

Sara Sorensen Petersen, J.D.
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Washington State University Tri-Cities
College of Education
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EDUCATION

- 2013 Certificate **Dispute Resolution Center of King County**, Seattle, Washington
Certificate: *Washington State Mediation Training*
- 2001 J.D. **University of Oregon School of Law**, Eugene, Oregon
Alternative Dispute Resolution
- 2000 Certificate **Center for Dialogue and Resolution**, Eugene, Oregon
Certificate: *Oregon Basic Mediation Training*
- 1995 B.A. **Washington State University**, Pullman, Washington
K-8 Elementary Education / K-12 Special Education

WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2011-Present **Clinical Assistant Professor of Special Education/Faculty Advisor/Master in Teaching Program Coordinator, and AVID Teacher Preparation Liaison**, Department of Teaching and Learning, College of Education, Washington State University Tri-Cities, Richland, Washington

Courses Taught:

- SPEC_ED 301: Educating Exceptional Children
- SPEC_ED 401/501: Teaching Children with Disabilities
- SPEC_ED 402/502: Assessment and Curriculum for Students with Disabilities
- SPEC_ED 403/503: Secondary Special Education
- SPEC_ED 404/504: Professional Skills in Special Education
- SPEC_ED 420/520: Teaching in Inclusive Classrooms
- SPEC_ED 421/521: Inclusion for Special Education Teachers
- SPEC_ED 490/590: Practicum Experience in Special Education
- SPEC_ED 522: Topics in Special Education: Administrative Practices in Special Education
- TCH_LRN 301: Learning and Development
- TCH_LRN 483: Integrating Health and Fitness into K-8 Curriculum
- H_D 205: Developing Effective Communication and Life Skills
- ED_PSYCH 401: Classroom Assessment
- MIT 508: Curriculum and Instruction Methods

- 2007-2011 **Coordinator**, K-12 Special Education Endorsement Program, Washington State University Tri-Cities
- 2002-2011 **Adjunct Professor**, Special Education, Washington State University Tri-Cities

- 2001 **Graduate Teaching Fellow** (Curriculum Development), Special Education, College of Education, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon
- 1999-2001 **Graduate Teaching Fellow** (Practicum/Student Teacher Supervisor), Specialized Training Program, College of Education, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon
- 1999-2001 **Law Clerk** for Mary E. Broadhurst, Attorney at Law, Springfield, Oregon
- 1997-1998 **Special Education Resource Room Teacher**, Brigadoon Elementary, Federal Way Public Schools, Federal Way, Washington
- 1995-1997 **Special Education Life Skills Teacher**, Briarwood Elementary, Issaquah School District, Renton, Washington

AWARDS

- 2017 **Faculty Member of the Year**, Office of Enrollment Management and Student Services, Washington State University Tri-Cities
- 2015 **Faculty Excellence Award in Service**, College of Education, Washington State University
- 2001 **Anna E. Wood Award**, Women's Law Forum, University of Oregon School of Law
- 2001 **National Association of Women Lawyers Award**, University of Oregon School of Law

PUBLICATIONS AND SCHOLARSHIP

Published

- Barrio, B. L., Miller, D., Hsiao, Y., Dunn, M., **Petersen, S.**, Hollingshead, A., & Banks, S. (2017). Designing Culturally Responsive and Relevant Individualized Educational Programs. *Intervention in School and Clinic*, 53(2), 114-119. doi:10.1177/1053451217693364
- Hsiao, Y-J., & **Sorensen Petersen, S.** (2019). Evidence-based practices provided in teacher education and in-service training programs for special education teachers of students with autism spectrum disorders. *Teacher Education and Special Education*, 42(3), 193-208. doi:10.1177/0888406418758464.

In Preparation

- Hsiao, Y-J., Barrio, B. L., & Dunn, M., & **Sorensen Petersen, S.** (in preparation). Use of evidence-based practices by special education professionals working with students with autism spectrum disorder. Target Journal: *Teacher Education and Special Education*.

