

Spotlight

Jeff Duncan-Andrade

Practicing What He Teaches

BY CHRISTOPHER HAUGH

Sporting a black and silver Raiders' jersey, baggy jeans and a pair of black sneakers, Dr. Jeff Duncan-Andrade could easily be mistaken for a high school student when he struts into his classroom to teach English at Oakland's Mandela High School.

Then again, it's not the clothes that make this man. The 2002 GSE graduate has a dynamic, unconventional teaching style, one befitting an education iconoclast. Duncan-Andrade's work reflects a passion for equity and social justice, whether he's teaching 12th grade English Literature at Mandela or dissecting critical pedagogy in urban schools as an assistant professor of Raza Studies and Education Administration and Interdisciplinary Studies at San Francisco State University.

Duncan-Andrade dove headfirst into his life's calling after graduating from UC Berkeley with a B.A. in English Literature in 1992. Bouncing between Oakland's public schools, Duncan-Andrade's teaching style is predicated on love and commitment. Beyond preparing lesson plans or grading papers, he drives his underprivileged students home and has their phone numbers. There is no clocking out in his classroom.

Duncan-Andrade's teaching tools range from hip-hop to sports. What resonates with his students is what he uses in his classroom, whether controversial or not. Take, for example, Tupac Shakur.

"No matter how you might feel about 'Pac,' what is not arguable is the depth and breadth of his impact on young people," he says. "As educators, it is incumbent upon us to try and understand what it is about Pac's message that resonates with so many young people regardless of race, regardless of class, regardless of geographic origin [and harness it]."

A dedicated teacher, Duncan-Andrade had to be convinced to apply to GSE by fellow Oakland High School teacher Ernest Morrell, now an associate professor of urban schooling at UCLA (see page 22). He reluctantly returned to Cal and entered the School of Education 15 years ago.

Despite an intense workload, Duncan-Andrade managed to balance his teaching job at Oakland High School with studies in Language, Literacy, Society and Culture. He would teach high school and drive to Berkeley for classes on mornings, then return to coach basketball in Oakland. After practice, he would grade papers, prepare lesson plans, and finally finish his GSE reading and research.

Duncan-Andrade returned to Tolman Hall in October, filling the Education Psychology Library Children's Room to discuss his new book, *The Art of Critical Pedagogy: Possibilities for Moving from Theory to Practice in Urban Schools*. He augmented the provocative discussion with insights from his recent paper: "Hope Required When Growing Roses in Concrete," published in *Harvard Educational Review*.

While the GSE appearance might belie 20 years teaching at-risk youth in Oakland, Duncan-Andrade wouldn't have it any other way. The GSE alum has no room for the petty trappings of scholarly presentations. As a teacher, professor and a person true to his character, Duncan-Andrade's top priority is his students—whether they love their education and, more importantly, themselves.



Steven Cohen

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Web Extra

Haugh's feature article on Duncan-Andrade, "A Rose in Concrete", appeared in the *Daily Cal*, 10/12/10: http://www.dailycal.org/article/110734/a_rose_in_concrete

If you would like to submit a Class Note please fill out the form at gse.berkeley.edu/admin/communications/classnotes.html. We would love to hear from you any time but Class Notes for future issues must reach us by February 2012.

1950s

Patrick Groff, Ed.D. '55, is Professor of Education Emeritus at San Diego State University, where he taught for 40 years. He has written extensively, primarily about children's reading instruction. "When I applied for entry into UC Berkeley, I considered this a shot in the dark," he writes. "As it turned out, it was by far the greatest event in my life, for which I will always be grateful."

1960s

Terry Maul, M.A. Education '68, Ph.D. '70, recently retired as professor and department chair of San Bernardino Valley College's School of Psychology. Like his son, Andy (see '08 Class Note), he is still devoted to GSE, where he serves on the Alumni Council.

1970s

John Bilorusky, Ph.D. '72, founded the Western Institute for Social Research (WISR) in 1975 and has been president and on the faculty ever since. WISR is a non-traditional, state-approved, degree-granting institution in Berkeley. Students design individual programs of study in collaboration with faculty in a multicultural learning community for working adults who are committed to educational innovation, community improvement and/or social change. Bilorusky lives in Oakland with his wife and twins.



SUPE'S ON

Tom Torlakson, multiple subject credential '72, M.A. '77, was elected to a four-year term as California's 27th State Superintendent of Public Instruction on November 2, 2010. As chief of California's public school system and leader of the California Department of Education, Superintendent Torlakson says that he will apply his experience as a

science teacher, high school coach and state policymaker to benefit students and improve the state's public education system.

