

Jolan M. Smith, Ph.D.

(Contact info redacted for online publication)

EDUCATION

- September 2016 Ph.D., Joint Doctoral Program in Special Education
California State University, Los Angeles
University of California, Los Angeles
<https://www.calstatela.edu/studentssuccess/jolan-smith>
- May 2006 M.A., Special Education
Specialization: moderate/severe disabilities
California State University, Dominguez Hills
- June 2001 B.A. in Psychology. Minor in Communication
Stanford University

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2018 - Present *Assistant Professor*, Advanced Studies in Education and Counseling
California State University, Long Beach
Courses taught:
- Assessment and Evaluation of Students with Disabilities (EDSP 564)
 - Collaboration and Transition in Special Education (EDSP 534)
 - Collaborative Models of Education: Partnerships and Strategies for Teaching All Students in Secondary Schools (EDSP 355B)
 - Positive Strategies for Classroom Management (ED P 405)
 - Research in Special Education: Assessment, Curriculum & Instruction (EDSP 582)
- 2016-2018 *Lecturer*, College of Education
California State University, Dominguez Hills
Courses taught:
- Instructional Planning and Curriculum for Individuals with Moderate-Severe Disabilities (SPE 565)
 - Assessment in Early Childhood Special Education and Moderate-Severe Disabilities (SPE 553)

2012 - 2018

Lecturer, Charter College of Education
California State University, Los Angeles

Courses taught:

- Individuals with Disabilities in Contemporary Society (EDSP 3010)
- Demonstration of Instructional Competencies (EDSP 407, EDSP 489)
- Educating Students with Autism (EDSP 586)

PUBLICATIONS

Smith, J.M., Kataoka, S.H., Segovia-Reynoso, F., Osuna, A., Jones, F., Becerra, J., Garcia, C., ... Linares, D. (2021). Communities speak up: Supporting the K-12 school transitions of students with autism. *Multiple Voices: Disability, Race, and Language Intersections in Special Education*, 21(1), 55–77.

Smith, J.M. (2021). Re-conceptualizing Black family engagement in special education: Understanding the motivations of parents and caretakers. In Hines, D., Barrett C., Boveda, M., Hollis, T., Lindo, E. (Eds.) *Racism by Another Name: Black Students, Overrepresentation, and the Carceral State of Special Education*. Information Age.

Smith, J.M. (2020). Practice what you preach: Culturally responsive pedagogy during Covid-19. *Issues in Teacher Education*, 29, 1-2, 23-34.

Smith, J.M. (2019). *Making assessment equitable for learners on an alternative curriculum*. Allies 4 Education (A4E), Spring 2019. Retrieved from <https://journals.library.csuci.edu/index.php/afe/issue/view/25>

Weinberg, L.A., Herz, D.C., Smith, J.M., Chan, K. (2019). Reforming juvenile detention for youth with developmental disabilities: I.T. v. Los Angeles County. *Justice Evaluation Journal*, doi:[10.1080/24751979.2019.1625717](https://doi.org/10.1080/24751979.2019.1625717)

Weinberg, L.A., Smith, J.M. (2019). Interagency collaboration within juvenile detention to appropriately serve youth with development disabilities. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 103, 166-172.

Smith, J.M. (2016). *Using evidence-based practices in transition to evaluate detention discharge procedures for youth with developmental disabilities*. ProQuest.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2016-2018

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, UCLA Semel Institute
Center for Autism Research & Treatment (CART)

Contributed to the development of intervention for school-based transitions for under-served children with autism. Project involved regular contact with national research network.

Maintained relationships with local community-based organizations and manage community autism group for wider dissemination of autism-related research findings and information for community members.

2015 - 2016 **Graduate Student Researcher**, UCLA Semel Institute
Assisted with 5-year, multi-site grant focused on intervention development for low-resourced minority communities and families with children with autism. Conducted focus groups, interviews, and community awareness projects for, and in collaboration with community agencies, families, service providers, and teachers.

