

# Ms. Sam Grabelle, MSW

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## Highlights

- **Sample of Courses Designed/Supported:** College Success, Writing, Business Communication, Professional Research for Accounting, Business 101 (*Business Plan Labs*), MAT (*Teaching is Listening/Learning is Talking*).
  - As academic success staff and as a faculty developer, I have supported students/faculty in a broad array of courses.
- **Education Conference Presentations:**
  - 2014 Inaugural Hybrid Higher Ed Conference at Providence College – Panelist – *Flipped Classroom, Case Methods and the Flipped Professor: It's Not Just What You Say, It's What You Do*
  - 2013 New England Educational Opportunities Association Annual Conference (NEOA) – Workshop – *Build a Better Mousetrap: Helping Underprepared Students Navigate College*
  - 2013 Northeast Writing Centers Association Conference – SIG – *Writing Centers and Their Relationships with Faculty*
  - 2012 NorthEast Regional Computing Program (NERCOMP) – Workshop – *Flipping the Classroom: Creating a Better Writing Workshop*
  - 2011 Northeast Writing Centers Association Conference – Workshop - *Cultivating Successful Student Writing Teams: How Your Center Can Plant the Seeds of Effective Group Process*

## Education

**University of Connecticut School of Social Work** (West Hartford, CT) **1999**  
*Major:* Community Organization *Minor:* Group Work *Degree:* Master of Social Work

**Brown University** (Providence, RI) **1994**  
*Major:* Educational Studies - Multicultural Issues *Degree:* Bachelor of Arts

## Experience

### English Faculty Adjunct – Johnson & Wales University (RI) 2016-present

- Develop curriculum for and teach introductory English courses including English Composition, Advanced Composition and Communication, and Communication Skills.
- Support first year and transfer students in adjusting to JWU culture and college level work.
- Support student success including by providing detailed rubrics for each assignment and providing in-depth and timely feedback.
- Work with staff and other departments to provide and encourage an immersive college experience.

### YouthBuild GED/ABE Instructor – Blackstone Valley Community Action Program (RI) **2014**

- Developed individualized and group educational curriculum for youth ages 18-24 who are low income, current or former foster children, and/or youth or adult offender.
- Provided direct tutoring to students preparing to take the GED tests.
- Supported development of job and life skills in all students.
- Worked closely with case workers to provide holistic support to students until program was dismantled.

### Teaching and Learning Projects Administrator – Bryant University (RI) **2010-2013**

- Assisted in the creation of Bryant's new Center for Teaching and Learning.
- Served as primary support for faculty using Blackboard (LMS) - developed workshops and online resources.
- Provided writing support and workshops for faculty in the development of proposals, award nominations, and Scholarship of Teaching and Learning projects. Co-facilitated bi-annual faculty/staff writers' retreats.
- Researched best practices and oversaw the development of a teaching and learning library.

- Developed and maintained websites for the Center for Teaching and Learning, the Academic Center for Excellence, and the Writing Center.
- Researched and provided access to currently available policies and resources for faculty regarding teaching at Bryant. Developed and annually updated new faculty guide.
- Developed a series of workshops each semester, including booking presenters, promotion and facilitation.
- Taught faculty and offered workshops on various technology tools.

**Adjunct Professor, Writing Specialist & Workshop Facilitator – Bryant University (RI) 2008-2013**

- Developed and facilitated Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) and Writing Center workshops for all students, including Preparing and Giving Presentations, Jumpstarting Your Research Paper, Studying in Groups and Working and Writing in Groups.
- Taught individual and small groups of students who come to the Writing Center seeking support with writing assignments, including: brainstorming, thesis development, grammatical and spelling corrections, group project support, English language learning for international students and other writing concerns. Provided writing support to business plan lab.
- Developed curricula for and taught freshmen and transfer students in Foundations For Learning (FFL) college success course (discontinued after Spring 2012).
- Taught WRIT106 Writing Workshop course to first year students.
- Served as writing coach to senior Honors Capstone students.

**Independent Education Consultant and Freelance Writer (RI) 2004-present**

- Develop personal and small business websites including [www.climbingthestairsbook.com](http://www.climbingthestairsbook.com), [www.pawtopawdogtraining.com](http://www.pawtopawdogtraining.com), and [www.lauriehazard.com](http://www.lauriehazard.com).
- Staffed Commission at RI Department of Education legislated to study options for a Statewide Student Information System. Conducted national and state research; presented findings; drafted report outline; facilitated meetings; wrote final report (455 pages) which was submitted to the Commissioner of Education and the Legislature.
- Taught teacher education workshops and an online graduate course for The University of Rio Grande (OH).
- Researched and developed a website for the Rhode Island Department of Education, detailing activities of the Highly Qualified Leaders Project.
- Performed in Living Literature's theater program *Common Ground: What Unites Us? What Divides Us?* funded by the RI Council for the Humanities.
- Wrote grant reports on funded public education projects for the Rhode Island Foundation.
- Edited/co-wrote the FIRST organization's (For the Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) coffee table book on its LEGO League and high school robotics programs, published by Palo Alto Press.
- Assisted the Rhode Island Child Opportunity Zones (located in 10 cities) in creating a presence as a statewide network, including developing their pages on the RIDE website.
- Other clients include: Education Alliance at Brown University; Technology Applications Association (Charles Mojkowski); National Neighborhood Day; Embolden Design; R.C. Owen Publishers; and Ideas Consulting.

