Imani Akin, EdD
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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

My educational and leadership experiences include collaborating with education professionals to demonstrate alternative and innovative methods of teaching and learning to meet the needs of all learners. My goal is to increase student retention and success in learning environments by enhancing the actions and skills that contribute to teacher effectiveness and readiness to support a diverse population of learners.

EDUCATION

Jun '23 - **MBA**, Data Analytics, *American College of Education*
Sep '07 - **Doctor of Education**, Educational Administration, *University of Phoenix, AR*
May '04 -**MS**, Special Education, *Chicago State University, Chicago, IL*
Aug '02 - **Elementary Teacher Certification**, *Governors State University, University Park, IL*
Aug '00 - **BA**, Communications, Education and Workforce Development, *DePaul University, Chicago, IL*

Certifications

Quality Matters Peer Reviewer
IL Professional Teaching License
Total Quality Matters Plus Training
Certificate IL State
Tutor for Adult Learners

Awards

UOP Founding Leader of Alumni Chapter Award
Teacher Scholarship Grant from GSU (2002)
UOP Research Fellow Grant (2018)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2015 – Present **Senior Instructional Faculty** - *Doctoral Research Department, American College of Education*
Department Chair, **Doctoral Research**
Research and Dissertation Coach - Department of Leadership and Administration **-** *American College of Education*
Academic Curriculum Director
Instructional Faculty
Adjunct Doctoral Faculty
Led the day-to-day operations of the doctoral research program.
Supported the development of the doctoral programs.
Conducted research for and designed writing courses for doctoral students.
Trained doctoral family to teach dissertation research courses and serve as course reviewers.
Created learning objects to support comprehension of course content.
Teach research and business courses.

2017(one course) **Online Contributing Faculty –** College of Health Sciences **-** *University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences*

- ▪ Instructor of Innovations in Healthcare Education course
- ▪ Teach medical experts and interns how to transfer their skills
- ▪ Dissertation Committee Member for EDD program

2017 – 2018 **Research Fellow,** School of Advanced Studies, Center for Educational and Instructional Technology Research, *University of Phoenix*
Awarded grant to conduct study of research and scholarship building opportunities for doctoral degree graduates.
- ▪ Recruited, developed, trained, and led doctoral graduate team of researchers.
- ▪ Designed a research project using the mixed methods approach while meeting all contract deadlines.
- ▪ Managed and mined data using internal and external online resources such as LPI and University systems.
- ▪ Presented research findings at academic conference
- ▪ Published research findings

2012 – 2017   **Professional Development Faculty** – **National Education Consultant** - *ASCD, Alexandria, VA*

- ▪ Designed and facilitated various workshops – half, full day, or multiple day workshops for capacity building PDs.
- ▪ Consult with school administrators to design plans to support teacher leadership through customized on-going professional development.
- ▪ Developed SWOT for school capacity building needs and submitted to ASCD for approval
- ▪ Trained school leaders on RTI and implementation

2009 – 2017   **Online Faculty- College of Education -** *University of Phoenix*
- • Design online instructional delivery for engaging learning activities
- • Connect theory to practice in curriculum to identify characteristics and support exceptional learners. Teaching, modeling, coaching, assessing, and providing constructive feedback for field experience. Guided student development of online portfolios using Taskstream.

Subject matter expert (SME) on the education program revision team to align education program with edTPA. Subject matter expert (SME) Pearson for new teacher assessment - Bias Committee Member

Field Supervisor State of Indiana – College of Education - *University of Phoenix, Merrillville, IN*
- • Coaching, observing, and evaluating the teacher candidate's classroom practices.
- • Coordinating collaborative meetings with teacher-candidate and cooperating teacher
- • Communicate feedback to guide and enhance teacher skills and improve student learning outcomes.

