

Kimberly S. Austin, M.S., Ed.D.

1437 16th Street Apt E • Santa Monica, CA 90404 • 510.318.1759 • k4clife1@yahoo.com

Current Positions

9th & 10th Grade Dean, Director of Special Programs: New Roads School
Adjunct Biology Faculty: Moorpark College

Education

Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) with a concentration in Higher Education Leadership
California Lutheran University

Master of Science (M.S.) in Biology, with a concentration in Physiology and Behavior
San Francisco State University (SFSU)

Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Aquatic Biology with High Honors
University of California at Santa Barbara (UCSB)

Areas of Expertise

Teaching and Public Speaking

- Instructor of university, community college, and secondary school lecture and laboratory courses in biological sciences and mathematics
- Extensive experience in curriculum and laboratory exercise development for biological sciences
- Participation at regional, national and international professional conferences, including oral and poster presentations and roundtable discussions
- Teaching methodology inclusive and differentiated to best ensure student success

Research

- Qualitative & quantitative study design and analysis, with concentration in access and support for students with autism spectrum disorders in higher education
- Collaboration in biological field projects throughout California, which included project design, monitoring techniques, data management and analysis
- Advanced knowledge of computer word processing (Microsoft Word), database (Excel), statistics (SPSS), presentation (Power Point), online course development and management (Blackboard and Desire 2Learn), qualitative analysis (Saturate App), graphic design (Illustrator), and acoustic editing and analysis (Sound Forge, Raven) programs

Professional Experience

- **Adjunct Biology Faculty:** Moorpark College

August 2003 – present

Instructor for principles of biology, general biology, human biology and zoology courses; Developed and facilitated laboratory exercises to complement lecture content material; Designed and administered assessments, created class webpage, and managed records and communication tools; Assisted in departmental course curriculum revisions and student learning outcomes (SLOs) development and evaluation; Participated in campus committees and activities focused on student success, diversity, and faculty development.

- **9th & 10th Grade Dean/Director of Special Programs:** New Roads School

August 2006 – present

Developed grade-level community building programming, established and coordinated advisory support program for incoming high school students; provided academic counseling and served as liaison for supplemental support for 9th & 10th graders; Directed program for International students and their families; Designed and implemented learning opportunities and assessment tools, both online and in classroom, for ecological and molecular biology, environmental science, and algebra curriculum; Participated in admissions and outreach events; Evaluated financial aid applications for new and returning students.

- **Adjunct Biology Faculty:** College of Alameda

January 2006 – May 2006

Instructor for principles of biology course; Developed and facilitated laboratory exercises to complement lecture content material; Mentored diverse population of students; Designed and administered exams and maintained records.

- **Lecturer/Graduate Teaching Assistant:** San Francisco State University

January 2003 – May 2003

Instructor for majors-level organismal biology lab course; Assisted students with lab activities and facilitated class discussions; Designed and administered exams, created related assignments and maintained records of grades.

- **Graduate Teaching Fellow:** San Francisco State University

June 2001 – May 2003

Collaborated with teachers in under-performing, inner-city middle schools to enhance existing science & math curriculum for National Science Foundation GK-12 program; Developed and delivered inquiry-based exercises and laboratory investigations to promote student interest and understanding.

- **Educator:** Sea Life Park, Waimanalo, HI

June 1996 – March 1997

Developed and established community programs and innovative courses; Initiated talks for all age groups on local marine life and related subjects; Lectured on natural history and research on marine animals housed at the park ; Directed school groups on behind-the-scenes tours of the park.

- **Science Specialist:** Westlake Elementary School

January 1996 - June 1996

Instructor for K-5 students in various subjects within physical and life sciences; Developed science curriculum and participated in district evaluation on future growth of science in primary education.

Research Experience

- **Researcher:** California Lutheran University

December 2012-August 2014

Together with Dr. Edlyn Pena, designed and conducted qualitative studies and analyzed data relevant to supporting students with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in higher education.

- **Graduate Assistant:** California Lutheran University

May 2012 -- August 2012

Worked as research team on a study conducted by Dr. Edlyn Pena on the experiences of parents in supporting the transition of students with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) into college; Developed and assigned codes for transcripts from interviews with over thirty parent participants; Collectively categorized significant findings.

- **Field Biologist:** Richmond Bridge Harbor Seal Survey

July 2000 – July 2002

Collected and analyzed field data on Pacific harbor seals in response to the seismic retrofit of the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, including census, demographic and construction-related disturbance data; Participated in research meetings with primary investigators; Aided in development and data collection of related projects, including radio tag tacking surveys, mother-pup site utilization, and acoustic analysis of vocal communication.

- **Research Assistant:** Sea World

December 1997 – May 1999

Performed behavioral sampling and statistical analysis on conflict/resolution study of population of captive bottlenose dolphins; Compiled and interpreted data on correlation between drug dosages and aggression responses; Aided in documentation of findings into report for possible publication.

- **Graduate Assistant:** Cetacean Behavior Laboratory

September 1997 – June 1998

Collected land based behavioral data on movement patterns and group composition of free ranging bottlenose dolphins along San Diego coastline; Contributed to photo-identification data collection for boat based study on bottlenose dolphins and then developed film, cataloged dorsal fin photos, and identified unique individuals; Presented literature reviews to graduate students on topics relevant to cetacean biology utilizing various audio-visual modes.

Publications & Presentations

- **Austin, K.**, Peña, E.V., & Brennan, E. (2017). Promising instructional practices for college students with autism. *Currents in Teaching and Learning*.
- **Austin, K.** & Peña, E.V. (Spring, 2017). Exceptional faculty members who responsively teach students with autism spectrum disorders. *Journal of Postsecondary Education and Disability*.
- **Austin, K.** (2015). *Understanding and Supporting Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)*. Presentation at Fall 2015 Professional Development Week, Moorpark College. Moorpark, CA.
- **Austin, K.** (2015). *College Faculty who Responsively Teach and Advise Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)*. Paper presented at University of California Center for Research in Special Education, Disabilities, & Developmental Risk (UC SPEDDR), Ninth Annual Conference. University of California, Santa Barbara.
- **Austin, K.** & Peña, E.V. (2014). *Leaders in Support: College Faculty who Responsively Teach and Advise Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)*. Paper presented at Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE). Washington, D.C.
- **Austin, K.** (2003). *Airborne Vocal Communication in Pacific Harbor Seals, Phoca vitulina richardii*. Paper presented at Fifteenth Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals. Greensboro, N.C.
- **Austin, K.** (2003). *Airborne Vocal Communication in Pacific Harbor Seals, Phoca vitulina richardii*. Paper presented at 84th Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Conference. San Francisco, CA.
- **Austin, K.** & Bohorquez, A. (2001). *Observations of Epimeletic Behavior in Northern Pacific Harbor Seal Mothers Toward Their Dead Pups at Castro Rocks, San Francisco, California*. Poster presented at Fourteenth Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals. Vancouver, BC.

Awards, Grants, & Honors

- Higher Education Expert Member of Special Task Force for Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Division of Special Education Autism Spectrum Disorders Program Support 2015
- Fred H. and Esther E. Nusz Graduate Fellowship 2011
- Biological Sciences Division Award for Outstanding Student Presentation at 84th Pacific Division of AAAS Conference 2003
- National Science Foundation GK-12 Graduate Teaching Fellowship 2001-2003