In a June 2010 interview with Tom Chorneau from the *School Innovations and Advocacy Cabinet Report*, Torlakson said his vision is to return to methods and programs that have proved successful in the past, to give teachers and principals the resources they need and target spending. An example of this, he said is how the state has used funds from the Quality Education Investment Act that Torlakson helped create out of a lawsuit with the governor in 2006 and resulted in sending \$2.9 billion to low-performing schools.

Kenneth Peterson, Ph.D. '76, received a faculty excellence award from Portland State University for excellence in teaching, scholarship and service. Peterson, a professor of curriculum and instruction and a cohort leader in the Graduate Teacher Education Program, was honored for his "spirit of humanism, civility and collegiality with particular dedication to students and loyalty to the University." Prior to his position at PSU, he supervised a math/science credential program at GSE and also taught at the University of Utah.

1980s



Richard Silberg, M.A. '80, is celebrating his 30th year as a teacher in Berkeley, and the past 19 years at Martin Luther King Middle School, where he has mostly taught drama.

This spring he received the Berkeley Public Education Foundation's Distinguished Educator Award as a leader in literacy education "for giving students the opportunity to use drama as a way to explore meaning in life, language and texts."

Obert Fittje, Ph.D. '82, is enjoying her seventh year in retirement, working in her art studio in the mornings. One of her black and white images is licensed to Hallmark Cards UK, and some of her paintings have been exhibited.

Elizabeth Stone, Ph.D. '89, is interim director of Peninsula Havurah High School, a program of the Bureau of Jewish Education of San Francisco. She also maintains a private practice in college admissions counseling and educational consulting, The Education Planner.



SEATTLE SETTLERS

Tom Stritikus, M.A. '97, Ph.D. LLSC '00, became Dean of the University

of Washington College of Education in fall 2010, replacing Patricia Wasley who served the College as dean for a decade.

Stritikus, who has been a faculty member at the University of Washington since 2000, was associate dean of academic programs and associate professor in curriculum and instruction. His work focuses on the context and process of adjustment for immigrant students and the educational opportunities—from a policy and practice perspective—that schools and districts make available to them. Stritikus has received competitive extramural funding for his research from state and federal sources, and has published his work in the top education journals in the field of education.

While Stritikus may be the first UC Berkeley Graduate School of Education graduate to become a Dean at University of Washington, he is hardly the first to join the UW faculty ranks. Others GSE graduates there are **Maresi Nerad**, '88; **Marge Plecki**, '91; **Phil Bell**, '98; and **Dafney Dabach**, '09 (see class notes). In addition, **William Zumeta**, '78; and **Francis Contreras**, '94, earned degrees at UC Berkeley.

1990s

Jim Spira, Ph.D. '91, is director of the National Center for PTSD in the Department of Veterans Affairs, where he is responsible for active duty personnel, telemedicine and cross-cultural issues.



Wendy Coyle, Ed.D. '93, recently returned to the Middle East and Iran where she once lived and taught, for research and re-connection after retiring from the San Francisco Unified SD.

Her new book, *Iridescent Iran*, is a "sociological memoir" of her life in Iran in the 1960s and 70s. She writes, "My vantage point was influenced by Berkeley study and great professors, **Carol Stack**, **Lily Wong-Fillmore** and **Judith Warren Little**."



EINSTEIN'S MACSME ROOTS

Staci Richard, M.A.
MACSME '97, a science

teacher at Laguna Blanca School in Santa Barbara, CA, was selected for the Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship Program. The prestigious award offers elementary and secondary science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) teachers, who have demonstrated excellence in teaching, an opportunity to serve in the national education or public policy arenas. Richard was one of only 32 teachers selected from a nationwide pool of applicants as a 2010-11 Einstein Fellow.

During the past 15 years, Richard has taught and developed curricula for both physical and life sciences at the elementary, middle school, high school and AP levels. She says the innovation of which she is most proud is the Senior Research Seminar course, which accepts top science students and exposes them to academic and industrial labs, scientists, field trips and scientific papers on diverse topics. "I have been moved by the willingness of doctors, lab technicians, researchers, business people, academics and engineers to come and share their experiences," she says.

Richard earned a B.A. in Biology and Geological Sciences from Albion College in Michigan. She has completed graduate work in paleo-climatology and oceanography at the UC Santa Barbara, and was one of the first graduates of the Masters and Credential in Science and Mathematics Education (MACSME) program at the School of Education.

