

ZAYNAB AMELIA GATES

EDUCATION

Masters in Social Sciences, Sociology major [2010-2012]

Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales, Ecuador

Thesis: Implementation of Intercultural Bilingual Educational policies of Argentinian and Bolivian states towards the same transnational indigenous people, the Wichí-Weehnayek.

Learning disabilities (Título de Psicopedagoga) Licenciada en Educación (equivalent to Bachelor of Arts degree in Education) [1995-1999]

Educares University, Santiago, Chile

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Consultant

UNDP – Mexico (United Nations Development Programme), Mexico [June – November 2016]

- Author of lesson plans to develop socio-emotional skills on teenagers through Language Arts, project *ConstruyeT* of UNDP México and Secretariat of Public Education.

CEAACES (Accreditation and Quality Assurance in Higher Education National Council), Ecuador [June 2015 – January 2016]

- Research leader for the study on the generation, dissemination and assessment of scientific knowledge in the Higher Education System in Ecuador.

VVOB (Flemish Association for Development Cooperation and Technical Assistance), Ecuador [June – July 2015]

- Consultancy to research and select digital educational resources for EducarEcuador (Ministry of Education of Ecuador), analysis and recommendations to promote the development of open educational resources (OER) for the technical secondary schools.

UNESCO, Regional Office, Quito [February 2015 – May 2015]

- Consultancy for the validation and editing of the document "Building Equality. Mainstreaming Equality Perspective on the Higher Education System".

Educational Project Management

National Higher Education Admittance and Leveling System - National Secretary of Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (SENESCYT) [May 2013 – November 2014]

National Coordinator of University Preparatory Courses. Under the leadership of the General Manager I directed four teams in charge of:

- **Strengthening** at the national level of cooperative relations with 30 public Universities and 25 Higher Education Institutes for the successful delivery of preparatory courses for 95000 students annually involving 2500 teachers. Follow-on activities for monitoring of administrative and academic quality of these courses, formal and informal visits, regional meetings, national workshops, written regular communication, resolving of day-to-day issues. In the last three semesters average student enrollment went up from 80% to 87%. **Leadership** of curriculum revision process, development of new materials for the preparatory courses and institutionalization of the public policy at SENESCYT. Compiling of useful documentation, research and drafting of base documents to systematize learning.

- **Assistance to higher management in planning and budgeting** processes for the project (\$43M). Direct responsibility for budget execution of \$14 M yearly. Coordination for public contract processes (SERCOP) with 35 institutions, follow up of resources flow through state agencies. Drafting of budgeting guides for the institutions, ensure common report formats, its timely elaboration and documentation management, reporting to authorities and budget changes when necessary.
- **Coordination** of teacher training and certification processes. Organizing of databases. Analyzing and formulating a comprehensive teacher training strategy for 2014-15. By October 2014, 5000 teachers had acquired their certification.
- **Organization** of team directed towards application process and acceptance of best performing Ecuadorian students at Excellence Universities abroad with State sponsoring. By October 2014, 84% of students who finished preparatory courses were abroad (aprox. 350 in total).

FLACSO, Ecuador

[October 2010 - November 2012]

- **Scholarship holder** of the Sociology program. Research assistance for the “Comparative Study of Postgraduate and Doctorate programs (Ph.D.)”, comparative analysis of Higher Education systems in regards to postgraduate studies to inform regulation of National Law. **Editing** of academic texts.

Materials Specialist

Santillana Publishing House, Ecuador

[July - December 2010]

- **Co-author** school textbooks on Language and Literature based on the new curricula by the Ministry of Education (Desafíos and Sendero series). **Teacher trainer** in various cities (Guayaquil, Quito, Ambato, Cuenca, Loja, Santo Domingo). **Pedagogical editor** of textbooks.

Simón Bolívar Andean University, Ecuador

[January - June 2010]

- **Member of author’s team** for the Language and Literature (1st. through 6th grade) textbooks (students text and teacher’s guide) selected by the Ministry of Education for official use in all public schools in Ecuador.

Research and project technical assistance

Andean Center for Excellence on Teacher Training (CETT)

[October 2002 - December 2008]

Project - Nur University/USAID, Bolivia

Applied Research Advisor

- Member of regional team (Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia) of applied research in charge of annual and quarterly planning, reporting and monitoring of results. Member of core national team in charge of development and implementation of a training program on early literacy teaching capacities for 6000 primary teachers in disadvantaged urban and rural schools.
- Principal responsibility to **advise original research**, to identify and process relevant evidence for the program, organization of dissemination events and assistance to teacher monitors training.
- **Collaboration on curriculum development** of the teachers training program on early literacy (18 month program for in-service teachers). **Pedagogical leadership** on the conceptual design and implementation of an on-line computer data base for monitoring the training program for 250 to 500 teachers annually.
- **Collaboration** to writing and editing of educational materials (printed, audiovisual and multimedia materials) directed to teachers, children, parents and/or trainers and reading and writing evaluation kit for primary (1st to 3rd grade).
- **Teacher trainer** on reading, writing and educational research based on CETT methodology. **On-line facilitator** to the pilot program “*Teacher training on Early Reading and Writing*” a pioneer experience in Bolivia of 15 weeks duration.
- **Systematizing** project intervention.

