

## ***CURRICULUM VITAE***

**Ginger (Virginia B.) Modla, Ph.D.**

(215) 951-5120 (voice - work)

(215) 951-5029 (fax)

[modla@lasalle.edu](mailto:modla@lasalle.edu) (e-mail)

### **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND**

#### **Post Doctoral Work**

International Reading Association, Reno, Nevada, May, 2004

**NCATE Training as a Reading Educator Evaluator**

La Salle University, Philadelphia, PA., Summer & Fall, 2003, Spring, 2004

**WebCT Training**

Agnes Scott College, Atlanta, Georgia, Summer of 2001 and

Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, Summer of 1999, Summer of 2000

**IDEA Academy of Fellows Program**

One week administrative seminar, sessions and seminars on a range of issues confronting educators

Beaver College, Glenside, PA 1992–1995

**Superintendent's Letter of Eligibility**

Including a Superintendent's Internship as well as courses in program supervision, labor relations and negotiations, and school business

**Certification in Supervision**, Summer, 1987

Course work in school law and community relations

West Chester University, West Chester, PA 1983, 1995

**Training in Teaching Writing and Using Portfolios**

- Portfolios and Assessment, Spring, 1995
- The Writing Process, Fall, 1983

Independent Study

**Technology Skills**

Workshops and self study in learning how to use:

- WebCT
- Windows 98, PC and Macintosh software
- The Internet and on-line research tools
- Networks (Local area and wide area)

- Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Power Point, E-mail)
- Other word processing, data base, and spread sheet programs (Microsoft Works, and ClarisWorks)
- Lotus Notes
- Experience in using and teaching others to use a wide variety of curriculum-related software (Inspiration, KidPix)
- Course work in integrating technology into the curriculum
- ITEC Course, Lehigh University, Spring 1986 (State computer training course for teachers) Training in Using Data Base Programs Montgomery County Intermediate Unit, Summer, 1986 (Studied with nationally-known computer expert, Beverly Hunter and developed a unit for sixth grades on Medieval life that integrated technology, social studies, and language arts).

#### **Keeping Abreast of Reading/Language Arts Research and Best Practices**

- Reading Fluency
- Language Experience Approach
- Balanced literacy instruction
- Developmentally appropriate practices
- Strategic reading
- New grouping patterns for reading instruction
- Preventing reading difficulties through intervention
- Teaching reading and writing in the content areas
- Differentiating instruction to help all students succeed
- Alternative approaches to assessment including the use of portfolios

#### **Doctoral Work**

Temple University, Philadelphia, PA 1974–1980

##### **Ph.D. Educational Psychology, Psychology of Reading**

Course work and practice in research, theory, instructional supervision; effective teaching practices in reading/language arts; organization of district programs; evaluating curriculum and implementing recommendations; designing staff development and leading workshops; improving assessment; and designing research

Temple University, Philadelphia, PA 1971–1974

##### **M.Ed. in Psychology of Reading**

Temple University and Gwynedd Mercy College, Gwynedd Valley, PA 1968–1970

##### **Elementary Education Certification**

Douglass College, New Brunswick, New Jersey 1964–1968

##### **A.B. in Political Science**

### **WORK HISTORY – COLLEGES/UNIVERSITY**

**2001- present**      ***Director of Elementary-Special Education, Assistant Professor,  
La Salle University, Philadelphia, PA***

Teach graduate and undergraduate reading/language courses and a graduate practicum, supervise student teachers, serve as faculty director of elementary-special education program, established after-school tutoring program, served on Pennsylvania Department of Education Review, developed Web Page, worked on committee to revise junior year program.

**1983 - 2000** ***Visiting Lecturer, Beaver College***

Taught graduate reading/language courses entitled English/Language Arts, Microcomputers in Reading and Language Arts, and Reading in the Content Areas.

**1993- 1997**      ***Visiting Lecturer, University of Pennsylvania***

Co-taught the Literacy Network seminar for two years. The second year course allowed graduates of the first course to continue studying the application of PCR II by engaging in action research.

