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Rhonda Struminger, Ph.D.

Education

Texas A&M University, College Station, TX
Department of Political Science, Ph.D., December 2013
Fields: Comparative and American Politics
Dissertation: "Education Spending: Impacts on Human Capital Development"
An analysis of supply and demand-side education policies at the global level and a case study of how such policies are implemented at the local level in Mexico.
Committee: Michelle M. Taylor-Robinson (chair), James R. Rogers, Marisa Kellam, and Zulema Valdez

Harvard University Graduate School of Education (HGSE), Cambridge, MA
Masters of Education, Technology in Education Program, February 1999

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA
Bachelor of Science Degree in Industrial Management, May, 1994
Bachelor of Science Degree in Applied History, May, 1993

The American University World Capitals Program, Brussels, Belgium
Study Abroad, August 1992 - January 1993

Professional Experience

Texas A&M University, Ecosystem Science and Management, College Station, TX, September 2015 – Current
Assistant Professor of the Practice & Assistant Research Professor

- Research includes the impact of conditional cash transfer policies on human capital development, human and social capital development on the health of the environment as well as education policies and informal STEM curricula (development and implementation).

CS4Ed, Consulting Services for Education, College Station, TX, October 2010 – Current
Vice President, Research

- Provide clients with background research on products, services, and market activity, and interpret data for business planning.
- Develop project plans and project documentation for clients and assist with project implementation.
- Collaborate on the production of case studies, reports, business plans, and presentations.

Centro de Investigaciones Científicas de las Huastecas "Aguazarca" (CICHAZ), 2005 – Current
Co-Director
CICHAZ is a scientific field research station based in Calnali, Hidalgo, Mexico. CICHAZ is chartered as a non-profit organization in Mexico (CICHAZ, A.C.) and as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in the United States (CICHAZ USA).

- Develop and evaluate outreach programming.
- Establish long-term financial support.
- Coordinate academic research and outreach activities taking place at the field station.

Houghton Mifflin Publishing Company, Boston, MA, February 2001 – September 2005
Director, Product Integration
Project Manager

- Responsible for integrating technology products and helping with product strategies given technology-oriented education policies.
- Responsible for developing project plans and requirements for corporate technology initiatives, and managing the development teams implementing approved projects.

Houghton Mifflin Publishing Company, **continued**

- Managed the inter-divisional committee overseeing the development of a corporate intermediary standard-to-content correlation tool.
- Worked with the Customized Education Services team to support district customization requests.
- Managed the implementation of the Master Learning Objective Data Model for K-12 Math, Reading/Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies divisions.

GlobaLearn, Cambridge, MA, July 1999-November 2000
Director of Content
Director of Online and Curriculum Productions

- Managed the development of and implemented K-12 Social Studies and Language Arts curricula for online and off-line learning environments.
- Conducted usability studies and formative evaluations with teachers and students.
- Managed the research, design, and development of all online and off-line curriculum materials for two expeditions through Africa.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), The Information Technology Masters of Engineering Project: Distributed Software Engineering Laboratory, Cambridge, MA, August 1998 - August 1999
Teaching and Research Assistant

- Helped develop a technology-based curriculum distributed between software engineering classrooms at MIT and CICESE, an engineering university in Ensenada, Mexico.
- Assisted the professor with course introduction and student support throughout the course.

Harvard Project Zero, Cambridge, MA, February 1998 - August 1999
Research Associate

- Organized and helped run workshops for 30 teachers around the ALPS Web site and the Teaching For Understanding framework. Also provided ongoing support for these teachers.
- Assisted with a Teaching For Understanding workshop in Ensenada, Mexico (March, 1999) broadcast between three universities interested in the Teaching For Understanding framework.

National Geographic, *Washington, D.C., June 1994 - May 1997*
Production Coordinator, National Geographic Online, November 1996 - May 1997
Researcher, National Geographic Television, September 1994 - November 1996
Associate Producer, NG Television, April 1996

Cable News Network, New York City, May - July 1993
News Desk, Tape Desk, and Library Intern

The Wall Street Journal Europe, Brussels, Belgium, September - December 1992
Editorial Page Intern

Teaching Experience

- Spatial Project Management (ESSM 464), Ecosystem Science and Management, Texas A&M University, Spring 2016 - Current (Co-instructor)
- Exploring Citizen Science (ESSM 685), Ecosystems Science and Management, Texas A&M University, Fall 2016
- Seminar in Executive Leadership I & II, School of Military Science at Texas A&M University, 2014 – 2016
- Political Systems of Latin America (POLS 323), Texas A&M University, Fall 2011 and Spring 2012
  Upper level undergraduate, writing-intensive course
- G.E.D. Prep Class, The Academy of Hope, Washington, D.C., 1996-1997

Publications & Papers In Progress

R. Struminger, J. Zarestky, R. A. Short, and A. M. Lawing. Accepted. "A Framework for STEM Educational Outreach at Field Stations." *BioScience*.

