**Deborah Michele La Torre**

**University of California, Los Angeles**

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**Academic Background**

Doctoral Studies, Social Research Methodology, University of California, Los Angeles, 2015-Present

Doctoral Studies, Psychological Studies in Education, University of California, Los Angeles, 2001–2005

MA in Education, Educational Technology, San Diego State University, 2000

Multiple-Subjects CLAD Credential, San Diego State University, 1996

BA in Liberal Studies – Science Education, San Diego State University, 1995

**Honors and Awards**

2015, Staff Appreciation and Recognition Award (STAR), University of California, Los Angeles

2013, Staff Appreciation and Recognition Award (STAR), University of California, Los Angeles

2001, Graduate School of Education fellowship, University of California, Los Angeles

1996, Phi Lambda Theta Honor Society for Teachers, San Diego State University

1995, Cum Laude and Distinction in the Major, San Diego State University

1995, Golden Key International Honour Society, San Diego State University

1995, Phi Beta Kappa, San Diego State University

1995, Phi Kappa Phi, San Diego State University

**Research Experience**

2005–Present, Research Associate, National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, and Student Testing (CRESST), University of California, Los Angeles

2003–2005, Research Assistant, National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, and Student Testing (CRESST), University of California, Los Angeles

2001–2003, Research Assistant, Graduate School of Education & Information Studies, University of California, Los Angeles

2000–2001, Project Director, Face to Face Grant, National City Public Library

1999–2000, Research Assistant, Instructional Technology Services, San Diego State University

**Research Activities**

2016, Technical Assistance: Evaluation of the Utah Item Pool Alignment and Adaptive Algorithm, Utah State Office of Education

2013–Present, MOBILIZE: Mobilizing for Innovative Computer Science Teaching and Learning, National Science Foundation

2012–Present, Formative Assessment in Mathematics: Current Status and Guidelines for Future Developments, National Science Foundation

2012–Present, On the Road to Assessing Deeper Learning: The Status of Smarter Balanced and PARCC Assessment Consortia, The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

2012–2015, Field Testing of Performance-Based Assessments, Frameworks, and Supports in Mathematics and Literacy: Towards to Goal of College Readiness, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

2012–2013, Evaluation of Calipers II: Using Simulations to Assess Complex Science Learning, National Science Foundation

2008–2012, CDE After School Program Evaluation, California Department of Education

2007–2008, Identification of Key Indicators for Quality in After School Programs, California Policy Research Center

2004–2012, Los Angeles’ Better Educated Students for Tomorrow (LA’s BEST) After School Evaluations, LA’s BEST

2002–2004, Bridging the Gap, National Science Foundation

2001–2002, Probability Inquiry Environment in English Language Learner Classrooms, Microsoft Gift (subcontract with School Management Project)

**Journal Articles**

Huang, D., Goldschmidt, P., & La Torre Matrundola, D. (2014). Examining the long-term effects of afterschool programming on juvenile crime: A study of the LA’s BEST Afterschool Program. *International Journal for Research on Extended Education, 2*(1), 113-133.

Huang, D., La Torre Matrundola, D., & Leon, S. (2014). Identification of key indicators of quality in afterschool programs. *International Journal for Research on Extended Education, 2*(1), 20-43.

Huang, D., Leon, S., & La Torre Matrundola, D. (2014). Exploring the relationships between LA’s BEST program attendance and cognitive gains of LA’s BEST students. *Journal for Educational Research Online, 6*(3), 34-53.

**Policy Briefs**

Herman, J., Epstein, S., Leon, S., La Torre Matrundola, D., Reber, S., & Choi, K. (2014). *Implementation and effects of LDS and MDC in Kentucky districts* (CRESST Policy Brief 13). Los Angeles, CA: National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, & Student Testing.

Huang, D., & La Torre Matrundola, D. (2012). *ASES and 21st CCLC policy brief: What have we learned from the California statewide evaluation* (CDE Policy Brief)*.* Los Angeles, CA: National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, & Student Testing.

**Reports**

Heritage, M., Lee, J., Chen, E., & LaTorre, D. (2005). *Upgrading America's use of information to improve student performance.* (CSE Report 661). Los Angeles, CA: UCLA Center for the Study of Evaluation (CSE).

Herman, J. L., Buschang, R., La Torre Matrundola, D., & Wang, J. (2013). *Assessment for deeper learning in CCSS: Progress report on the status of Smarter Balanced and PARCC assessment consortia* (CRESST Report 851)*.* Los Angeles, CA: University of California, National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, and Student Testing (CRESST).

Herman, J., Buschang, R., & La Torre Matrundola, D. (2014). *An explanation of the ELA and Math Cognitive Complexities Frameworks* (Progress Report)*.* Los Angeles, CA: University of California, National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, and Student Testing (CRESST).

