa Association of School Librarians Annual Conference, Des Moines, IA.
- Lechtenberg, K. (2014, April). *Cognitive coaching and action research for librarians*. Presented at Iowa Association of School Librarians Annual Conference, Cedar Rapids, IA.
- Wessling, S., and Lechtenberg, K. (2011, October). *Learning to learn again with Google time*.

Presented at Iowa Council of Teachers of English Annual Conference, Johnston, IA.

Lechtenberg, K. (2010, October). *Engaging the whole class in discussion*. Presented at Iowa Council of Teachers of English Annual Conference, Johnston, IA.

Invited Professional Development Sessions

Lechtenberg, K. (2018, September). *Reflecting with the National School Library Standards*. Presented at the 2018 Heartland AEA School Librarian Meeting, Johnston, IA.

Lechtenberg, K., and Kauffman, K. (2014, February). *Databases in ELA inquiry*. Presented at Technology-Infused Classroom Seminar, Heartland AEA, Johnston, IA.

Lechtenberg, K. (2014, September). *Primary sources for inquiry*. Presented at Fall Teacher Librarian Conference, Heartland AEA, Johnston, IA.

Lechtenberg, K., and Kauffman, K. (2013, September). *Ebooks in literacy classrooms*. Presented at Fall Teacher Librarian Conference, Heartland AEA, Johnston, IA.

Grants

College of Education Graduate Student Research Award
\$500 awarded to compensate teacher co-researchers in dissertation study

Audrey Qualls Travel Grant (2019)
\$300 awarded for travel to AERA annual conference

College of Education Dean's Office Travel Grant (2019)
\$300 awarded for travel to AERA annual conference

Graduate Student Senate Travel Grant (2018)
\$750 awarded to attend Critical Participatory Action Research Institute, Public Science Project, CUNY Graduate Center, New York

Johnston Community Education Foundation (2011)
\$2525 awarded for "Culture Clash and CULTUREALL Interview Collaboration," Johnston High School, Johnston, Iowa

American Immigration Council (2011)
\$500 awarded for "Culture Clash and CULTUREALL Interview Collaboration," Johnston High School, Johnston, Iowa

HIGHER EDUCATION TEACHING

Adjunct Lecturer, University of Iowa College of Education (2020-present)

Anti-Oppressive Literature Instruction (Spring 2021, 2022)
Primary instructor, asynchronous online instruction, 3 credits
Mean course evaluation: 5.7/6

Facilitating Student-Centered Discussions (Spring 2021, Fall 2021)

Primary instructor, asynchronous online instruction, 3 credits
Mean course evaluation: 5.8/6

Reading and Responding to Children's Literature (Fall 2020)
Primary instructor, synchronous online instruction, 3 credits
Mean course evaluation: 5.8/6

LGBTQ Topics in Education (Fall 2020)
Primary instructor, asynchronous online instruction, 3 credits
Mean course evaluation: 5.8/6

Graduate teaching assistant, University of Iowa (2016-2020)

Reading and Responding to Children's Literature (Spring 2020)
Primary instructor, asynchronous online instruction, 3 credits
Mean course evaluation: 5.8/6

Teaching Reading in Secondary Content Areas (Spring 2020)
Primary Instructor, face-to-face instruction, 1 credit
Mean course evaluation: 5.5/6

Reading and Teaching Adolescent Literature (Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Fall 2018, Spring 2019)
Primary instructor, asynchronous online instruction, 3 credits
Mean course evaluation: 5.8/6

Reading and Teaching Adolescent Literature (Fall 2016, Spring 2017)
Primary instructor, face-to-face instruction, 3 credits
Mean course evaluation: 5.85/6

Adjunct instructor, University of Iowa School of Library and Information Science (2015-2021)

Collection Development (formerly titled Archives & Media)
Primary instructor, blended instruction (half-face-to-face and half synchronous instruction), 3 credits
Mean course evaluation: 5.3/6