Teri Hu, M.A. teaching credential DTE '97, has taught English in Fremont, CA since she left UC Berkeley, and is now teaching AP English Literature and Creative Writing. Her son is currently an undergraduate student at Cal.



Helena Worthen, Ph.D.
'97, is a clinical associate professor at University of Illinois. She has been working with labor unions, workforces and individuals for 11 years.

"I've used a great deal of what I learned at GSE in my work, both my research and teaching," she writes. She is looking forward to taking an early retirement this summer and returning, with husband Joe Berry to the Bay Area.



THE MORRELL HIGH GROUND

Ernest D. Morrell, M.A.

'97, Ph.D.'01, Teachers College (TC) Columbia University has appointed Ernest Morrell as the new director of its Institute for Urban and Minority Education (IUME). Morrell is currently on the faculty in the Urban Schooling Division of the Graduate School of Education and Information Studies at UCLA. He will assume a tenured full professorship at TC and the directorship of IUME offices in September, succeeding the Institute's founding director, Edmund W. Gordon.

Morrell has made his mark in higher and secondary education in Los Angeles and beyond. At UCLA, he has done research and teaching in the fields of literacy, critical pedagogy, cultural studies, urban education and ethnic studies. As Associate Director of UCLA's Institute for Democracy, Education and Access (IDEA), he has worked with high school students in Los Angeles on in-school and out-of-school literacy instruction, cultural studies, and civic involvement. Through IDEA he has taken busloads of teenage students to the state capital to lobby for more state support of education.

Morrell's interest in urban minority education was a natural progression from a childhood spent mostly in Oakland, California, where his mother taught school and his father was a preacher.

2000S

Michael Meyer, M.A. teaching credential '01, was awarded a 2010 Guggenheim Fellowship, as well as residency at the New York Public Library's Cullman Center for Scholars & Writers, where he is writing a book about Manchuria.

JuliAnna Avila, M.A. '02, Ph.D. '07, an assistant professor at the University of North Carolina, Charlotte, received the 2011 AERA Writing and Literacies SIG Excellence in Early Scholarship Award. The Steve Cahir Award is presented to those members who show excellence in early scholarship in writing and literacies research, and who meet the criteria of excellence on all fronts including theory, literature review, methods, findings, significance of the research and writing quality.



HEART OF A SAINT

Scott Fujita, M.A.
Athletes and Academic
Achievement '02, played

linebacker for the 2010 world champion New Orleans Saints. But Fujita, who will play for Cleveland next season, may have left his heart in New Orleans. He has donated \$25,000 from his playoff earnings to two Louisiana groups that specialize in coastal restoration, and last June he returned to New Orleans to help organize a fundraiser to aid in efforts to clean up the BP oil spill. "The people of this city and region have been so good to me and my family that we just felt strongly about doing something to protect the city we have come to love so much," said Fujita, who earned his undergraduate degree from Cal in political science. "And helping on the coastal issue has been on the back of my mind since I first got here."

Lisa Griffin, single subject credential '02, M.A. MUSE '03, is a new lecturer in GSE's Language and Literacy, Society and Culture area. She received her doctorate from the University of Rochester. Griffin and her husband happily announced the birth of their second son, Ando Kenneth Naruishi, born in July.

Cassandra Roberts, M.A. '05, PLI '06, a distinguished teacher at Everett Middle School in San Francisco and a graduate of the Principal Leadership Institute Cohort 5, passed away on August 14. "She was always a bright light, committed to students and to high standards of rigor," said PLI coordinator Lynda Tredway. "I encountered her when Janette [Hernandez] was principal at Everett and thought then she would be a good candidate for PLI.



Stephanie Sisk-Hilton, Ph.D. '05, an assistant professor of elementary education at San Francisco State University, is the author of a new book, *Teaching and Learning in*

Public: Professional Development Through Shared Inquiry (Technology, Education-Connections). The book explores a group of teachers that engaged in inquiry about their own practice in order to support inquiry learning in their students.



Ou Lydia Liu, Ph.D. QME '06, was selected as recipient of the Jason Millman Promising Measurement Scholar Award from the National Council on Measurement

in Education for 2011. The award recognizes an early career scholar whose research makes a major contribution to the field of education. GSE Professor **Mark Wilson**, one of Liu's mentors at UC Berkeley, nominated the Educational Testing Service research scientist.

John Kole, M.A. '07, is a doctoral candidate at La Trobe University in Australia.