Herman, J. L., Epstein, S., Leon, S., Dai, Y., La Torre Matrundola, D., Reber, S., & Choi, K. (2015). *The implementation and effects of the Literacy Design Collaborative (LDC): Early findings in eighth-grade history/social studies and science courses* (CRESST Report 848). Los Angeles, CA: University of California, National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, and Student Testing (CRESST).

Herman, J. L., Epstein, S., Leon, S., Dai, Y., La Torre Matrundola, D., Reber, S., & Choi, K. (2015). *The implementation and effects of the Literacy Design Collaborative (LDC): Early findings in sixth-grade advanced reading courses* (CRESST Report 846). Los Angeles, CA: University of California, National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, and Student Testing (CRESST).

Herman, J. L., La Torre Matrundola, D., Epstein, S., Leon, S., Dai, Y., Reber, S., & Choi, K. (2015). *The implementation and effects of the Mathematics Design Collaborative (MDC): Early findings from Kentucky ninth-grade Algebra 1 courses* (CRESST Report 845). Los Angeles, CA: University of California, National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, & Student Testing (CRESST).

Herman, J. L., La Torre, D., Epstein, S., & Wang, J. (2016). *Benchmarks for deeper learning on next generation tests: A study of PISA* (Draft Report). Los Angeles, CA: University of California, National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, & Student Testing (CRESST).

Herman, J. L., La Torre Matrundola, D., & Wang, J. (2014). *On the road to assessing deeper learning: What direction do test blueprints provide?* (CRESST Report 849). Los Angeles, CA: University of California, National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, and Student Testing (CRESST).

Huang, D., Cho, J., Nam, H. H., La Torre, D., Oh, C., Harven, A. Huber, L. P., Rudo, Z., & Caverly, S. (2010). *Examining practices of staff recruitment and retention in four high-functioning afterschool programs: Extended study from the national afterschool partnership report* (CRESST Report 769). Los Angeles, CA: University of California, National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, & Student Testing (CRESST).

Huang, D., Coordt, A., La Torre, D., Leon, S., Miyoshi, J., Perez, P., & Peterson, C. (2007). *The afterschool hours: Examining the relationship between afterschool staff-based social capital and student engagement in LA’s BEST* (CRESST Report 712)*.* Los Angeles, CA: University of California, National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, & Student Testing (CRESST).

Huang, D., La Torre, D., Duong, N., Huber, L. P., Leon, S., & Oh, C. (2009). *A circle of learning: Children and adults growing together in LA’s BEST* (CRESST Report 758). Los Angeles, CA: University of California, National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, & Student Testing (CRESST).

Huang, D., La Torre, D., Harven, A., Huber, L. P., Jiang, L., Leon, S., & Oh, C. (2008). *Identification of key indicators of quality in afterschool programs* (CRESST Report 748). Los Angeles, CA: University of California, National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, & Student Testing (CRESST).

Huang, D., La Torre, D., Oh, C., Harven, A., Huber, L., Leon, S., & Mostafavi, S. (2008). *The afterschool experience in Salsa, Sabor y Salud: Evaluation 2007-08* (CRESST Report 747). Los Angeles, CA: University of California, National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, & Student Testing (CRESST).

Huang, D., Leon, S., Harven, A., La Torre, D., & Mostafavi, S. (2009). *Exploring the relationships between LA’s BEST program attendance and cognitive gains of LA’s BEST students.* (CRESST Report 757). Los Angeles, CA: University of California, National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, & Student Testing (CRESST).

Huang, D., Leon, S., Hodson, C., La Torre, D., Obregon, N., & Rivera, G. (2010). *Preparing students for the 21st century: Exploring the effect of afterschool participation on students’ collaboration skills, oral communication skills, and self-efficacy* (CRESST Report 777). Los Angeles, CA: University of California, National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, & Student Testing (CRESST).

Huang, D., Leon, S., La Torre, D., & Mostafavi, S. (2008). *Examining the relationship between LA’s BEST program attendance and academic achievement of LA’s BEST students* (CRESST Report 749)*.* Los Angeles, CA: University of California, National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, & Student Testing (CRESST).

Huang, D., Miyoshi, J., La Torre, D., Marshall, A., Pérez, P., & Peterson, C. (2007). *Exploring the intellectual, social and organizational capitals at LA’s BEST* (CSE Technical Report 714)*.* Los Angeles, CA: UCLA Center for the Study of Evaluation (CSE).

La Torre, D. (2000). *School in the park*. Unpublished master's thesis, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA.

