

CURRICULUM VITAE

Rachelle M. Swan
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EDUCATION

2000 Ph.D. in Human Development, University of California at Irvine
1997 M.A. in Social Ecology, University of California at Irvine
1994 B.A. in Psychology, University of California at Riverside

AWARDS and HONORS

2003 Volunteer of the Year, Wabash Valley Big Brothers Big Sisters, Lafayette, IN
1999 Grants-in-Aid Award from The Society for the Psychology Study of Social Issues
1994 Summa Cum Laude
1994 Phi Beta Kappa

VOLUNTEER

2016-Current Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) for Boone County Circuit Court
2008-2010 Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) for Boone County Circuit Court
2001-2003 Mentor for Big Brothers Big Sisters

EVALUATION and EVALUATION MANAGEMENT SKILLS

Training I teach evaluation research (theory of change, research design, tool development, data analysis, application and presentation of findings) at a variety of levels to a variety of audiences.

Management I am experienced in successfully managing multi-site, multi-year, multi-method evaluations across the nation, from the development of an RFP to the final report.

Logic modeling I help clients articulate program theory, assumptions, and resources to map measurable outcomes over time.

Research dev. I have flexibility and competency to maximize available resources in designing evaluations based on program theory, purpose, and audience.

Instrument dev. I create survey and interview items, data collection templates, and databases. I test reliability and validity of assessment tools.

Data collection I create and administer Web-based surveys and collect data via the Web. I conduct focus groups and interviews.

Data analysis I analyze quantitative data using SPSS and Excel, and qualitative data using theme-coding techniques. I use both types of data to effectively tell the story.

Report writing I tell data stories through concise reports tailored to the audience; reports include graphic illustrations and charts.

RESEARCH and RESEARCH MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

2006 - Current [Independent Evaluation Consultant; Swan Evaluation and 16 Boxes.](#)
I develop survey tools for businesses and non-profits to learn how to be more effective internally and externally. I work with clients to help clarify what they want to learn, why they want to learn it, and how they will use the information gained. I offer recommendations for company/program growth based on findings and goals. I have a long-time interest in assessment tool development and refinement, as well as creative ways to capture complex data.

- 2003 - 2006 Evaluation Officer, Lumina Foundation for Education.
I managed evaluation of all grants funded by the Foundation's College Access Team. My job responsibilities included: Evaluation design and management of state- and national-level funded programs; evaluation tool development, data analysis and report writing; development of knowledge management system for Foundation-wide learning; and training program officers and grantees in the art of evaluation research.
- 2002 - 2003 Director of Research and Policy Analysis, Indiana Youth Institute (IYI).
My job responsibilities included: Applying for competitive evaluation grants, including evaluation design and budget; developing and maintaining evaluation strategies and tools for all 22 IYI programs and services; analyzing and reporting on all internal evaluation data; training youth workers in the art of evaluation research; synthesizing research reports on issues pertaining to youth and families; and providing substantive information for KIDS COUNT in Indiana data book and seasonal Issue Alerts.
- 2000 - 2002 Postdoc Senior Research Associate, Military Family Research Institute, Purdue University.
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- 1998 - 2000 Project Manager, University of California, Irvine.
I managed the UCI Study on Autism, Project 3: Autistic Regression (Dr. Wendy Goldberg, Principal Investigator).
- 1997 - 2000 Project Manager, University of California, Irvine.
I managed the UCI Study of School, Home, and Work (Dr. Wendy Goldberg, Principal Investigator).
- 1995 - 1997 Research Assistant, University of California, Irvine.
I assisted with data management and analysis of a longitudinal data set from the Transition to Parenthood Project (Dr. Wendy Goldberg, Principal Investigator).
- 1995 - 1998 Teaching Assistant, University of California, Irvine, School of Social Ecology.
I was the TA for a variety of undergraduate courses, including, infant and child development, health psychology, social psychology, and writing.
- 1994 - 1995 Research Assistant, California Sate University, San Marcos.
I was hired for a one year, full-time research position on a grant from the Andrew J. Mellon Foundation to explore children's cognitive development in the context of a computer game after-school program.

EVALUATION, POLICY, and TECHNICAL PROJECTS

- 2017 Swan Evaluation. "KISS Album" Survey for KISS Books, LLC.
- 2014 Swan Evaluation. "Resources for Photographers" Survey for KISS Books, LLC.
- 2012 Swan Evaluation. "We Want You Back!" Survey and Report for KISS Books, LLC.
- 2009 Swan Evaluation. pDNA Assessment Tool Improvement for Dane Sanders, author of *Fasttrack Photographer*.
- 2007 Swan Evaluation. 2007 "Opinion Leader" Survey and Report for Lumina Foundation for Education.
- 2003 - 2006 The Lumina Foundation for Education. Numerous internal evaluation reports and presentations to staff, grantees, and board members.
- 2003 The Indiana Youth Institute. *Research Confirms Success of Youth Programs: Kids Who Participate Do Better in Life.* Issue Alert, Fall 2003.
- 2003 The Indiana Youth Institute. *Indiana's Tiniest Citizens: Born too Small, Born too Soon.* Issue Alert, Summer 2003.

