

**Asia Foster, EdD**

## **Curriculum Vitae**

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Early Learning Program Manager, Mid-America Regional Council**

September 2021 to present

40 Hours/Week

- Provide leadership and coordination in building prodigious and equitable early learning systems at state and local levels within the Kansas/Missouri region.
- Provide strategic support for multi-sectorial collaboration with a broad array of early learning stakeholders including families, government agencies, direct service providers, support agencies, higher education entities, and post-secondary institutions.
- Create, lead, and manage projects to support children, families, and the early childhood workforce.
- Lead planning and implementation of grant funded projects to ensure all deliverables are met within established scope of work.
- Analyze applicable data sets to identify areas of need and assess progress.
- Develop initiatives to enhance and sustain the early childhood workforce.
- Lead public policy work groups in developing legislative priorities for the region.
- Support school readiness initiatives at the state and local levels within the region.
- Use latest developments in national and state policy/programming to positively impact and inform work.
- Apprise and assist Director of Early Learning in establishing and maintaining MARC's organizational agenda for strengthening regional early learning systems.
- Apply for and manage grants which support departmental and organizational objectives and initiatives.

**Director Early Childhood Learning Center/Assistant Professor/Assistant Chair Education Studies, Zayed University**

August 2017 to August 2021

40 Hours/Week

- Supervised and directed the daily operations of the Zayed University Early Childhood Learning Center (ECLC) lab school.
- Supervised staff of 30+
- Created and implemented strategic planning initiatives to expand the scope of early childhood research, policy, and practice.
- Participated as a key member in University, College of Education and ECLC program planning and development.
- Conducted research related to early childhood development and practice.
- Analyzed data related to early childhood trends to inform program goals and objectives.
- Served as an early childhood subject matter expert within the organization, to governmental agencies and the larger community.
- Built relationship and cultivate MoU's with external early childhood entities and individuals.
- Oversaw review and implementation of curricular program standards in alignment with best practices for classroom engagement and teacher preparation.
- Oversaw program operational budget.
- Mentored and supervised staff on the creation and implementation of professional development plans.
- Mentored and advised pre-service undergraduate and graduate students as well as master teachers and field professionals.
- Facilitated the development of parental outreach programs.
- Assisted in leading and managing faculty operations for the College of Education undergraduate degree program related to early childhood curriculum, evaluation, and planning.
- Delivered coursework to students working towards their Early Childhood Education Bachelor's degree.

**Fulbright Senior Scholar, US Department of State/ Maldives National University**

January 2017 to June 2017

40 Hours/Week

- Worked with local and national entities on the development of early childhood and basic education policy strategies.
- Analyzed data related to teacher training and development, curriculum, and early childhood development practices.
- Conducted research related to early childhood teacher education development and community-based integration in the Republic of the Maldives.
- Served as a subject matter expert and trainer to the Maldivian Ministry of Education.
- Reviewed and assessed pre-service teacher education curricular programs offered at Maldives National University.
- Provided training and technical assistance to early childhood education teachers, administrators, and policy makers.

- Taught graduate level education courses for Maldives National University.

### **Education Consultant**

December 2010 to December 2017

(varied by project)

- Provided consultation on organizational strategic plans and educational policy.
- Evaluated and assessed program/project feasibility.
- Analyzed data to ascertain trends in practice and conduct needs assessments.
- Facilitated engagement and consensus building with government officials, educational stakeholders, and community partners.
- Provided technical assistance, coaching, and mentoring for various education projects in the areas of early grade learning, pre-service teacher training, teacher effectiveness, curriculum development, program review, reform, monitoring, and evaluation.
- Conducted trainings and stakeholder meetings.
- Designed and developed education instructional materials.

### **Chair/Associate Professor of Elementary/Early Childhood Education, Johnson County Community College**

August 2008 to June 2015

40 Hours/Week

- Provided leadership for overall program, assisting in the development of curriculum, community partnerships, resource mobilization, and content creation for degree and technical career programs.
- Developed and implemented appropriate program assessment measurement tools.
- Served as a subject matter expert to state and local early childhood boards and programs (Head Start, United Way, Career and Tech, AEYC, School District)
- Coordinated policies and procedures across the program.
- Identified strategies for measuring teaching and learning outcomes.
- Oversaw approved budget and grants.
- Developed strategic plan for department.
- Collected monitoring and evaluation information required for maintenance of accreditation status.
- Analyzed trends in program delivery and student outcomes.
- Participated as a member of advisory boards for education and community-based organizations.
- Facilitated the development of new courses, certificates and programs as deemed appropriate.
- Coordinated orientation activities for new program students as well as career counseling.
- Created and coordinated activities or communication formats to advise current students of program opportunities, initiatives, and activities.

- Supervised faculty within the assigned program.
- Supervised the evaluation of program full-time and adjunct faculty.
- Conducted the recruitment, interviewing, selection, and hiring necessary for new position openings seeking diverse, fully qualified faculty members.
- Delivered coursework to students working towards their Early Childhood Certificate, AS degree in Early Childhood and B.A. transfer credits.
- Counseled early education students in areas related to coursework and degree completion.