A. Ross, **R. Struminger**, J. Winking, and K.R. Wedemeyer-Strombel. 2018. "Science as a Public Good: A Research Note on Findings from March for Science Participants". *Science Communication*. 40 (2): 228-245.

R. Struminger, A. Ross, & J. Winking. July 19, 2017. "How Will Science Survive In the Age of Alternative Facts?" *Huffington Post*. http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/how-will-science-survive-in-the-age-of-alt-facts_us_596fa33be4b0110cb3cb427f.

M.M. Taylor-Robinson, N. Geva, **R. Struminger**, and P. Paras. 2011. "What Should Congress Members Do? Using Survey Embedded Experiments to Study Citizens' Clientelistic Expectations in Mexico." *Revista Latinoamericana de Opinión Pública*, no.1: 147-184.

R. Struminger 2004. "Slavery and Forced Labor Study Guide." Human Rights Education Association's Online Learning Centre. <http://www.hrea.org/learn/guides/slavery.html>.

F. Mora, **R. Struminger**, J. Favela, K. M. Hussein and R. Losey 2000. *Collaborative Design and Learning: Competence building for innovation*, Editors: J. Bento, J. Duarte, M. Heitor and W. Mitchell, QUORUM Books, Series on "Technology Policy and Innovation", Volume 5, Chapter 6: Supporting a "Real World" Project-Based, Technology-Supported, Collaborative, Distance Learning Environment: The MIT-CICESE Distributed System Engineering Lab.

S. Wiske, J. Moore, L. B. Sweeney, D. Grogan, **R. Struminger**, and A. Williams 1997. "Designing a Networked Learning Environment: A Working Paper." Harvard Graduate School of Education, Cambridge, MA. Available online at URL: http://learnweb.harvard.edu/ent/library/avd_paper1.html.

Conference Presentations & Workshops

- "Perceptions of Science and Scientists: Bridging Ideological Divides in the US." Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting and Exhibition. Boston, MA. August 2018.
- Concurrent Session: STEM Outreach. Moderated session at the Organization of Biological Field Stations Annual Meeting. Lake Itasca, MN. September 2017.
- "Outreach at Field Stations: Best Practices for Engaging Participants." Workshop at the Organization of Biological Field Stations Annual Meeting. Lake Itasca, MN. September 2017.
- "Field Stations: Connecting Communities with their Natural Environments." Presentation at the Organization of Biological Field Stations Annual Meeting. Sitka, Alaska. September 2016.
- "Student Aspiration and Science Education: Possibilities in Calnali." Jornada de la Ciencia/Day of Science, Calnali, Hidalgo, Mexico. June 2015. Co-author: Yamila Hussein.
- "Authentic Leadership: An Introduction." The Nichols Rising Leadership Conference, La Grange, TX. April 2015.
- "Education Spending in Calnali: Impacts on Human and Social Capital Development." Jornada de la Ciencia/Day of Science, Calnali, Hidalgo, Mexico. June 2014.
- "The Education Policy Index: Balancing Supply- and Demand-side Policies." Midwest Political Science Association National Political Science Conference, Chicago, IL. April 2012.
- "What should congress members do? Using survey embedded experiments to study citizens' clientelistic expectations in Mexico." WAPOR Latin American Conference, April 2010. Co-authors: Michelle M. Taylor-Robinson, Nehemia Geva, and Pablo Paras.
- "Is Government Spending on Education an Investment in Human Capital? *Oportunidades* and Professional Expectations in Mexico." Midwest Political Science Association National Political Science Conference, Chicago, IL. April 2009.
- "Texas Charter Schools: A Decade of Policy Outcomes." Midwest Political Science Association National Political Science Conference, Chicago, IL. April 2007.
- *UN Declaration of Human Rights Exhibit*, Co-Director, Harvard Graduate School of Education, Nov 1998
- "The Social Challenge: A gender based K-12 interactive, instructional software." Harvard Graduate School of Education Student Research Conference, Cambridge, MA. February 1998.

Funding

- NSF Exploratory Pathways – Advancing Informal STEM Learning Grant: "Collaborative Research: Informal STEM learning at biological field stations" (DRL-1713359), September 2017-August 2019.

Membership & Associations

- Organization of Biological Field Stations
- Scholars Strategy Network

Honors and Awards

- Houghton Mifflin Corporate Information Technology Boston Employee of the Year, 2004
- Ethnographic Honors Thesis, Carnegie Mellon University 1992 - 1993
- Phi Alpha Theta, History Honors Society

Fellowships

- Association of Former Students Graduate Merit Fellowship, Texas A&M University, 2006-2007
- Fifth Year Scholar, Carnegie Mellon University, 1993 - 1994

Computer and Quantitative Skills

- PC and Mac systems
- STATA and SPSS
- Web Development software
- HTML
- Microsoft Office (PowerPoint, Word, and Excel)
- Microsoft Project, Access, and Netmeeting
- Inspiration and Microsoft Visio
- Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator

Research Fields

- Informal STEM learning at field stations
- Science as a public good
- Education Policy