

REXFORD G. BROWN

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION

Interim Director, Teacher Education Program, Morgridge College of Education, University of Denver.

Director, University of Denver High School, 2004—2007. The University of Denver High School is a small, independent, college preparatory high school, located on the University of Denver campus. Its program features an emphasis on problem-based learning, challenging requirements in mathematics, the sciences and the humanities, independent study and college courses.

Leadership Consultant and Coach, 2001—2004. Brown was a leadership coach funded by a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, serving principals in small high schools, including Compass Montessori High School, Southwest Early College and small charter high schools around the state of Colorado.

Executive Director/ Principal, Urban Learning Communities, Inc./ P.S.1 Charter School, 1994—2001. Urban Learning Communities, Inc. (ULC) is a non-profit organization that uses learning as a tool for community building and revitalization. P.S.1, ULC's only project to date, is a charter middle school/high school in the Denver Public Schools, serving 380 families. Brown was the founding Executive Director of the school and was its chief executive until he retired in 2001 to write and consult.

Director of Communications, Senior Management Team, Education Commission of the States (ECS), 1982-1994. The Education Commission of the States is a national, non-profit organization devoted to helping state policymakers and national business leaders improve education. Brown was a senior manager of the \$7 million/year organization, participating in all levels of organizational decision-making. As Communications Director, Brown was responsible for all publications and public relations staff and activities at the commission for seven years. This included directing national public service campaigns

on education with the Ad Council; serving as senior consultant to ABC World News Tonight on American Agenda education stories; and working with national media on education reform print and television reports and documentaries.

Executive Director, State Systems Change Initiatives, Education Commission of the States (1991-92). The Systems Change Initiatives focused on how to bring about systemic changes, particularly in large urban school districts.

Director, Policy and the Higher Literacies Project (1987-92)

Funded by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the Policy and the Higher Literacies Project was a five year, \$1,075,000 investigation into the effects of policy on efforts to develop higher levels of literacy (a "literacy of thoughtfulness") for broader ranges of students. The project involved background research and case studies of school reform policies and practices that encourage or thwart efforts to teach critical and creative thinking, problem solving and other aspects of thoughtfulness. It culminated in the publication of Brown's 1991 book, *Schools of Thought: how the politics of literacy shape thinking in the classroom*.

Director of Publications, Education Commission of the States (1980-1984).

Responsible for management, budgeting and production of 40-50 publications per year.

Director of Publications, National Assessment of Educational Progress (1976-1980). Responsible for management, budgeting and production of major national reports on educational achievement.

POLICY RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

Senior Fellow and Senior Policy Analyst.

In addition to his administrative duties, Brown was a policy analyst at ECS for two decades. He studied and wrote widely about the policy implications of National Assessment of Educational Progress student achievement results in reading, writing, literature and the arts. As Senior Policy Analyst, he was responsible for studying trends in state policy and prognosticating future state and federal policy developments.

In 1992-93, as ECS Senior Fellow, Brown worked with two "break the mold, 21st Century" school development projects funded by the New American Schools Development Corporation:

- ATLAS Communities, a joint effort undertaken by the Coalition of Essential Schools at Brown University, the School Development Program at Yale University, Project Zero at Harvard University and the Educational Development Center in Boston, Massachusetts; and
- The Alliance of Restructured Schools, a joint effort undertaken by the Learning Research and Development Center at the University of Pittsburgh, the New Standards Project, the National Center on Education and the Economy, the Harvard Center for Social Policy, the Xerox Corporation, and Apple Computers, among others.

TESTING AND ASSESSMENT

Brown worked for the National Assessment of Educational Progress from 1971 to 1982, helping develop and field test assessments in literature, reading, writing, and art; interpreting assessment results in science and mathematics; and working with educators around the country on assessment and testing issues.

Brown chaired the design team that developed the reading and writing components of the G.E.D. high school equivalency test; worked on aspects of state assessments in a dozen states during the 1970's; and sat on the Advisory Board of the National Academy of Science's National Commission on Science Education Standards and Assessment.

TEACHING

University of Denver's Morgridge College of Education. Brown teaches Perspectives on Education, Education Philosophy and Foundations and other courses in the graduate program.

University of Denver High School. Besides directing the school, Brown taught Poetics, Ethics, and Art History and Aesthetics.

University of Colorado at Denver Teacher Education Program, 2004-05 academic year. Brown was a Site Professor at the Manual Education Complex, Denver Public Schools, where he supervised UCD teacher candidates in two schools and worked with faculty on reform programs.

Adjunct Professor, Prescott College, Prescott, Arizona, 2001 to 2006. Brown supervised graduate students in Experiential Education.

Humanities Teacher, 1995-2000, P.S.1 Charter School. While principal of the school, Brown also taught literature, writing and miscellaneous courses in grades 6-12.

Seminar Leader, 1986, 87 and 88, Rocky Mountain Program for Senior Public Managers (ten day residential leadership training program), University of Colorado Center for the Improvement of Public Management.

Seminar Leader, 1986 and 1987, Governor's Institute for Educators (seven day residential leadership training program), University of Colorado Center for the Improvement of Public Management and Colorado Governor's Office.

Cross disciplinary team teacher, 1983 and 1984, Metropolitan State College Summer Arts Institute. Brown taught creative writing and worked with four other teachers on interdisciplinary, active learning, arts-focused education for grades 5-8, culminating in full-scale productions at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts.

Assistant Professor of English, 1971, American College in Luxembourg, Mondorf-les-Bains, Luxembourg.

Graduate Assistant Instructor, 1967-71, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa.
Taught ancient literature and introduction to literature

College English Instructor, 1965-67, Heidelberg College, Tiffin, Ohio.
Taught linguistics, writing, British novel, American Civilization and American Literature

High School English Teacher, 1963-64, Clifton-Fine High School, Star Lake, New York.

CONSULTING

Brown has been a consultant to numerous state departments of education (e.g., California, Colorado, Florida, New Jersey, Maryland, Texas); universities (Harvard, Colorado, Northern Colorado, Montana, Arizona State, Wisconsin/Milwaukee); federal agencies (National Institute of Education, National Endowment for the Humanities, Solar Energy Research Institute, MidContinental Regional Education Laboratory, Southwest Regional Education Laboratory, Center for the Study of Writing, Center for the Study of Effective Secondary Schools); businesses (US West, Citicorp, Mathematica Corporation, General Educational Development Testing Service, Allstate Insurance); school districts (Denver, Amarillo, Pittsburgh, Englewood, Cherry Creek, Littleton, Fort Worth); foundations (Bill and Melinda Gates [**current**], Ford, MacArthur, Sloan, Clark, Council on Foundations); and television networks (ABC World News Tonight/American Agenda, ABC Documentary Division/Barbara Walters Specials, PBS/Learning in America, PBS/KCET).

Since 2002, Brown has been a consultant to several schools on leadership, curriculum and instructional issues: Southwest Open School, Durango, CO (2002); Passage Charter School, Montrose, CO (2002); Compass Montessori High School, Golden, CO (2003); and Southwest Early College, Denver, CO (2004).

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

It's Your Fault! An insider's guide to learning and teaching in city schools. New York: Teachers College Press, 2003.

"Against Uniformity," in headfirst, Volume 1, No.1, Winter 2003, pp. 52-53.

"The Learning Organization: A Model for Educational Change." The North American Montessori Teachers Association (NAMTA) Journal, Vol. 22, No. 1, Winter 1997, pp. 191-203.

"The Public as Constituents of Mathematics Reform," in Carl, Iris, Prospects for School Mathematics. Reston, Virginia: National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, 1995.

"Policies for Education Systems Where Mind Matters," in Costa, Arthur L. and Bellanca, James, If Mind Matters: A Foreword to the Future. Volume 1: A Rationale for Change. Palatine, Ill.: Skylight

Publishing, 1992.

"Policy and the Rationalization of Schooling," in Hiebert, E., ed., Literacy for a Diverse Society. New York: Teachers College Press, 1991, pp. 217-228.

"The One Literacy Schoolhouse in the Age of Multiple Literacies." educational Horizons, Vol. 69, #3. Spring 1991, pp. 141-146.

Schools of Thought: How the politics of literacy shape thinking in the classroom. San Francisco: Jossey Bass, Inc. 1991.

"An Agenda for Thoughtfulness," Basic Education, May 1989.

"Barriers to Thoughtfulness," Basic Education, April 1989.

"Testing and Thoughtfulness," Educational Leadership, vol.46, no. 7, April 1989.

"Mississippi Field Notes," Kettering Review, spring 1989.

"Schooling and Thoughtfulness," Basic Education: Issues, Answers and Facts, vol.3, No. 3, spring 1988.

"Higher and Deeper Literacies: Toward More Thoughtful Schools and Students," educational Horizons, vol. 66, no. 1, fall 1987.

"Who is Accountable for Thoughtfulness?," Phi Delta Kappan, vol. 69, no. 1, September 1987.

"Literacy and Accountability," The Journal of State Government, vol 60, no. 2, March/April 1987.