Associate Faculty – College of Education - *University of Phoenix, Merrillville, IN*
Teach SPED content and implementation in blended learning environment for undergraduate and graduate level students

2002 – 2010   **Special Education Teacher, Department head, Case Manager for SWD** - *Chicago Public Schools, Chicago, IL*

1980 - 2000   **Supervisor, Office Administration** - *Chicago Board of Trade – Information Technology Department*

PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapters
Akin, I. & Claybrooks, G. (2023). That's not fair: Balancing the workload for remote teams. In Denney, R. & Roberts, C. J., Editors, *Building Honor in Academics*: *Case Studies in Academic Integrity, 146-148.* Jossey-Bass/Wiley

Akin, I. & Neumann, C. (2018). Aligning assessment with instruction. In Silverberg, D., Editor, *Institutional change from within: Teaching and learning in higher education, 43-57.* Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield Publishers

Articles
MurrellJones, M. & Akin, I. (2024, November). Strategic partnering for dissertation development. *Educational Quest: An international Journal of Education and Applied Social Sciences* 15(2),1-9. doi: 10.30954/2230-7311.2.2024.1

Akin, I. & Johnson, E. (2018, March). Cultivating academic integrity in a digital learning environment. *International Journal of Digital Society, 9*(1), 1359-1366. doi:10.20533/ijds.2040.2570.2018.0167

Akin, I. & Murrell- Jones, M. (2018, March). Closing the gap in academic writing using the cognitive load theory. *Literacy Information and computer Education Journal, 9*(3). doi: 10.20533/licej.2949.2589.2018.0373

Akin, I. & Radford, L. (2018, February). Exploring self-esteem and resilience in urban schools. *Contemporary Issues in Education Research, 11*(1). doi.org/10.19030/cier.v11i1.110118

Akin, I. (2015, April). Coloring the ivory tower: Collaborating to support cultural identity within a multicultural higher education learning environment. Johnston, E. Editor. *Making sense of differing experiences of identity in America, 72-76 Journal of Psychological Issues in Organizational Culture, 6*(1), 68-76. doi:10.1002/jpoc.21167.

Akin, I. & Neumann, C. (2014, October). College and community collaboration for graduate workforce readiness. *Journal of College Teaching and Learning*, *4*(11), 207-216. doi.org/10.19030/tlc.v11i4.8896

Akin, I. & Neumann, C. (2013, October). Identifying proactive collaboration strategies for teacher readiness for the marginalized student. *Journal of College Teaching and Learning, 10*(4), 235-244. doi.org/10.19030/tlc.v10i4.8139

Akin, I. & Neumann, C. (2012, November). Collaborating to transition students into the workplace. *ATEA Journal*. Fall Issue.

Proceedings

Akin, I., Burress, R. (2024). Student perceptions of police officers and school safety in public high schools**.** *Proceedings of the International Conference on Urban Education: ICUEI 2024.*

 Akin, I. & Claybrooks, G. (2023). Supporting equity in education for underrepresented Learners. *Proceedings of the 3rd IAFOR Conference on Educational Research & Innovation.*

Akin, I., Burress, R. (2022). Supporting students' transition to careers or college: Closing gaps due to the pandemic. *Proceedings of the 16th International Multi-conference on Society, Cybernetics and Informatics: IMSCI 2022.*

Akin, I. Murrell-Jones, M., Harris, S. (2021). Beyond commencement: Supporting scholarship for doctoral graduates. In T. Bastiaens (Ed.), *Proceedings of EdMedia + Innovate Learning*, 424-436. Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE)

MurrellJones, M., & Akin, I. (2020, June). Developing the dissertation chair and doctoral candidate relationship in online learning environments. In *EdMedia+ Innovate Learning*, 849-859. Proceedings Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE).

MurrellJones, M. & Akin, I. (2021). Strategic partnering: developing the dissertation. *Proceedings of the International Conference on Education*

Neumann C., Akin, I., Allison, K., Johnson, E. (2019, June). Growth focused collaboration. *Proceedings of the Distance Learning Conference*

Akin, I. & Jones, M. (2017). Bridging the gap between theory and application in academic writing. *Proceedings of the London International Conference on Educations*, Cambridge, UK

Akin, I. & Johnson, E. (2017). Promoting academic integrity in a virtual learning environment. *Proceedings of the London International Conference on Education*, Cambridge, UK

Akin, I. & Neumann, C. (2016, June). Integrating instructional technology in online learning environments. *Proceedings of the EdMedia2016 World Conference on Educational Media and Technology*. Vancouver, BC

Blogs

Akin, I., (2018, July). Publish or Perish – Not for the Phoenix Graduate. University of Phoenix Center for IETER Blog

Akin, I. (2012, April). Learning, leading, and listening in collaboration. DePaul University ASK Mentor Stories.