**Assistant to the Director - Big Picture Company / The Met Center High Schools (Providence, RI) 2001-2004**

- Co-authored the book, *The Big Picture: Education is Everyone's Business* (ASCD, 2004), a member book-of-the-month and the Association of Educational Publishers 2005 Distinguished Achievement Award winner.
- Co-wrote numerous articles for national education publications.
- Developed strong relationships with students/staff of six innovative public high schools in Providence, including supporting the network of principals, helping to recruit and hire teachers, mentoring students, and writing public relations materials.
- Wrote the schools' policy manual adhering to state and federal regulations.
- Provided support and resources to the national network of Big Picture Schools.
- Redesigned and rewrote the Big Picture's website. Served as webmaster from 2003-2008.

## Publications

### Books:

- Grabelle, Sam (Writer and Developmental Editor). (2007). **FIRST: Chronicles of Inspiration, Competition and Changing the World**. CA: Palo Alto Press.
- Littky, Dennis with Samantha Grabelle. (2004). **The Big Picture: Education is Everyone's Business**. Alexandria, VA: ASCD.
- Grabelle, Sam (contributor). (2003). **Teaching with Fire: Poetry That Sustains the Courage to Teach**. Intrator, S. and Scribner, M. (eds.). San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

### Articles:

- Grabelle, Samantha. "Diving In – The Real Goals of Education." *The Virginia Journal of Education*. (Oct 2008).
- Grabelle, Samantha. "My Father's Wisdom – Reconsidered." *The Ohio ASCD Journal*. (Spring 2005).
- Littky, Dennis with Samantha Grabelle. "The World is Integrated!" *Curriculum Technology Quarterly* (Feb 2005).
- Littky, Dennis with Samantha Grabelle. "Voting for Homecoming Queen Does Not Prepare Students for Democracy." *Horace*, Volume 21, No. 1 (Late Fall 2004 - Special 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Issue).
- Littky, Dennis with Samantha Grabelle. "If We Love Our Children More Than We Love Our Schools, the System Must Change." *Educational Horizons, Pi Lambda Theta* (Summer 2004).
- Dennis Littky, Nancy Diaz, Danique Dolly, Chris Hempel, Charlie Plant, Phil Price, and Sam Grabelle. "Moment to Moment at The Met." *Educational Leadership* (May 2004).

### Other:

- Grabelle, Sam. **The Met Portfolio**. (2001-2002). 34-page report on The Met high schools.
- Grabelle, Sam. **Welcome to The Met**. (2003-2004). 15-page brochure for The Met high schools.

## Honors & Awards

- 2006 Volunteer Merit Award for Mentoring Youth**  
*Presented by The Met High School and the Rhode Island Foundation*
- 2005 The Association of Educational Publishers 2005 Distinguished Achievement Award**  
*Presented for the book The Big Picture: Education is Everyone's Business (ASCD, 2004)*
- 1999 Student of the Year**  
*Presented by the National Association of Social Workers (CT)*
- 1994 Graduation with Honors**  
*Presented by Brown University*

## Certifications and Trainings

- 2010 Certified Learning Center Professional – Level 1 (National College Learning Center Association)
- 2007 BEST Youth Worker Certificate (Health Resources in Action)
- Rhode Island Higher Education Training Consortium full and half-day trainings on: Managing Conflict, Write It Right!, Managing Change, and Project Management

## Volunteer Work

- **Co-chair** – LGBTQ & Allies Faculty and Staff Caucus, Bryant University (2012-2013)
- **Organizer** – Sam and the Mixed Up Kids, Bryant University (2012-2013)
- **Speech and Interview Judge** - Rhode Island Academic Decathlon (2007 - 2011)
- **Prospective student interviewer** - Brown Alumni Schools Committees, Providence, RI (2007-2012)
- **Student and alumni mentor** - The Met Schools, Providence, RI (2001 - present)
- **Board member/webmaster** - The Friends of Rochambeau Library, Providence, RI (2005-2009)
- **Mentor** - Urban Collaborative Accelerated Program middle school, Providence, RI (2008)
- **Board member** - Young Voices, Providence, RI (2008-2009)
- **Mentor** - Year Up, Providence, RI (2005-2006)