**1981–1982**      ***Assistant Professor, Education Department, Lincoln University***

Served as freshman advisor; coordinated school improvement plan; organized reading conference for area school personnel, assisted with registration; taught remedial Speech and reading courses as well as educational methods courses; organized a County Reading Council.

### **WORK HISTORY – SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

**1998–2001**      ***Wissahickon School District  
Ambler, PA 19002***

**Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Grades K-12**

#### **Strategic Planning/Middle States Accreditation**

- Served as co-chair for district's strategic planning process and K-12 Accreditation for Growth/Middle States evaluation

#### **Curriculum**

- Added a curriculum presence on the District web site to new curriculum overviews as they written, highlight District-approved standards, and link to other curriculum-related sites
- Supervised 10 curriculum supervisors
- Wrote a new standards-based planned course format

- Wrote an improved curriculum structure. This structure provides opportunities for ongoing curriculum renewal and includes new policies and administrative regulations
- Led curriculum review teams in science, health and physical education, social studies, world language, and reading/language arts programs
- Wrote curriculum policies and administrative guidelines
- Worked with a committee of 48 staff and community members to design a graduation project and a structure for new graduation requirements

#### **School Board Activities**

- Responsible for planning School Board's curriculum and technology committee meetings and reports
- Made presentations at videotaped School Board meetings every two weeks

#### **Professional Development**

- Led team to write an Approved Act 48 Professional Education Plan. Planned and led staff development sessions for K-12 staff in teaching reading and writing across the curriculum, integrating technology into the curriculum, instructional strategies, performance-based assessment, differentiating instruction and interdisciplinary instruction, for administrators as well as teachers

#### **Community Activities**

- Served as Executive Director of the Wissahickon Educational Foundation
- Served as member of Rohm and Haas Community Advisory Board

#### **Technology**

- Led technology committee meetings.
- Worked with the staff to develop a district technology plan and K-12 technology standards
- Guided staff members in offering technology courses through the Wissahickon Institute

*1987–1998 Upper Dublin School District  
Dresher, PA 19025*

#### **Director of Curriculum, Grades K-12**

#### **Strategic Planning/Middle States**

- Served as co-chair for district's strategic planning process and K-12 Middle States evaluation

#### **Technology**

- Organized a district-wide technology fair

#### **Curriculum**

- Wrote an improved curriculum structure which is strongly supported by all curriculum supervisors, teachers, principals, and School Board members. This structure provides opportunities for ongoing curriculum renewal and includes new policies and administrative regulations, a handbook, new format for planned

courses, curriculum reviews, and annual curriculum reports, and provides for participation by all stakeholders.

- Led successful curriculum teams in reviewing science, social studies, library, and reading/language arts programs

#### **Grant Writing**

- Wrote grants and had responsibility for all federal and state programs

#### **Instruction**

- Developed handbook of K-12 instructional strategies

#### **Assessment**

- Worked with staff to create an elementary portfolio used by all teachers and students

#### **School Board Activities**

- Responsible for planning School Board's curriculum and technology committee meetings and reports

#### **Professional Development**

- Planned and led staff development sessions for K-12 staff in integrating technology into the curriculum, instructional strategies, performance-based assessment, differentiating instruction and interdisciplinary instruction, for administrators as well as teachers

#### **Community Activities**

- Served on district's Educational Foundation committee
- Served as the administrative representative on Education Advisory Council

### **Reading/Language Arts Supervisor, Grades K-12**

#### **Improved Reading/ Language Arts Program**

- Revamped reading/language arts program
- Responsible for Title I program and directed Adult Basic Education program
- Selected, ordered and took inventories of district's reading-language arts equipment, textbooks, and materials
- Introduced technology in all Title I classes and trained all reading staff to use computers for instruction and as a personal tool
- Wrote, edited and disseminated integrated literature units
- Led a collaborative effort to develop a reading-language arts portfolio
- Chaired reading and language arts departments (grades K-12)
- Served on the District's Administrative Council
- Organized visits of nationally-recognized authors
- Developed budgets and prepared purchase orders for reading-language arts and Title I program

### **Staff Development**

- Served on district's Professional Development Committee composed of administrators and representatives of Upper Dublin's Educational Association to plan district staff development programs and update Act 178 plans, 1991-present
- Member of Changing Roles and Expectations Task Force, 1994-1995 and Staff Development Task Force to make recommendations for improving district's staff development program, 1993-1996
- Taught three graduate courses in teaching reading and writing in all subject areas on site at Upper Dublin in cooperation with Beaver College and University of Pennsylvania

### **Technology-Related Experience**

- Helped teachers in a variety of subject areas integrate technology into the curriculum
- Selected and ordered hardware and software
- Led meetings of technology curriculum leaders
- Member of Technology Long-Range Planning Committee, 1991-1992
- Worked on a number of committees to develop technology vision
- Represented District on MCIU/ IMS Advisory Council, 1992-1995
- Met with elementary technology representatives from 1992-1994
- Organized and disseminated MECC, Scholastic, Heath, and other software programs
- Taught staff to use a number of software programs
- Worked with reading staff to computerize all records

### **Involvement with Strategic Planning**

- Co-Chair Middle States - Strategic Planning Process, 1993-1995
- Served on Steering Committee for Strategic Planning
- Organized and edited booklet for Middle States Reaccreditation Process

### **Communicating Orally and in Writing**

- Spoke to groups of the District's parents, teachers, and School Board members
- Led workshops at local, regional, and state meetings and conferences
- Wrote and edited literature units
- Edited a study guide for fifth graders and their parents
- Worked with a team of teachers to produce Portfolio Handbook
- Wrote responses to EAC reports, monthly board reports
- Wrote proposals for Title I and Adult Basic Education funds
- Developed Title I Resource Book which is updated every year
- Wrote and helped produce videotape for kindergarten parents

**1982–1987**     *Reading Curriculum Associate*  
                    *School District of Cheltenham Township*  
                    *Elkins Park, PA 19117*

Chaired, Reading Council and Reading Specialists' meetings; developed planned courses of study; implemented and evaluated new reading programs; wrote, and directed others in writing, reading and study skills programs and tests; conduct staff

development sessions; developed budgets; selected and ordered reading materials; diagnosed reading abilities of students; developed, administered and evaluated kindergarten screening program; directed reading placement of students; assisted in administering TELLS and Title I programs; directed R.I.F. program, wrote grant proposals.

- 1979 - 1981**                    ***Reading Specialist, Grades 9–12***  
***Hamilton High School East***  
***Hamilton Township, NJ***
- 1977–1979**                    ***Language Arts Specialist, Grades K–2***  
***East Windsor Regional Schools***  
***Hightstown, NJ***
- 1976–1977**                    ***Reading Study Skills Instructor (Assistantship)***  
***Temple University***  
***Philadelphia, PA***
- 1974–1976**                    ***Reading Specialist, Grades K–6***  
***Skippack School***  
***Skippack, PA***
- 1973–1974**                    ***Reading Specialist, Grades K–6***  
***North Penn School District***  
***Lansdale, PA***
- 1970–1973**                    ***Reading Specialist, Grades K–6***  
***Classroom Teacher, Grades 1, 4***  
***Perkiomen Valley School District***  
***Schwenksville, PA***
- 1968–1969**                    ***Classroom Teacher, Grade 3***  
***St. Augustine School***  
***Bridgeport, PA***

## **PUBLICATIONS**

“Working Together: A Classroom Teacher and a Reading Specialist Collaborate To Foster Students’ Oral Reading Fluency:”, an article I am preparing to submit for publication, 2004.

"Selecting Software For A Kindergarten Integrated Language Arts Program" published in an International Reading Association publication of the Special Interest Group on Microcomputers in Reading, 1991.

"Evaluating Reading Comprehension Software" published in Preparation of Teachers for Microcomputers Instruction in Reading and Language Arts, a publication of the Special Interest Group on Microcomputers in Reading of the I.R.A., 1986.