Dissertation

Akin, I. (2007, September). The effect of teacher perception on student placement in restricted environments: A grounded theory study. ProQuest Dissertations Database.

PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS

International Conference on Urban Education, Cancun, Mexico (November 2024). Faculty Perspectives on Building Educational Equity for Students in Higher Education, I. Akin and M. MurrellJones

International Conference on Urban Education, Cancun, Mexico (November 2024). Student Perceptions of Police Officers and School Safety in Public High Schools, I. Akin and R. Burress

IAFOR Conference on Educational Research & Innovation. Online. (2023). Supporting Equity in Education for Underrepresented Learners. I. Akin and G. Claybrooks

International Multi-conference on Society, Cybernetic, and Informatics. Online. (2022, May). Supporting Students' Transition to Careers or College: Closing Gaps Due to the Pandemic. I. Akin and R. Burress

EdMedia + Innovate Learning. Online. (2021, May). Strategic Partnering: Developing the Dissertation. M. MurrellJones and I. Akin.

iLRN2020 Virtual Conference. Online.(2020 June). Cultivating Engagement to Support Social Presence in Online Teaching and Learning. Akin, Jensen, and Langan

AACE Conference. Online. (2020, August). Developing the Dissertation Chair and Doctoral Candidate Relationship in Online Learning Environments. M. MurrellJones, M. and I Akin.

Distance Learning Conference, Jekyll Island, GA. (2019, June). Growth Focused Collaboration. Neumann, Akin, Allison, and Johnson.

OLC, Denver, CO. (2018, April). The Doctoral Candidate and the Dissertation Chair Relationship. M. MurrellJones and I. Akin.

AARE Conference. Sydney, Australia. (2018, December). Symposium: Developing the Student-to-Scholar for Research to Influence Real World Change. I. Akin and M MurrellJones

AARE Conference, Sydney, Australia. (2018, August). Exploring the Beliefs and Professional Experiences Impacting the Building of Scholarship for Doctoral Degree Graduates. Akin, Harris, and MurrellJones.

AARE Conference, Sydney, Australia. (2018). Developing the Researcher and the Scholar in an Online Learning Environments. Johnson, Neumann, and Akin.

Midwest LGBTQ Health Symposium, Chicago, Illinois. (2018, September). Exploring the Phenomenon of Couch Surfing and the Effect on High School Matriculation. R. Burress and I. Akin.

Knowledge without Boundaries Virtual Symposium (KWB). (2018, August). Cultivating a Community of Engaged Alumni. Akin, Harris, and Murrell Jones.

Foundations for Critical Thinking Conference, Rohnert, CA, (2018, July). Critical Thinking to Enhance Academic Writing in Higher Education. 1. Akin and C. Neumann.

SITE Conference, Washington, D.C. (2018, March). Building Teacher Capacity for the Blended Learning Environment. M. Engelhart and I. Akin.

London International Conference on Education, Cambridge. (2017, December). Bridging the Gap between Theory and Application in Academic Writing. I. Akin and M. MurrellJones.

London International Conference on Education, Cambridge. (December 2017). Promoting Academic Integrity in a Virtual Learning Environment. I. Akin and E. Johnson.

Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) Conference, Houston, TX. (2017, November). Equity in Action? Session Chair.

Online Learning Consortium Conference, New Orleans. (2017, April). Effective Collaboration for Curriculum Change/Reform in Online Teaching and Learning. I. Akin, C. Neumann, and S. Burch-Bynum.

ACE Virtual Symposium. (2016, November). Using Instructor Feedback for Effective Teaching Learning. S. Aguliar and I. Akin.