La Torre Matrundola, D., Chang, S., & Herman, J. (2012). *Evaluation of Calipers II: Using simulations to assess complex learning – site visit findings* (CRESST Report 821). Los Angeles, CA: University of California, National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, & Student Testing (CRESST).

**Presentations**

Ewers, N., Mundhenk, K., Ong, C., & La Torre Matrundola, D. (2013). *Formative assessment in mathematics: Current status & guidelines for future development*. Paper presented at the 92nd annual meeting of the California Educational Research Association, Anaheim, CA.

Foley, B., & LaTorre, D. (2004). Who has Why-Pox: A case study of informal science education on the net. In Y.B. Kafai, W.A. Sandoval, N. Enyedy, A. Scott Nixon, & F. Herrera (Eds.), *Embracing Diversity in the Learning Sciences: Proceedings of the Sixth International Conference of the Learning Sciences* (p. 598). Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.

Gould, R., Ong, C., La Torre Matrundola, D., & Estevez, H. (2015). *Mobilize: Igniting student engagement in data science*. Paper presented at the 94th annual meeting of the California Educational Research Association, Anaheim, CA.

Herman, J. L., La Torre Matrundola, D., & Linn, R. (2013, August). *Assessment or deeper learning in CCSS: Status of PARCC and Smarter Balanced. P*resentation for the Hewlett Foundation, Los Angeles, CA.

Huang, D., La Torre, D., & Oh, C. (2009, November). *The role of theories in logic models, evaluation, and assessment in afterschool programs.* Paper presented at the 88th annual meeting of the California Educational Research Association, San Francisco, CA.

Huang, D., La Torre, D., & Oh, C. (2008, December). *Evaluation of the Salsa, Sabor y Salud program.* Paper presented at the 87th annual meeting of the California Educational Research Association, Palm Springs, CA.

Kafai, Y.B., Aschbacher, P.R., Hsi, S.H., LaTorre, D., Scott Nixon, A., & Weber. (2004). Bridging the Gap: A Roadmap for a Discussion about Past and Future Gender Equity Interventions. In Y.B. Kafai (Chair), *Committee on Scholars and Advocates for Gender Equity.* Symposium conducted at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Diego, CA.

La Torre, D. (2009, January). *California statewide evaluation*. Presentation at the After School Programs in Region 11 advisory committee meeting, Downey, CA.

La Torre Matrundola, D. (2014). *Promoting Deeper Learning through DOK*. Poster presented at the 93rd annual meeting of the California Educational Research Association, San Diego, CA.

La Torre Matrundola, D. (2014). *Supporting Math Teachers Transition to the CCSS*. Paper presented at the 93rd annual meeting of the California Educational Research Association, San Diego, CA.

La Torre Matrundola, D. M. (2016). Exploring the rating of cognitive complexity in mathematics assessment items*.* In the *Division H Graduate Student/Early Career Mentoring Seminar and Graduate Student In-Progress Research Roundtable* conducted at annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Washington, D.C.

La Torre Matrundola, D. M. (2016). *Supporting math teachers’ in their transition to the Common Core: Implementation and effects of Mathematics Design Collaborative*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Washington, D.C.

La Torre Matrundola, D., Chung, H., Ong, C., Schaaf, K., Abedi, J., Abhari, B., & Banes, L. (2016). *Complementary approaches to formative assessment in mathematics.* Symposium conducted at the annual research conference of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, San Francisco, CA.

Ong, C., & La Torre Matrundola, D., & Schaaf, K. (2015). *Formative assessment: A bridge to math reasoning.* Paper presented at the 94th annual meeting of the California Educational Research Association, Anaheim, CA.

Schaaf, K., Ong, C., Herman, J., & La Torre Matrundola, D. M. (2014). *What formative assessment practices “look like” in Southern California*. Structured poster session conducted at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Philadelphia, PA.

**University Teaching**

2001–2002, Lecturer, EDTEC 541: Multimedia Development, College of Education, San Diego State University

Summer 2000, Teaching Assistant, EDTEC 572: Technology for Course Delivery, College of Education, San Diego State University

Summer 1999, Teaching Assistant, EDTEC 561: Advanced Multimedia Development, College of Education, San Diego State University

Spring 1999, Teaching Assistant, EDTEC 541: Multimedia Development, College of Education, San Diego State University

**Additional Teaching**

Computer Specialist, Ocean Knoll Elementary School District

Classroom Teacher, San Diego City Schools

Classroom Teacher, Solana Beach Unified School District

**Professional Activities**

2015, California Educational Research Association (CERA) Classroom Innovation Grant proposal reviewer

2015, California Educational Research Association (CERA) conference abstract reviewer

**Professional Memberships**

American Educational Research Association

California Educational Research Association

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics