

# **CURRICULUM VITAE**

## **Barbara L. Nicholson, PhD**

### **EDUCATION**

BA	Glenville State College	1973
MA	West Virginia University	1978
PhD	Ohio University	1987

### **PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT**

1973-1979	Gilmer County High School Teacher, English and Communication Studies
1979-1988	Glenville State College Assistant Professor, Communication Studies Honors Program Director
1988-1990	Governor's Office, Gaston W. Caperton Communications Director
1990-1993	Satellite Network of West Virginia Continuing Education Director
1993-present	Marshall University College of Education and Professional Development Professor, Leadership Studies Coordinator, EdD, Leadership Studies

### **RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2008	Invited visiting professor, American University, Cairo, Egypt
2004	Invited delegate, 15 <sup>th</sup> Ethics and Educational Leadership Conference Exeter College, Oxford University, England
2002	Visiting professor, University of Glasgow Glasgow, Scotland, July
2001	Council for International Exchange of Educators Fellow University of Ulster at Coleraine, Northern Ireland, June
2000	Visiting professor, Charles University The Czech Republic, May-June

- 1996 Council for International Exchange of Educators Fellow  
St. Petersburg and Moscow Universities, Russia
- 1995 Fulbright Fellow  
Stockholm and Uppsala Universities, Sweden
- 1994 Exchange Faculty  
Universidade Federale do Espirito Santo, Brazil

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Alliance of Universities for Democracy  
 American Association of University Women  
 American Educational Research Association  
 National Council of Professors of Educational Administration  
 National Social Science Association  
 Southern Regional Council on Educational Administration  
 Reviewer, *SRCEA Journal*

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS 2006-2025

- 2025 Navigating Politically Conservative Challenges to Public School Curricula: Effects on Administrator Attrition. Accepted for publication in the Proceedings of the National Social Studies Association's Fall Virtual Conference. With Hamisi Tarrant.
- 2025 Training Future Nonprofit Social Enterprise Leaders: A Research-Based Instructional Needs Analysis. *Journal of Public Affairs Education*, 31(2). Published online July 18, 2024. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15236803.2024.2366165> With Robert Adams.
- 2017 The Problem With Policy by Anecdote. Charleston, WV: *Charleston Gazette-Mail*, p. A4. April 1, 2017. [https://www.wvgazettemail.com/opinion/bobbi-nicholson-the-problems-with-policy-by-anecdote/article\\_997b41b5-38a4-5f5e-92aa-790b699e41a6.html](https://www.wvgazettemail.com/opinion/bobbi-nicholson-the-problems-with-policy-by-anecdote/article_997b41b5-38a4-5f5e-92aa-790b699e41a6.html)
- 2016 The Problem with School Vouchers, Besides Their Segregationist Roots. Charleston, WV: *Charleston Gazette-Mail*, p. A11. December 10. <http://www.wvgazettemail.com/gazette-op-ed-commentaries/20161210/bobbi-nicholson-the-problem-with-school-vouchers-besides-their-segregationist-roots-effects#sthash.XA3x7r6s.dpuf> [*Gazette-Mail* editorial response: School Vouchers a Dubious Solution, p. A4. December 14, 2016. [https://www.wvgazettemail.com/opinion/gazette-editorial-school-vouchers-a-dubious-solution-with-troubling-roots/article\\_028ab49c-efcd-5ebd-b376-5e16d6521118.html](https://www.wvgazettemail.com/opinion/gazette-editorial-school-vouchers-a-dubious-solution-with-troubling-roots/article_028ab49c-efcd-5ebd-b376-5e16d6521118.html)]
- 2016 The Bubble-Wrapped Student: Are Trigger Warnings Necessary in Higher Education? *Journal of the Southern Regional Council on Educational Administration*, 16(2). <http://epubs.library.msstate.edu/index.php/srcea/article/view/328/360>
- 2016 Beware the False Equivalence Trap. Charleston, WV: *Charleston Gazette-Mail*, p. A4. October 7. <http://www.wvgazettemail.com/gazette-op-ed->

- [commentaries/20161007/bobbi-nicholson-beware-the-false-equivalence-trap-gazette-mail](http://www.wvgazette.com/commentaries/20161007/bobbi-nicholson-beware-the-false-equivalence-trap-gazette-mail)
- 2015 On Science or Their Own Principles, State School Board Ignores Facts. Charleston, WV: Charleston Gazette-Mail, p. C1. January 4. <http://www.wvgazette.com/article/20150104/ARTICLE/150109881>
- 2014 Zombie Ideas in Education Reform: More Testing and More Central Authority Are Not Working. Charleston, WV: *Charleston Gazette-Mail*, p. C1. April 13.
- 2013 Undermining Authority: Restoring Intellectual Relevance in an Anti-Intellectual Democracy. *Journal of the Alliance of Universities for Democracy*, 4, 38-53.
- 2013 "Education "Reform": If You Like Testing and Administration, It's a Success. Charleston, WV: *Charleston Gazette*, p. A4. April 27.
- 2012 Education Board Wrong About "Teach for America." Charleston, WV: Charleston Gazette, p. A4. October 13. <http://www.wvgazette.com/Opinion/201210120196>
- 2008 Social (in)justice properties in merit-based aid. *Academic Exchange Quarterly*, 12(2), 145-149.

### **SELECTED CONFERENCE/PAPER PRESENTATIONS 2006-2024**

2025. Navigating Politically Conservative Challenges to Public School Curricula: Effects on Administrator Attrition. Presentation to the National Social Studies Association's Fall Virtual Conference. October 7, 2025. With Hamisi Tarrant.
2023. Training Future Nonprofit Social Enterprise Leaders: A Research-Based Instructional Needs Analysis. Paper presented to the annual meeting of the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action, Orlando, FL, November 18. With Robert Adams.
2023. Managing Growth in Online Doctoral Programs. Paper presented to the annual meeting of the Southern Regional Council on Educational Administration, Huntington, WV, October 23.
2023. Considering the Impact of Heteronormative Bias on the Practice and Participation of LGBTQ Leaders at Institutions of Higher Education in Appalachia. Panel presentation to the annual meeting of the Southern Regional Council on Educational Administration, Huntington, WV, October 24.
2020. It Wasn't About the Money: Teachers' Motivation and Legislative Intransigence in the 2018-19 West Virginia Teachers' Strikes. Paper presented to the annual meeting of the Southern Regional Council on Educational Administration virtual conference.
2019. Effects of School Names on Black Educators and Students. Paper presented to the annual meeting of the American Educational Studies Association, Baltimore, MD, November 1. With Gregg McAllister.
2019. Red State Resurrection: Labor Regains Its Footing in West Virginia Teacher Strikes. Paper presented to the fall meeting of the National Social Science Association, Albuquerque, NM, October 14. With Eugenia Lambert and Lindsey Reed.
2017. Diversifying the College: Gauging Perceptions. Paper presented to the annual meeting of the Southern Regional Council on Educational Administration, New Orleans, LA, October 6.
2017. Superintendents' Experience with Evidence-Based Research. Paper presented to the annual meeting of the Southern Regional Council on Educational Administration, New

- Orleans, LA, October 6. With Gabriel King.
2017. Cultural Competence: Measuring Attitudes Among Faculty, Staff and Students in Higher Education. Paper presented to the annual meeting of the National Social Science Association, Las Vegas, NV, April 11. With Elizabeth Pardue.
  2015. How Much Sensitivity is Too Much? Affinity Housing, Trigger Warnings and Intolerance on the Nation's Campuses. Paper presented to the annual meeting of the Southern Regional Council on Educational Administration, Atlanta, GA, November 17. With Amy Saunders.
  2014. Valuing Oneself: How Women in the Academy Evaluate Their Work. Paper presented to the annual meeting of the Southern Regional Council on Educational Administration, Atlanta, GA, October 31.
  2014. Increasing Student Achievement in Low-SES, High-Minority Elementary Schools: A Case Study in Staff Longevity. Paper presented to the annual meeting of the Southern Regional Council on Educational Administration, Atlanta, GA, October 31.
  2013. Valuing Faculty Engagement in Democratic Practices: What is the Role of Faculty Advancement Policies? Paper presented to the International Alliance of Universities for Democracy, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, October 13. With Teresa Eagle.
  2013. Preparing Researchers: Dissertation Quality Questions in Educational Leadership. Paper presented to the annual meeting of the Southern Regional Council on Educational Administration, Oklahoma City, OK, October 25. (With Briana Cicero-Johns.)
  2013. "Get With the Program": Is the College Board's Push for Advanced Placement Expansion Right for Students? Paper presented to the annual meeting of the Southern Regional Council on Educational Administration, Oklahoma City, OK, October 25. (With Christina Jones.)
  2013. Faculty Engagement: Do Institutional Policies Help or Hinder? Paper presented to the annual meeting of the Southern Regional Council on Educational Administration, Oklahoma City, OK, October 24. (With Anthony Underwood.)
  2011. Undermining authority: Restoring intellectual relevance in an anti-intellectual democracy. Paper presented to the annual meeting of the International Alliance for Universities for Democracy, Dubrovnik, Croatia, October 23. (With Teresa Eagle.)
  2011. A question of authority: Methodological preferences in research in educational administration. Paper presented to the annual meeting of the National Council of Professors of Educational Administration, Portland, OR, August 2. (With Amy Blankenship and Brian Brown.)
  2010. Complementary rivals: The epistemic dimensions of an inter-institutional research collaborative. Paper presented to the annual meeting of the Southern Regional Council on Educational Administration, Savannah, GA, October 25. (With Michael Cunningham, Cynthia Kolsun and Rachael Trout.)
  2009. Leadership in school conversions: Perceptions of principals whose schools were converted to smaller learning communities. Presentation to the annual meeting of the National Council of Professors of Educational Administration. San Antonio, TX, August 5.
  2008. 21<sup>st</sup> century school leadership: *1984* or *Brave New World*? Paper presented to the WV Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, Bridgeport, WV, November 20.
  2008. Perfect allies: How we learned to stop worrying and love Ayn Rand. Paper presented to the Southern Regional Council on Educational Administration. Charleston, WV, October

23. (With doctoral student Jeff Green.)
2007. Recognition is not realization: Tipping the scales in favor of social justice in pre-service programs. Paper presented to the National Council of Professors of Educational Administration, Chicago, August 2.
2007. Re-Imagining equity: The exclusionary properties of merit-based aid. Paper presented to the Southern Regional Council on Educational Administration, Kansas City, November 2.
2006. Access denied, opportunity missed: The leadership vacuum in the debate on merit-based student aid. Paper presented to the annual meeting of the Southern Regional Council on Educational Administration, Jacksonville, FL, Nov. 2.