"Writing a Program to Reinforce Reading Skills" published in Computers, Reading, and Language Arts, Spring, 1984.

Scope English Anthology, published by Scholastic Book Services, New York, NY, 1983.  
Served as the reading consultant for books one through six.

Sprint Library Teaching Guides written by Virginia B. Modla and Kathryn Ferri, published by Scholastic Book Services, New York, NY, 1978, 1979.

Co-authored two spirit master books of reading skill work for remedial readers.

## **GRANTS**

Co-wrote proposals for five grants - three were awarded and two were not. The successful proposals included:

- A grant requesting Educate America Act funds, which was fully funded (\$100,000) in April, 1997
- A Link to Learn Technology Grant, which was submitted to PDE on November 7, 1997 and was funded the full amount (\$44,000)
- A Goals 2000 grant which was fully funded (\$100,000) in August, 1995

Worked with LaSalle professors to submit two of the yet-to-be funded grants one to Apple Computer and the other to the Pennsylvania Link to Learn Test Bed program. The latter proposal was developed cooperatively with LaSalle University and Beaver College professors, the Intermediate Unit, Adelphia Cable, Infonautics Corporation.

## **SPEECHES AND WORKSHOPS**

1. “Oral Reading Fluency” a presentation to the staff at the Joseph Pennell Elementary School, Philadelphia, PA, April 27, 2004.

Ginger Modla – Speeches and workshops (continued)

2. "Bridging the Gap to Content Area Reading with Language Experience, Technology, and Literature" a presentation to the Language Experience Special Interest Group at the International Reading Association Conference, Reno, Nevada, May 4, 2004.
3. "Lively, Interactive Reading and Writing Activities for Your Primary Classroom", Delaware Valley Reading Association, November 16, 2002.
4. "Improving Your Balanced Literacy Program", a workshop for the staff at Carnell School, Philadelphia, PA., February 19, 2002.
5. "Using Portfolios for Professional Development", Philadelphia School District, Spring, 2000.
6. "On-Line Research - the Safe Way", PASB Technology Conference, Penn State, October, 1997.
5. "Using Portfolios", Alpha Delta Kappa Northeast Regional Conference, July, 1996.
6. "Developing Portfolios" with Kathy Gibson and Nancy Hahn - a full-day workshop for teachers in the Pittsburgh area, June, 1995.
7. Johanna Berman, Jamie Fiermonte, Madeline Lander, Krista Macchione, and Karen Staub - a full-day workshop at the BLaST Intermediate Unit, Williamsport, PA, May, 1995.
8. "Using Portfolios with Young Children" with Barbara Klotz, Paulette Rackow, Claire Ragusa, and Mary Anna Swart, Madison Avenue Elementary School, Ambler, PA, May, 1995.
9. "Revising a District Portfolio" with Barbara Klotz and Theresa McCabe at the Pennsylvania Desired Outcomes Conference, Valley Forge, PA., March, 1995.
10. "Assessment in Reading and Language Arts" - a workshop for teachers, presented at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit, Fall, 1994.
11. "Collaboration + Meaningful Connections = Better Instruction for Gifted" with Sue Whitlock, PAGE Conference, Harrisburg, PA, April, 1993.
- 12.. "Research Into Practice: Promises and Problems – Implementing Portfolio Assessment in a School District", Delaware Valley Reading Association, March, 1993.