Trainer and teaching

Los Leones Professional Institute, Santiago, Chile

[January 2000- September 2002]

- **Teacher** position on Learning Disabilities degree (introductory and reading and writing related subjects). Member of curriculum development team for the new degree. Internship supervisor. **Co-researcher**, research project *Handbook for learning disabilities assessment*, grant awarded by the Research and Teacher Advisory Department.

- **Teacher**

- From 1st through 10th grade (6 a 15 years old) on the Virtues development program. Member of research team *Acquisition of Capacities Project*. Writing of educational material to develop leadership capacities.

HIGHER EDUCATION TEACHING (ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE)

- **Thesis reader**, for the Master's on Education Program, Simón Bolívar Andean University, 2015.
- **Open Courses for Teachers**, Learning and Education, Mental Models and Education, Simón Bolívar Andean University, 2010, 2012-2015.
- **Teacher's specialization course**, Early Reading and Writing, Nur University, 2007.
- **Teacher's in service education**, Action-research, Nur University, 2003 and 2004.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (CONSULTANCIES)

- **Author** for Simón Bolívar Andean University of Teacher's Guide for Language Arts school text, 1^o grade (July-August 2016).
- **Advisor** for the Literacy Team, teacher training project for Galapagos Conservancy at Galapagos Islands (April and October 2016).
- **Consultant Alfaguara-Santillana**, review and rewriting of *Plan de Animación a la Lectura*. (March-April 2013).
- **Consultant OEI/Ministry of Education of Ecuador**, Literacy Specialist on the IV Seminary of the Mentorship Program, Quito, Ecuador (December 2012).
- **Consultant Fundación Horizonte**-Project Citizen, Teacher trainer in the Project Citizen methodology for its replica with 7th and 11th graders, Quito, Ecuador (May –December 2009).
- **Educational consultant EngenderHealth/USAID**, Co-author of the Trainers Manual. Systematization and pedagogical review of the Module: Mejora de la Calidad de los Servicios de Salud, part of the program on Public Health focusing on Reproductive Health, (September – December 2008).

PRO-BONO WORK

- **Member of Nur University Board of Trustees**, 2007-2012. Nur University is a nonprofit organization; its main purpose is service to the Bolivian society, in particular rural and indigenous people. The Board of Trustees is the highest directive body, deriving its authority from the Assembly of Founders.
- **Member of INEVAL Directive Board**, 2013-2016. National Institute of Educational Assessment (INEVAL) is a public entity with its legal foundation in the new Ecuadorian Intercultural Education Law of 2012. Its Board of Directors consists of a representative of the President, the Minister of Education; a delegate of SENPLADES and a delegate of National Secretary of Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation.
- **Tutor for Seminars of the Institute for Studies in Global Prosperity – Ecuador chapter**, 2013-present. Non-profit organization dedicated to building capacity in individuals, groups and institutions to contribute to prevalent discourses concerned with the betterment of society.

PUBLICATIONS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Published materials* Gates, Z., Román, D. & del Rosal, K. (2016). **Intercultural bilingual educational policies for transnational Indigenous communities: School experiences of the Wichí-Weenhayek people on the Argentinean-Bolivian border**. *Bilingual Research Journal*, 39:3-4, 213-230.
- Gates, Z. (2015). **Situation of wichí teachers in Formosa and Salta**. In Carolina Hetch y Mariana Schmidt (Edits). *Teachers in Bilingual Cultural Education. Regulations, experiences and challenges*. Book chapter. [Spanish: La situación de los maestros wichí en Formosa y Salta. En C. Hetch y M. Schmidt (edit.). *Maestros de la Educación Intercultural Bilingüe. Regulaciones, experiencias y desafíos*]. Buenos Aires: Novedades Educativas. In press.
- Herdoíza, M. (author); Gates, Z. (editor). (2015). **Building Equality in Higher Education. Framework and orientations to mainstream equality and environment**. [Spanish:

Construyendo Igualdad en la Educación Superior. Fundamentación y lineamientos para transversalizar los ejes de igualdad y ambiente]. Quito: UNESCO/SENESCYT.