PRESENTATIONS

- Sorensen Petersen, S.L.** (2019, February). Trends in special education dispute resolution in Washington State. Presentation at *15th Annual International Globalization, Diversity, and Education Conference*, Spokane, WA.
- Hsiao, Y-J., Barrio, B. L., Dunn, M., & **Sorensen Petersen, S.** (2019, January). Use of evidence-based practices by special education professionals working with students with autism spectrum disorder. A poster presentation at the *20th International Conference on Autism, Intellectual Disability & Developmental Disabilities*, Maui, HI.
- McAteer, K., & **Sorensen Petersen, S.L.** (2018, December). The AVID College Completion Project and Teacher Preparation at WSU Tri-Cities. Invited presentation at *AVID National Conference*, San Diego, California.
- Sorensen Petersen, S.L.** (2018, October). Safety and Special Education in Times of Crisis. Presentation at *1st Annual STCU/WSUTC College of Education Summit*, Richland, Washington.
- Sorensen Petersen, S.L.** (2017, October). Supporting the learning needs of students with disabilities at WSU Tri-Cities. Faculty workshop at *Washington State University Tri-Cities*, Richland, Washington.
- Hsiao, Y., & **Sorensen Petersen, S.L.** (2016, August). Evidence-based practices in autism. Presentation at *Summer Autism Institute*, Washington State University Tri-Cities, Richland, WA.
- Hsiao, Y., & **Sorensen Petersen, S.L.** (2015, November). Training in evidence-based instructional strategies for special education teachers working with students with autism spectrum disorders. A poster presentation at *Council for Exceptional Children's Teacher Education Division Conference*, Tempe, Arizona.
- Barrio, B.L., Dunn, M., Hsiao, Y., & **Sorensen Petersen, S.L.**, (2015, April). Cultural considerations in individualized educational programming. Presentation at *Council for Exceptional Children Conference*, San Diego, California.
- Sorensen Petersen, S.L.** (2014, August). Grant writing for teachers. Presentation at *Summer Autism Institute*, Washington State University Tri-Cities, Richland, Washington.
- Sorensen Petersen, S.L.** (2013, November). Making accommodations for the learning needs of students with disabilities in higher education. Faculty workshop at *Washington State University Tri-Cities*, Richland, Washington.
- Sorensen Petersen, S.L.** (2013, February). A culture of ability. Presentation at *9th Annual International Globalization, Diversity, and Education Conference*, Vancouver, Washington.
- Sorensen Petersen, S.L.** (2012, April). Making accommodations for the learning needs of students with disabilities in higher education. Faculty workshop at *Washington State University Tri-Cities*, Richland,

Washington.

Sorensen Petersen, S.L. (2010, March). What do you know about special education? Presentation for students at *Imagine U* by Washington State University, River View High School, Finley, Washington.

Sorensen Petersen, S.L. (2010, February). Making accommodations for the learning needs of students with disabilities in higher education. Faculty workshop at *Washington State University Tri-Cities*, Richland, Washington.

GRANTS

- 2018 **Co-PI:** *Affordable Learning Grant*. WSU Office of the Provost. Co-Investigator: Dr. Yun-Ju Hsiao. Award Amount: \$4500. **Funded.**
- 2017 **Co-PI:** *Advancing Systemic Equity Using Inclusive and Diverse Instructional Practices*. Washington State Professional Educators Standards Board Pilot to Practice Grant. Co-Investigators: Dr. Maria Moscatelli, Dr. Judith Morrison, and Dr. Yun-Ju Hsiao. Award amount: \$20,000. **Funded.**
- 2016 **Co-PI:** *Improving Success of Students at Risk for Failure in Introductory Science Courses*. Washington State University Office of the Provost Student Success Seed Grant Program. Co-Investigators: Dr. Andrea Aebersold, Dr. Janet Peters, Dr. Elsa Silva-Lopez, and Dr. Elly Sweet. Award amount: \$12,000. **Not funded.**
- 2016 **Principal Investigator:** *Issues in Special Education Litigation: How Can School Districts Avoid Potential Litigation*. Washington State University Tri-Cities Chancellor's Seed Grant. Award amount: \$1500. **Funded.**
- 2015 **Co-PI:** *Infrastructure Development for WSU Tri-Cities Undergraduate Research Symposium and Art Exhibition*. JL Stubblefield Trust. Co-Investigator: Dr. Allison Matthews. Award amount: \$20,000. **Not funded.**
- 2015 **Principal Investigator:** *Promoting Positive Parent-School Partnerships in Special Education: A Pilot Project in the Seattle Public Schools*. Washington Women's Foundation. Award amount: \$70,000. **Not funded.**
- 2014 **Co-PI:** *Instructional Strategies for Education Professionals Working with Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder*. Washington State University College of Education Faculty Funding Award. Co-Investigator: Dr. Yun-Ju Hsiao. Award amount: \$9000. **Funded.**
- 2008 **Co-PI:** *Faculty-Led Study Abroad Mini-Grant*. Washington State University International Programs. Co-Investigator: Dr. Susan Rae Banks-Joseph. Award amount: \$3000. **Funded.**