Thomas Philip, M.A. '04, Ph.D. '07, has won a Spencer/National Academy of Education Post-doctoral fellowship, a follow-up to his GSE dissertation Exploring Teachers' Racialized Reasoning to Re-conceptualize Teacher Education in the Era of "Color-blind" Racism.

Katherine (Kit) Richert, Ph.D. School Psychology '07, has been applying her knowledge of child development and learning to make recommendations for design interactions at nukotoys in San Francisco.

Maria Veronica Santelices, Ph.D. '07, an assistant professor at the Department of Education at the Catholic University of Chile, and GSE Professor Mark Wilson co-authored *UNFAIR TREATMENT?: The Case of Freedle, the SAT, and the Standardization Approach to Differential Item Functioning* in the Spring 2010 issue of the *Harvard Educational Review*.

Linda Platas, Ph.D. '08, won AERA's 2011 Early Education & Child Development SIG Outstanding Dissertation Award.



Jacquelyn Moore, Ed.D. Educational Leadership '09, became the new principal of Davis Senior High School in fall 2010, having served as vice principal at Florin

High School in the Elk Grove Unified School District, where she held administrative positions for six years.

Jessica Parker, Ph.D. LLSC '09, an assistant professor at Sonoma State, is the author of the recently released book *Teaching Tech-Savvy*

Kids: Bringing Digital Media into the Classroom, Grade 5-12. The book brings together different voices to discuss how the study of new media environments can help to broaden understanding of literacy, promote a much-needed dialogue concerning new media technologies and highlight the changing nature of learning. *Teaching Tech-Savvy Kids* is based on McArthur Foundation research by the late professor Peter Lyman. GSE Professor **Glynda Hull** wrote the foreword.

Dafney Blanca Dabach, Ph.D.'09, who joined the University of Washington faculty this fall as an assistant professor in the College of Education, won the 2011 AERA Bilingual Education SIG Dissertation Award.

Leah Walker McGuire, QME Ph.D. '10, is a new assistant professor at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities.



Ariana Mangual, Ph.D. '10, joined the faculty at Rutgers University's Graduate School of Education as assistant professor.

Adena Young, Ph.D. School Psychology '10, is doing post-doctoral work for the Academic Talent Development Program (ATDP), continuing her work on mathematics learning and metacognition. Young is working with GSE professors **Alan Schoenfeld** and **Frank Worrell**—combining the language and research from both disciplines.

Distinguished Alumni Award

The GSE community is seeking nominations for our inaugural Distinguished Alumni Award. The criteria for the award is as follows:

UC Berkeley's Graduate School of Education recognizes alumni who represent the best of what GSE offers by doing exemplary work in the field of education, and whose impact is felt on a national or international level. Honorees work to effect positive change in schools, colleges and universities; they serve as advocates for all learners; they focus on achieving the best outcomes for students and on making a difference in their lives; and they provide leadership in addressing the greatest challenges facing educators, students and communities.

Nominations may be sent via e-mail to gsealumni@berkeley.edu or gsenews@berkeley.edu by **September 1, 2011**.

THE NorWAY

"My wife (**Diana Arya**, LLSC '10) and I (**Andy Maul**, QME '08) have learned that there are two words for "education" in the Norwegian language. The first, *utdanning*, corresponds roughly to what is typically meant by "education" in the formal sense: the acquisition of knowledge and understanding of traditional academic subjects. The second word, *dannelse*, is harder to translate directly into English. I am variously told that it means wisdom, character, broad perspective, open-minded, well rounded and creative. It is cultivated by exploration of the arts, literature, sports and the outdoors, as well as travel—even by participation in social events, like the long, raucous dinners with their many songs and toasts with copious amounts of aquavit that are so popular here in the winter months.



But both of us came here to work. And

indeed, we have worked, and never harder... not because we are in any way forced to, but because we have found deeply engaging and enjoyable research and teaching opportunities. In fact, Norway is putting together its first-ever psychometric research unit, which involves all manner of opportunities for professional development for me. Diana is working with a multi-national team of educators promoting awareness of climate change.

Beyond the work, we have been taken in a little by the wider Norwegian lifestyle: boating, skiing, song, artistry, cozy candlelit evenings and people who, when they first meet you, ask questions such as, 'What do you like to do?' instead of 'What do you do?'

Norway is a remarkable country and we are lucky to be here. We came for the *utdanning*, but who knows...we just might stay for the *dannelse*."

Former San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom awarded Redding Elementary Principal **Bonnie Lo**, M.A., PLI '09, a Certificate of Honor.