Page Ten

13. "The Courage To Grow: Collaboration, Reading and the Gifted" with Sue Whitlock, PASCD Conference, Hershey, PA, November, 1992.
14. "The Upper Dublin Reading Portfolio", with District reading specialists, Keystone State Reading Association, November, 1991.
15. "Developing the Upper Dublin Reading Portfolio", Montgomery County Reading Council, April 1991 and Delaware Valley Reading Association, March, 1991.
16. "Use PCR II; Books, Computers, and Creativity To Plan Engaging Mini Lessons For Your Primary Students", Keystone State Reading Association Conference, Mt. Laurel Resort and Conference Center, October, 1990.
17. "Rainbows, Computers, and Young Children", International Reading Association Conference, Atlanta, 1990.
18. "Brightly of the Grand Canyon – an Integrated Language Arts Unit", Keystone State Reading Association Conference, Seven Springs, PA, October, 1989.
19. "Dragons Old & New – A Unit To Motivate Students To Read & Write", International Reading Association Conference, New Orleans, May, 1988.
20. "Integrating Computer Technology in the Reading Curriculum", National Educational Computing Conference, Philadelphia, PA, June, 1987.
21. "How to Use Computers to Make Curriculum Integration Easier and More Motivating", International Reading Association Conference, Anaheim, CA, May 1987  
and Keystone State Reading Association Conference, Philadelphia, PA, November, 1986.
22. "Preparation of Teachers for Microcomputer Instruction in Reading and Language Arts", College Reading Association Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, October, 1985.
23. "How to Use High Interest Science Fiction Books, Activities, and Computer Programs and Flow Charts to Add 'Pizzazz' to your Reading Program", Keystone State Reading Association Conference, Hershey, PA, November, 1984.
24. "The Bear Facts on Writing a Software Program to Improve Reading Comprehension", and "Writing Software to Reinforce Critical Reading Skills", Computers, Reading and Language Arts Conference, San Francisco, CA, February, 1984, and Computers, Reading and Learning Difficulties Conference, Philadelphia, PA, April, 1984.

25. "Writing a Software Program to Improve Students' Ability to Detect Propaganda Techniques", New Jersey State Reading Association Conference, Glassboro, NJ, February, 1984.
26. "Selecting Software For Your Child", a workshop presented for parents at the Keystone State Reading Conference, Penn State University, University Park, PA, October, 1983.
27. "Writing a Software Program to Improve Reading Comprehension", International Reading Association Conference, Anaheim, CA, May, 1983.
28. "Writing a Software Program to Improve Reading Comprehension: A Step-By-Step Procedure", New Jersey State Reading Association Conference, Cherry Hill, NJ, April, 1983.
29. "Developing a Creative, Dynamic Compensatory Program in Your Secondary School", Winter Conference, Kean College, February, 1982.
30. "An Experiment in Teaching Second Graders to Judge the Validity of Inferences", Bucks County Reading Association, January, 1982.
31. "Strategies for Test Taking Skills", Keystone State Reading Association Conference, Monroeville, PA, November, 1981.
32. "Improving Your Students' Reading Comprehension While Preparing Them for the SAT's", Reading Symposium, Lincoln University, October, 1981.
33. "Improving the Critical Reading Ability of Young Children", Keystone State Reading Association Conference, Lancaster, PA, 1980.

#### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Pi Lambda Theta, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development  
Phi Delta Kappa, International Reading Association, Keystone State Reading Association, Montgomery County Reading Council, Past President, Delaware Valley Reading Association, Past President, Bucks County Reading Association, Past President, National Council of Teachers of English, Alpha Delta Kappa, President-Elect, Pennsylvania, Gamma Chapter, Past President,

#### **HONORS**

Chair, Middle States Accreditation for Growth Reaccrediation School Team, Talbot County, Maryland, Fall, 2000

Chair, Middle States Accreditation for Growth Reaccreditation Team, Rumson-Fair Haven, New Jersey, Spring, 2000

Award for Co-chairing the Upper Dublin School District's Strategic Planning Process  
Pennsylvania's Reading Advisory Board

D.C. Heath's National Literacy Board

Beaver College Reading Advisory Board

Phi Delta Gamma Doctoral Award, 1980

Graduate Assistantship, Temple University, 1976

### **CERTIFICATION**

Superintendent's Letter of Eligibility, Pennsylvania

Reading Supervisor, Pennsylvania, New Jersey Reading Specialist, K-12, New Jersey, Pennsylvania

Elementary Teacher, New Jersey, Pennsylvania

### **REFERENCES**

Available upon request