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

National

- 2018-present Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE) Policy and Legislative Committee
- 2015-present Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE) Unit Development Committee
- 2015, 2017 Council for Exceptional Children's (CEC) Special Education Legislative Summit in Washington, DC

State

- 2018-present Washington State's Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB) Advancing Equity Work Group
- 2017-present Washington Council of Administrators of Special Education (WA-CASE) Children and Youth Action Network (CAN) Coordinator and Legislative/Policy Chair
- 2017 Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Leadership Institute
- 2015 Washington State's Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB) Special Education Work Group
- 2012-2013 Washington State's Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB) edTPA Alignment Group
- 2005-2007 Washington State's Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) Steering Committee

University

- 2018-present President's Commission on the Status of Women
- 2014-2017 International Programs Global Case Competition Advisor (2014 team advised advanced to the finals)

Department

- 2019-present Search Committee: Assistant Professor of Special Education, WSU Pullman
- 2016-present WSU Tri-Cities AVID Teacher Preparation Initiative (TPI) Liaison and Site Team Member
- 2016 Search Committee: Alternative Route Program Coordinator
- 2014-present WSU-Tri-Cities Master in Teaching (MIT) in Secondary and Elementary Education, Co-Developer, Co-Coordinator and Faculty Member
- 2012-2014 Search Committee: Assistant Professor of Special Education, WSU Tri-Cities
- 2006-present Special Education Program Member

Campus

- 2018-present WSU Tri-Cities AVID Site Team Member
- 2016 Search Committee: Admissions Counselor, WSU Tri-Cities
- 2015-present WSU Tri-Cities Advisors Committee
- 2015 Search Committee: Community Engagement Specialist, WSU Tri-Cities
- 2014-2015 WSU Tri-Cities Service Learning Committee
- 2011-present WSU Tri-Cities Scholarship Committee
- 2011-2015 WSU Tri-Cities Student Conduct Board Member and Co-Chair (2014-2015)
- 2014-2015 WSU Tri-Cities Child Care Task Force
- 2012-2013 WSU Tri-Cities Graduate Student Travel Committee

Community

- 2016-present Children's Reading Foundation Derby Days Fundraiser Committee
- 2016-present Children's Reading Foundation Mini-Golf Tournament Fundraiser Committee
- 2015-2017 Benton-Franklin Head Start, Board Member (elected Vice-Chair in January 2017)
- 2014-2015 Children's Reading Foundation Read to Lead Committee
- 2013-present Children's Reading Foundation of the Mid-Columbia, Board Member
- 2011-2016 Summer Autism Institute Planning Committee, Member and Co-Director
- 2011-2017 Modern Living Services Jingle and Jazz Fundraiser Planning Committee
- 2011 RtI/PLC Institute Planning Committee, Richland School District and ESD 123
- 2010-2017 Modern Living Services, Vice-President

PERSONAL SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

- 2019-present Richland School District Special Education Task Force Facilitator, Richland, Washington
- 2019-present Southridge High School Fundraising Coordinator for Girls' Golf Team
- 2016-2019 Mid-Columbia Ballet Guild, Raffle Fundraiser Chair, Richland, Washington
- 2015-2018 Southridge High School Fundraising Coordinator for Girls' Swim and Dive Team
- 2015-present Southridge High School Booster Club Member
- 2009-present Mid-Columbia Ballet Guild, Member, Richland, Washington
- 2009-2011 Southgate Elementary Parent-Teacher Group, President, Kennewick, Washington
- 2006-present Southgate Elementary, Horse Heaven Hills Middle School, and Southridge High School, Volunteer, Kennewick School District, Kennewick, Washington
- 2003-2004 CASA/Guardian Ad Litem, Benton County, Kennewick, Washington

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)
- Council for Exceptional Children's Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE)
- Washington Council for Administrators of Special Education (WA-CASE)
- Council for Exceptional Children's Teacher Education Division (TED)
- National Association of Special Education Teachers (NASSET)
- Council for Exceptional Children's Division of International Special Education and Services (DISES)