Practicum Supervisor, Grand View University (2020)

Supervisor for practicum students in secondary English language arts and social studies

Adjunct instructor, Heartland AEA (credits through Drake University, 2013, 2015)

Inquiring Minds Need Primary Resources,
Primary instructor, face-to-face instruction, 1 credit

Concept-Based Learning & Teaching
Primary instructor, face-to-face instruction, 1 credit

Concept-Based Learning & Teaching
Primary instructor, asynchronous online instruction, 1 credit

K-12 TEACHING, LIBRARIANSHIP, & COACHING

North High School, Des Moines Public Schools, Des Moines, IA (2021-present)

Instructional coach; collaborate with 8-10 teacher per quarter on reflective goal setting, classroom observations, student-centered data collection and analysis, curriculum implementation and co-planning; collaboratively plan and implement professional development

Merrill Middle School, Des Moines Public Schools, Des Moines, IA (2020-present)

8th grade English language arts; co-teaching with special education teacher; adapting mandated curriculum with critical literacy and anti-oppressive theory and practice; teaching in online, hybrid, and simultaneous online/in-person modalities

Northview Middle School, Ankeny, IA (2012-2016)

Consultation, collaboration, and co-teaching with teachers in 8th-9th grade health, science, social studies, English language arts, English language learning, French, Spanish, and special education

Johnston High School, Johnston, IA (2007-2012)

Sophomore English/Integrated language arts; World Literature; Creative Writing, Culture Clash, Gender's Game, Pushing the Limits, Creative Mind, Creative Explorations, and Reading Lab

New Canaan High School, New Canaan, CT (2003-2007)

Freshman English, Senior English & Humanities, Senior English & Creative Writing, Writing Center Advising, and Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition

Michelangelo Middle School 144, Bronx, NY (2003)

Eighth grade Communication Arts, Saturday test preparation course instructor

SERVICE

Peer Review Service to the Profession

Editorial board member and manuscript reviewer, School Library Research (2019-2021)

Editorial assistant to Dr. Amanda Thein, co-editor of *English Teaching: Practice & Critique*, Graduate assistantship (2017-2019)

Manuscript reviewer

English Teaching: Practice & Critique (2016-present)

Journal for Students Placed at Risk (2017-present)

Open Information Science (2020)

National Service

Chair, AASL Task Force to Revise AASL's Position Statement on Labeling (2020)

Member, American Association of School Librarians (AASL) Standards Implementation Task (2015-2018)

State Service

Iowa Association of School Librarians Conference Chair (2014-15)

Iowa Association of School Librarians Executive Board Member (2014-2015)
Iowa School Library Leadership Team (2015-2016)

University Committee

Words as Data Collaborative, member (2019)
College of Education's Strategic Planning Refresh Committee (2019-2020)

Public School Service

Antiracist Curriculum in Education Task Force, Des Moines Education Association (2021)
Antiracist Teaching Leadership team, Merrill Middle School (2020-2021)
Instructional Leadership Team, Northview Middle School (2013-2015)
Literacy Cadre (Johnston High School, 2010-2012)

Community Involvement

Community of Racial Equity (CORE) staff sponsor, Merrill Middle School (2021)
MidPoint Poetry Workshop staff sponsor, Merrill Middle School (2021)
Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) Des Moines member and Education Working Group leadership team member (2020-2021)
First Fridays panel member, Free Speech and Censorship (2019, October)

Professional Memberships

American Educational Research Association
American Library Association
American Association of School Librarians
Young Adult Library Services Association
Intellectual Freedom Roundtable
Iowa Library Association
Iowa Association of School Librarians
Iowa Council of Teachers of English
Literary Research Association
National Council of Teachers of English
English Language Arts Teacher Educators (ELATE)
National Association for Multicultural Education

LANGUAGES

French—Advanced reading, writing, and speaking

Wolof—Elementary reading, writing, and speaking