2013 - 2015 **Research Assistant**, Public Counsel Developmental Disabilities Project
Conducted qualitative portion of mixed methods study of incarcerated youth with developmental disabilities. Prepared quarterly reports to law firm, agency administrators, and staff.

Fall 2013 **Volunteer Intern**, Mental Health Advocacy Services, Inc.
Collaborated with education law intern to develop a multi-agency evaluation plan of restorative justice programs in four low-income, under-resourced LA Unified schools.

Summer 2008 **Research Assistant**, USC, Department of Psychology
Volunteered in clinical psychology lab, conducted phone interviews, used established protocols, entered data into SPSS database, and created new variables for questions asked at the 1-year follow up.

Winter 2001 **Research Assistant**, Stanford University, Psychology
Distributed, collected, and coded survey responses for study investigating health and nutrition-related issues for 6 hours/week.

Winter 2001 **Special Researcher**, Stanford University, Group Communication
Facilitated discussion groups on social issues including socio-economic status, race, poverty, etc. Incorporated active listening and conflict resolution strategies. Used facilitator training to bridge cultural understanding within the group.

Winter 2000 **Research Assistant**, Stanford University, MLK, Jr. Papers Project
Sorted and coded documents from the personal files of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. through an undergraduate directed research position in the History department.

Spring 1999 **Research Assistant**, Stanford University, Psychology
Coded and entered data from subject surveys and questionnaires.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- September 2020 *Panelist, Racial Justice and Educational Equity*, Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health's 3rd Annual School Symposium
- July 2020 *Panelist, Reaching All Students During and After the Pandemic* The Howard Group Educational Equity Speaker Series
- March 2019 *Keynote Speaker*, AIRB-3 Autism Community Conference Presented *Autism and the Criminal Justice System* to parents and providers in South Los Angeles
- April 2016 *Invited Speaker*, South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC) Presented *School Placement, Support, & Services for Students with Autism* during the *Autism Education Series* for parents and providers.
- October 2014 *Invited Presenter*, Healthy African American Families, Los Angeles, CA Presented breakout session on *Autism and the Juvenile Justice System* during the conference, *Building Bridges to Optimum Health: Autism is not Black & White – It's a Spectrum*, a community-academic dialogue focusing on autism, early detection, treatment, and lifespan support.

PAPER PRESENTATIONS

- February 2019 CalTASH, San Diego, CA Presented paper titled *Collaborating with community: Learning about CLD families in ASD. Moving from the vision to the valley*. Talk on community-partnered participatory research practices in Communities of Color.
- April 2018 American Education Research Association, New York, NY Presented paper titled *Communities speak up: Supportive strategies for successful school transitions for K-12 students with autism spectrum disorders*.
- July 2017 Autism CARES: Collaboration, Accountability, Research, Education, and Supports Act, Bethesda, MD Presented *Community-Partnered Participatory Research Practices in Autism Intervention Research*
- April 2017 American Education Research Association, San Antonio, TX Presented paper titled *Evaluating the Transitions of Detained Youth with Developmental Disabilities*
- April 2017 Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), Boston, MA

Presented paper titled *The Educational Needs of Juveniles with Disabilities Returning from Incarceration*

April 2016 American Educational Research Association, Washington, DC
Presented paper titled *Lessons Learned: Collaboration With School Psychologists Within A Juvenile Detention Setting* during paper session *Collaboration with Community-Based Organizations in Counseling*.

December 2013 TASH National Convention, Chicago, IL
Presented original research: *Using Grounded Theory to Re-Define African American Parental Involvement in Special Education*

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

May 2017 *Experiences of Parents and Providers of ASD Services in Underserved California Communities*
International Meeting for Autism Research (IMFAR), International Society for Autism Research, San Francisco, CA

August 2016 *Reform of a juvenile detention facility for youth with developmental disabilities*
Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), Washington, D.C.