**State Training Coordinator** The Family Conservancy,  
August 2007 to June 2008  
40 Hours/Week

- Participated in the creation of a comprehensive training and professional development plan, which identified strategies for implementing regional coordinated systems of training and education.
- Created database system to track Childcare Resource and Referral Agency approved training materials and related information.
- Created tool to assist in the evaluation of contract trainers during training observations.
- Evaluated and assessed agency trainers to maintain current and accurate data related to delivery and outcomes.
- Planned and implemented professional development events.
- Scheduled career and technical related trainings for early childhood providers.
- Identified educational supports (scholarships, grants, career counseling) available to local educators.

**Early Education Faculty,** Penn Valley Community College  
September 2004 to August 2008  
4 Hours/Week

- Delivered coursework to students working towards their Child Development Associate Certificate, Early Childhood Certificate and AAS degree in Child Development.
- Counseled early education students in areas related to coursework and degree completion.
- Assisted English as Second Language (ESL) students in specific registration and coursework requirements related to the college educational process.
- Developed early education curriculum for college coursework.

**Early Childhood Resource Specialist,** Penn Valley Community College  
February 2004- August 2007.  
40 Hours/Week

- Served on Quality Rating System taskforce for the initial development and implementation in the education arena in Kansas and Missouri.
- Worked in collaboration with the Department of Education, Early Learning Opportunity Act

(ELOA) grant to implement an early learning assessment and evaluation tool in local area education centers.

- Monitored goals and outcomes of educational centers using a web-based tracking system that also assisted in the quarterly evaluation of Quality Rating System program effectiveness.
- Evaluated and addressed the educational and training needs of early childhood providers and administrators from diverse populations.
- Assessed and evaluated programs reporting quarterly the goals, successes, challenges, and materials utilized for program improvement.
- Assisted early education centers in obtaining grant funds for resources and program improvement.
- Provided on-site instruction of early childhood coursework to students coupled with practical classroom implementation.

**Director of Marketing and Development/Student Development Coordinator, Universal Academy**

August 2002- September 2003

40 Hours/Week

- Assisted program with grant writing and fund development.
- Researched and networked with agencies and foundations to assess potential funders.
- Acted as a liaison between school and possible funding sources, communicating the needs of the institution and its programs.
- Assessed and oversaw departmental programs.
- Created and implemented curriculum for entrepreneurial classes.
- Recruited teaching staff for student entrepreneurial and leadership classes.

**Early Childhood Director/Pre-K Teacher, Universal Academy**

August 2001-August 2002

40 Hours/Week

- Evaluated, assessed, and assisted teachers in professional development and classroom teaching.
- Counseled students and parents on student's developmental and academic progress.
- Managed the early childhood department with a staff of six.

**Early Childhood Teaching Assistant Pembroke Hill School**

January 2001 to June 2001

20 Hours/Week

- Assisted lead teacher in basic classroom duties.

**Kindergarten Teacher, Universal Academy**

August 1999 to August 2000

40 Hours/Week

- Planned and implemented early childhood curriculum.
- Charted academic progress of students.
- Counseled students and parents on student's developmental and academic progress.

**Pre-K Teacher**, Universal Academy

August 1998 to August 1999

40 Hours/Week

- Planned and implemented early childhood curriculum.
- Charted academic progress of students.
- Counseled students and parents on student's developmental and academic progress.

### **ADVISORY ROLES**

- Advisor to the Office of the Minister of Education  
Advising National Institute of Education on Early Childhood policy and teacher training  
Republic of Maldives (2020-Present)
- Advisor to the Abu Dhabi Early Childhood Authority  
Advising on expansion of Early Childhood Development policy  
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (2020-2021)
- Advisor to the Office of the Ministry of Education  
Advising on Early Childhood teacher certification framework  
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (2019-2020)
- Advisor to the Office of the Minister of Women's Affairs  
Advising on Early Childhood teacher training and development  
Kano, Nigeria (2014)

### **EDUCATION**

**Master of Liberal Arts in Global Development Practice (applicant)**

Harvard University Extension School

Cambridge, Massachusetts

*To Complete Summer 2022*

**Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis**

University of Missouri-Columbia, March 2012

Columbia, Missouri

Dissertation Title: The Role of Distributive Leadership in the Implementation of Program Administration Scale Assessment Recommendations

*Winner of the Dan H. Cockrell Dissertation of the Year Award- 2012*

**Master of Arts in Educational Administration**

University of Missouri-Kansas City, December 2005  
Kansas City, Missouri

**Bachelor of Arts in Child and Family Studies**

**(Summa cum laude)**

Park University, July 2003  
Parkville, Missouri

**CERTIFICATIONS**

**Early Childhood Development for Sustainable Development**

edX/SDG Academy  
April 2021

**Education Diplomacy**

Diplo Foundation/ Association for Childhood Education International  
May 2016

**Teaching Very Young Learners (TESOL)**

International House  
February 2016

**CELTA (TESOL)**

Teaching House/University of Cambridge  
December 2015

**BOARD/ COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

International

World Organization for Early Childhood Education- USA Branch (2021- Ongoing)

- Executive Council Secretary

Khalifa International Award for Early Childhood (2021-2022)

- Content Screening Member

Institute for International Education/Fulbright DAST (2018)

- Distinguished Award in Teaching Short-Term (DAST) Review Panelist

World Organization for Early Childhood Education- USA Branch (2015-2017)

- Region III board member

World Organization for Early Childhood Education- USA Branch (2011-2015)

- Region IV board member

National

Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) (Formally NCATE) (2009-2021)

- National Program Reviewer

National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) (2008-2015)

- National Peer Reviewer- Early Childhood Associate Degree Accreditation