- 2003 The Indiana Youth Institute. *Kids and Welfare Reform: Different Ages, Different Results*. Issue Alert, Spring 2003.
- 2002 The Military Family Research Institute at Purdue University, Lafayette, IN. Swan, R., Barros, E., Chang, Y., Kurek, K., Kwon, Y. I., Robbins, N., Wenz, H., Groves, M., Beal, D., MacDermid, S. M., & Weiss, H. *Deployment and Family Separation: An Annotated Bibliography*. Report submitted to Department of Defense June, 2002.
- 2002 The Military Family Research Institute at Purdue University, Lafayette, IN. Swan, R., & MacDermid, S. M. *The Value of Caregiving: A Comparative Analysis of Compensation in Military Child Development Centers*. Report submitted to Department of Defense May, 2002.
- 2001 The Military Family Research Institute at Purdue University, Lafayette, IN. MacDermid, S. M., Swan, R., Robbins, N., Wenz, H., Change, Y., Schwarz, R., Weiss, H., & Kontos, S). *The Affordability of Child Care for Military Families*. Report submitted to Department of Defense March, 2001.
- 2001 The Military Family Research Institute at Purdue University, Lafayette, IN. Swan, R., Kurek, K., Le, B., Robbins, D., Weiss, H., & MacDermid, S. M. *Retention in the Armed Forces: Past Approaches and New Research Directions*. Report submitted to Department of Defense January, 2001.

FORMAL EVALUATION TRAININGS

- 2005 Swan, R. *Evaluation Workshop for McCabe Fund Grantees*. Presented at the Annual McCabe Fund Convening, Washington, DC.
- 2004 Swan, R. & Huff, K. *Evaluation Workshop Part I: The Data Crunch-N-Munch* Presented at the Annual Kids Count in Indiana Conference, Indianapolis, IN.
- 2004 Huff, K. & Swan, R. *Evaluation Workshop Part II: Evaluate, Relate, and Communicate!*. Workshop to be presented at the Annual Kids Count in Indiana Conference, Indianapolis, IN.
- 2003 Huff, K. & Swan, R. *Ready, Set, Evaluate!* Workshop to be presented at the Governor's Inaugural Conference on Service and Volunteerism, Indianapolis, IN.
- 2003 Swan, R. & Huff, K. *Evaluation Workshop Part I: Ready, Set, Evaluate!* Workshop presented at the Many Voices, One Vision conference, Indianapolis, IN.
- 2003 Swan, R. & Huff, K. *Evaluation Workshop Part II: The Data Crunch-N-Munch*. Workshop presented at the Many Voices, One Vision conference, Indianapolis, IN.
- 2003 Swan, R. & Huff, K. Two-day training presented to representatives from all Education Service Centers in Indiana, Indianapolis, IN.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2006 Orr, M., Swan, R., & Donough, G. *Lessons learned on pre-college access program delivery: Findings from the McCabe Funds*. Symposium presented at the Annual Conference of the National College Access Network, Orlando, FL.
- 2004 Swan, R., Huff, K., & King, M. *How to Bring Evaluation to Small NonProfits: The Indiana Youth Institute's Assessment Team Model*. Demonstration presented at the Annual Conference of the American Evaluation Association, Reno, NV.
- 2003 Swan, R. *Understanding Father Involvement: A Contextual Profile Analysis*. Poster presented at the 2003 Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Tampa, FL.
- 2002 Swan, R. *Mothers as Gatekeepers of Parental School Involvement*. Poster presented at the 64th National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference, Houston, TX.

2002 MacDermid, S. M., Swan, R., et al. *The Affordability of Child Care for Military Families*. Symposium presented at the 64th National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference, Houston, TX.

PUBLICATIONS

- 2002 Swan R. *How to Increase Father Involvement at Your School: The Nuts and Bolts of Starting a Dads Club*. Manual available for distribution.
- 2000 Swan, R. (Listed as *Strauss, R.*) *A Contextual Approach to Understanding Fathers' Involvement in their Children's Schooling*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, University of California at Irvine.
- 1999 Swan, R. (Listed as *Strauss, R.*) & Goldberg, W. A. *Self and Possible Selves During the Transition to Fatherhood*. *Journal of Family Psychology*, 13, 244-259.
- 1996 Schustack, M. W., Swan, R. (Listed as *Strauss, R.*), & Worden, P. E. (1996) *Learning About Technology in a Non-instructional Environment*. *Journal of Educational Computing Research*, 16, 337-351.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

- 2018 "Proposal Writing and Grant Management," January 22-23, New Albany, IN. The Fund Raising School, IUPUI.