May 2016 *Evidence-based practices in transition for incarcerated youth with developmental disabilities*
Graduate Studies in Education & Information Systems (GSEIS), UCLA Research & Inquiry Conference

April 2015 *Integrated habilitation treatment plans for incarcerated youth with developmental disabilities*
Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), San Diego, CA

April 2014 *Building a strengths-based theory of African American parental involvement in special education*
Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), Philadelphia, PA

July 2013 *Using grounded theory to re-define African American parental involvement in special education: A preliminary analysis of low-income mothers*
Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), Washington, D.C.

PRACTITIONER PRESENTATIONS

December 2012 TASH National Convention, Long Beach, CA
Presented practitioner-oriented session: *Creating Work Experiences for People with Significant Disabilities*

HONORS - GRANTS - AWARDS

February 2019 **AERA Outstanding Student Research Award**
Special Education Research – Special Interest Group
Awarded for the manuscript, *Lessons Learned: Collaboration with school psychologists within a juvenile detention setting*

June 2016 **Student Success Story - PhD**, California State University, Los Angeles
Nominated and honored during the President's speech during the 2016 Commencement ceremony for representing CSULA values of community and scholarship.
<https://www.calstatela.edu/studentssuccess/jolan-smith>

June 2014 **UCLA Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Program (GSRM)**
\$6000 summer fellowship awarded to work on the UCLA Middle School Diversity Project. Examined academic and overall GPA differences among students with special needs.

June 2013 **UCLA Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Program (GSRM)**
\$6000 summer fellowship awarded to conduct original research on African American parental involvement in special education, and to receive mentorship in conducting research.

Fall 2012 **Joint Doctoral Fellowship**, California State University, Los Angeles
Recipient of 4-year grant from Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) for special education research and personnel development.

May 2012 **CSULA Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activities (RSCA)**
Awarded \$500 grant for research supplies.

K-12 TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2004-2011 *Special Education Teacher*, Centinela Valley Union High School District
Taught high school students in a special day class in a public day school setting. Disabilities

included autism, intellectual disabilities, emotional and behavioral disabilities, and other health impaired (e.g. seizure disorder).

2006-2011 **Home Study Teacher**, Centinela Valley Union High School District
Provided academic instruction to students with disabilities receiving instruction in the home setting. Students ranged in disabilities (e.g. specific learning disability, emotional and behavioral disorder, etc.) and academic levels (mild/moderate, moderate/severe).

2002-2004 **WorkAbility I Teacher**, EKO Multi-Purpose Center, Inc., Compton, CA
Coordinated state-funded grant program providing transition services to students with specific learning disabilities and emotional and behavioral disabilities in a non-public school setting.

2001-2002 **Independent Living Coordinator**, Children of the Night, Van Nuys, CA
Coordinated college placement, employment, and transition curriculum for alternative placement group home youth formerly involved in sex trafficking.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Fall 2021 **Member**, Special Education Committee
Los Angeles Unified School District

Spring 2019 **Community Advisory Board Member**, Autism Center of Excellence
UCLA Center for Autism Research & Treatment

Fall 2017 **Peer Reviewer**, *Journal of Applied School Psychology*

Spring 2017 **Peer Reviewer**, *Autism*

Fall 2016-18 **Peer Reviewer**, American Educational Research Association (AERA)
Reviewed conference proposals for two Special Interest Groups (SIGs),
Research Focus on Black Education and *Special Education Research*

2014-Present **Advisory Committee Member**, Joint Doctoral Program in Special
Education, California State University, Los Angeles & University of
California, Los Angeles

COMMUNITY/VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

2010-Present **Board Member**, Gailen and Cathy Reevers Center for Community
Empowerment (formerly The Lincoln Family Life Center)
Los Angeles, CA
Served as Board Chair from 2014-2016

2010-Present **Board Member**, Stanford Black Alumni Association of Southern California

Spring 2015 **Member**, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Task Force, Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)

CREDENTIALS HELD

CA Clear Level II Education Specialist Instruction Credential
Authorization: Moderate/Severe disabilities (Valid through 9/1/2023)

Clear Cross-cultural, Language and Academic Development Certificate

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Educational Research Association (AERA)

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)

Coalition of Juvenile Justice (CJJ)

TASH, Cal-TASH