"State Responsibility for At-Risk Youth," Metropolitan Education, vol. 1, no. 2, fall 1986.

"Writing Assessment and Education Policy," in Writing Assessment: Issues and Strategies, Greenberg, Donovan and Wiener, eds. New York: Longman's, 1986.

"Evaluation and Learning," in The Teaching of Writing, 1986 Yearbook of the National Society for Studies in Education. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1986.

Reconnecting Youth. Denver: Education Commission of the States, 1985.

"The Examiner is Us," English Education, December 1984.

"Public Policy and Pupil Achievement", State Legislatures, October 1983.

Reading, Thinking and Writing (with Applebee, Barrow, Cooper, Mullis and Petrosky). Denver: National Assessment of Educational Progress, 1983.

Art and Young Americans (with Chapman, Phillips, Silverman and Wilson). Denver: National

Assessment of Educational Progress, 1981.

"Literacy in America: A Synopsis of National Assessment Findings." Denver: National Assessment of Educational Progress, 1981.

"The Writing Crisis: What it is and What it Ain't," Wisconsin English Journal, Fall 1981.

"The Crisis in Literacy," The Center Magazine, vol.13, no. 6, Nov./Dec. 1980.

"Valuing Writing," North Carolina English Teacher, vol. 38, no. 1, Fall 1980.

"Choosing or Creating an Appropriate Writing Test," in Basic Writing, Kasden and Hoeber, eds. Urbana, Illinois: National Council of Teachers of English, 1980.

"The Measurement of Growth and Proficiency in Writing," Journal of Basic Writing, CCNY, fall 1978.

EDITING, PUBLISHING AND VIDEO

As director of publications for many years and as managing editor of State Education Leader, Brown edited hundreds of articles about education and policy. He has been guest editor of Teacher Education Quarterly and The Journal of State Government. Brown wrote a column on business partnerships for Proeducation magazine for two years. He has ghost-authored dozens of speeches, articles and op-eds for governors and other political and educational leaders. And he has produced three videos: "Futures At Risk", about high risk young people; and "Season of Opportunity" and "Teachers Talk", about teachers' reactions to school reform policies.

PRESENTATIONS

Brown has been a speaker at numerous local, state and national conferences. In the last fifteen years, he has given over sixty speeches about education restructuring, policy, writing and literacy to a wide range of audiences.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Brown has served as chair of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Committee on Testing and Evaluation. He has also served on the NCTE Research Committee and the NCTE Task Force on Excellence in English.

Past Board commitments: Advisory Board, Project on Adolescent Literacy, Center for Early Adolescence (NC); Presidential Committee on Information Literacy, American Library Association (IL.); Board, National Association of Industry- Education Cooperatives (NY); Advisory Board, Partners in

Learning Journal (FL.); Teacher Education Advisory Board, KCET Television (PBS, Los Angeles); Quasar (\$10 million Ford Foundation middle school mathematics project) Board (PA.); Quasar Public Voice Board (PA.); Hughes Aircraft Galaxy Classroom Working Board (CA.); National Junior League Middle School Initiative Advisory Board (NY); Piton Foundation Persistent Poverty Project Education Board (CO.); Hunt Foundation Education Initiative Advisory Board (CO.); Public Education Coalition's SUMIT project board (CO.); Public Education Coalition School Renewal Project board (CO.); Higher Order Thinking Skills (HOTS) Project board (AZ.); Board, National Commission on Science Education Standards and Assessment.

Past Local commitments: President, Upper Larimer Neighborhood Association; Transportation Committee, Denver Baseball Stadium District; Economic Development Committee, Denver Baseball Stadium District; Board of Trustees, Historic Denver, Inc.; National Study of Charter Schools Board; Renaissance Charter School Board of Directors; Urban Learning Communities, Inc./P.S.1 Charter School Board of Directors; InSites, Inc. Board of Directors; Escuela de Guadalupe Board of Directors; Foundation for Educational Excellence Board of Trustees; First Data Western Union Foundation Board of Trustees.

Current Board commitments: Northeast Downtown Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee; Denver Art Museum Education Board of Trustees; Langberg Foundation Board of Trustees; Chair, Mackintosh Academy Board of Trustees.

HONORS

Downtown Denver Partnership Annual Award, 1996
Historic Denver, Ann Love Award, 1998
Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Fellowship, 2000

EDUCATION

Middlebury College 1959-1963, B.A. in American Literature.

University of Iowa 1964-1965, M.A. in American, British Literature.

University of Iowa 1967-1971, Ph.D. in English Literature and Modern Letters.