International Conference on Urban Education, San Juan, Puerto Rico. (2016, November). Educational Technology for Online Teaching and Learning. I. Akin and C. Neumann.

EdMedia2016 World Conference on Educational Media and Technology, Vancouver, BC. (2016, June). Integrating Instructional Technology in Online Learning Environments. I. Akin and C. Neumann.

AACTE Annual Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada. (2016, February). High Quality Online Teaching and Learning: Aligning the Learning. I. Akin and D. Maxwell.

Global Education Conference Network. Online. (2015, November). Preparing Teachers for Instructional Best Practices within an Evolving Digital Society. I. Akin, T. Broussard and C. Neumann.

AACTE Webinar. (2015, September). Fostering Teacher Presence in an Online Learning Environment to Ascertain Teacher Disposition. Webinar. I. Akin, D. Maxwell, and H. Wynn**.**

AACTE Webinar. (2015, June). Faculty Feedback in an Online Doctoral Environment. Webinar. I. Akin, Henry, and Walters.

AACTE Annual Conference, Atlanta. (2015, February). High Quality Online Teaching and Learning Strategic Goals TAG Presentation.

International Conference on Urban Education, Montego Bay, Jamaica. (2014, November). Exploring self-esteem and resilience in urban schools. I. Akin and L. Radford.

ASCD Tonti Elementary School, Chicago, IL. (2014, August). Co-teaching Strategies and Implementation of Accommodations. Akin

ASCD Annual Conference on Teaching Excellence. Dallas, TX. (2014, June). Aligning Accommodations and Modifications with the Common Core State Standards for Academic Success for Students with Disabilities: Connecting Their Needs and Rigor in the Classroom. Akin

ASCD PGCPS District, Hyattsville, MD. (2014, June). The Common Core State Standards and Learners with Special Needs: Connecting Their Needs and Rigor in the Classroom. Akin

International Conference on Education, Germany, Munich. (2014, June). College and Community Collaboration for student career readiness. I. Akin and C. Neumann.

12th Annual International Conference on Education, Honolulu, Hawaii. (2014, January). Community and College Collaboration or Student Workforce Readiness. I. Akin and C. Neumann.

ASCD-PGCPS New Carrollton School, MD. (2013). Response to Intervention and Differentiated Instruction: Tier 1. Workshop. Akin

PGCPS District Office- Teacher Summer PD, Hyattsville, MD. (2013, June). Accommodation and Modifications for Students with Disabilities: Meeting the Common Core Standards. Workshop. Akin

ATEA National Conference, Chattanooga, TN. (2013, March). Using Technology for Postsecondary Instructional Delivery: A Vehicle for Pedagogy. I. Akin and C. Neumann
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Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Annual Conference. Lisle, Illinois. (2012, November). Identifying Proactive Collaboration Strategies for Student Success. I. Akin, T. Broussard, C. Neumann, and P. Phoenix. Workshop.

Prodigy, Inc., Lansing, Illinois. (2011, February). The Learning Environment: Being an Effective Educator. Akin

DePaul University. Chicago, Illinois. (2011, February). Progress yet parity: The Need to Advance Women of Color. Akin-Panelist

Professional and Community Collaborations and Memberships
(Past and Present Contributions and Experiences)
- Former ASCD Board Nomination Committee
- Former Associate Editor for International Journal of Innovative Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (IJITLHE)
- Former Board Member, Chicago Children's Advocacy Center
- Former Board of Directors for Children of Peace Catholic School for Hearing Impaired
- Former Community Advisory Board, Howard Brown Health Center
- Bias/Fairness Committee for Indiana DOE and Pearson Teacher Prep Assessment
- UOP Research Hub Member-CIETR
- Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)
- Foundation for Critical Thinking Member
- PUSH Education Nomination Committee
- Founding Member of AACTE TAG, High Quality Online Teaching and Learning
- DePaul University ASK mentor
- UOP Chicago Alumni Chapter - Founding President
- ISBE Item Writer for Assessment Accommodations
- IGI -Peer Reviewer
- Illinois Tutor Program – South Suburban College
- Educause Member
- ICAI Member