Gates, Z. (2012). **Experiences in implementing Intercultural Bilingual Education for the Wichí-Weenhayek people at both sides of the Argentinian-Bolivian border.** [Spanish: Experiencias de implementación de la Educación Intercultural Bilingüe para el pueblo Wichí-Weenhayek a ambos lados de la frontera argentino-boliviana], *Young Educational Researchers Conference*, FLACSO, Buenos Aires, Argentina, September 12-14, 2012

Gates, Z. and Perez, M. (2011). **30 ideas to plan a Language Arts class. Instrumental texts.** Co-author. [Spanish: 30 Ideas para planificar una clase de Lengua y Literatura I. Bloques instrumentales]. Quito: Santillana.

Gates, Z. and Perez, M. (2011). **30 ideas to plan a Language Arts class. Literary texts.** Co-author. [Spanish: 30 Ideas para planificar una clase de Lengua y Literatura I. Bloques literarios]. Quito: Santillana.

Gates, Z. (2010). **Approaches to Language and Literature teaching.** [Spanish: Enfoque del área de Lengua y Literatura. Fascículo del curso ¿Cómo trabajar el área de Lengua y Literatura en el aula?]. Quito: Santillana.

Carriazo, M., Gates, Z. and Villarán, V. (2005). **Diagnosis of Teachers Training Needs.** Teacher trainer module. [Spanish: Diagnóstico de Necesidades de Formación Docente. Fascículo de formación de capacitadores]. Lima: CECM.

Carriazo, M., Gates, Z. and Villarán, V. (2005). **Research on classroom settings.** Teacher trainer module. [Spanish: Investigación en el aula. Fascículo de formación docente]. Lima: CECM.

Sahonero, M. (2004). **Classroom strategies to teach reading and writing. Consolidation.** Collaboration to author. Teacher training module. [Spanish: Estrategias didácticas para la enseñanza de la lectura y escritura. Consolidación. Fascículo 1]. Santa Cruz: CETT-Nur University.

Sahonero, M. (2004). **Classroom strategies to teach reading and writing. Initiation.** Collaboration to author. Teacher training module. [Spanish: Estrategias didácticas para la enseñanza de la lectura y escritura. Consolidación. Fascículo 1]. Santa Cruz: CETT-Nur University.

*Manuscripts
in progress*

Teacher preparation in the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador. Book chapter. *Contextualizing Science Education for Social Justice*. Co-author with Diego Román, and Hiba Rahim, of Southern Methodist University.

Presentations

"IBE is a mask": implementation of the Intercultural Bilingual Education for the Wichí-Weenhayek people in the Argentine-Bolivia border. [Spanish: "La EIB es una máscara": implementación de la Educación Intercultural Bilingüe para el pueblo Wichí-Weenhayek a ambos lados de la frontera argentino-boliviana]. *LASA Conference, 2013*, Washington DC.

Nur University's Center for Excellence on Teacher Training Experience on Early Literacy. [Spanish: Experiencia del CECM de la Universidad Nur en la Alfabetización Inicial]. *VII International Conference on Reading and Writing*, Nur University, Santa Cruz, Bolivia, June 29-30, 2009.

Challenges and dilemmas of early literacy. [Spanish: Desafíos y dilemas de la alfabetización inicial]. *International Conference on Reading and Writing*, Cayetano Heredia Peruvian University, Lima, Peru, August 6-8, 2008.

Proposal of classroom strategies for early literacy. [Spanish: Propuestas didácticas para la alfabetización inicial]. *V International Conference on Reading and Writing*, Nur University, Santa Cruz, Bolivia, July 6-8, 2006.

Research inventory on early literacy. [Spanish: Inventario de la investigación sobre los procesos de lectura y escritura]. *I Conference on Reading and Writing*, Cayetano Heredia Peruvian University, Lima, Peru, August 4-6, 2004.

RELEVANT TRAINING

- **Elaboration of a Social Action Framework**, Lazos Learning, on-line 8 week course, February-April 2015
- **Planificación de la formación académica**, PROPADE, Quito, November 2013

- **Use of MAXQDA research tool for qualitative data analysis**, Mariposa Consulting LLC, Lima, Perú, January 2004
- **Research Methodology for Communication Sciences**, Universidad Evangélica, Santa Cruz de la Sierra, 2004
- **Youth Leadership for Service to the Common Good**, Nur University, Santa Cruz de la Sierra, 2000

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

Scholarship holder of the Sociology program (two years), FLACSO-Ecuador

Grant for field studies award, XIX Call for proposals, FLACSO-Ecuador

Travel grant award to assist and present at LASA 2013, Washington, DC, USA

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Citizenship: US and Argentina

Languages: English (fluent), Spanish (fluent) Portuguese and French (conversant)