

## Susan M. Zvacek, PhD

Consultant, Speaker, Instructor/Workshop Leader

Susan@CollegeTeachingCoach.com

### EDUCATION

Ph.D.	Curriculum and Instructional Technology	Iowa State University Ames, Iowa
M.Ed.	Educational Studies – Media	University of Utah Salt Lake City, UT
B.A.	Speech	Iowa State University Ames, Iowa

### PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS: Consulting, Teaching, Administration

*January 2006 to Present*

Independent Consultant: [CollegeTeachingCoach.com](http://CollegeTeachingCoach.com)  
Teaching & Learning in Higher Education

- ◆ Speaking, consulting, and workshops on topics related to distance education, course development, assessing learner progress, and instructional technologies;
- ◆ IEEE Education Society Distinguished Lecturer;
- ◆ Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Distinguished Speaker;
- ◆ Fulbright Specialist for Faculty Development at School of Engineering, University of Porto, Portugal;
- ◆ Keynote speaker and workshop leader at conferences in Austria, China, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Estonia, Germany, Portugal, Slovakia, United Kingdom, and throughout the United States.

*February 2018 to June 2018*

Adjunct Instructor  
Faculdade de Engenharia, University of Porto, Portugal

- ◆ Built Moodle course site for Engineering Education Theory and Practice, with topics such as applications of learning theory, student motivation, and assessment;
- ◆ Taught course in hybrid format (Moodle, Zoom, and face-to-face) for 19 engineering faculty members

*October 2014 to August 2017*

Associate Provost for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning  
University of Denver

- ◆ Directed the activities of the Office of Teaching and Learning to support projects that enhance teaching and learning;
- ◆ Provided leadership for adoption and assessment of technologies for learning;
- ◆ Collaborated with faculty, staff, and administrators to plan and implement initiatives that recognize and support innovative teaching;
- ◆ Participated in university decision-making related to teaching and learning.

*August 2015 to Present*

Adjunct Instructor, School of Education  
Ottawa University (Ottawa, KS)

- ◆ Design, develop, and teach online graduate courses on instructional design, educational technologies, and distance education.

*October 1998 to 2005, 2010 to Present*

Adjunct Professor, School of Education/College of Health Care Sciences  
Nova Southeastern University (Ft. Lauderdale)

- ◆ Served as Adjunct Professor for graduate courses in online and face-to-face environments;
- ◆ Advised students in the Instructional Technology doctoral program, guided dissertation research, and oversaw document completion;
- ◆ Provided input for program review and development.

*April 2012 to September 2014*

Senior Director, Teaching Excellence and Learning Technologies  
Fort Hays State University (Hays, KS)

- ◆ Oversaw design and development of online courses for FHSU's Virtual College;
- ◆ Coordinated faculty development activities for on- and off-campus instructors;
- ◆ Provided consultation on university initiatives that involve teaching excellence;
- ◆ Participated in strategic planning at the unit level and above to move the institution forward in the application of technology to instruction.

*January 2006 to June 2006*

Fulbright Senior Lecturer

Charles University (Prague), Assigned to STEM Research Office

- ◆ Taught online professional development courses for postsecondary faculty members and administrators;
- ◆ Provided consulting services for postsecondary institutions throughout the Czech Republic and Slovakia on instructional design and e-learning;
- ◆ Offered workshops for higher education faculty and graduate students at Charles University

*September 1999 to April 2012*

Director, Instructional Development and Support

University of Kansas

- ◆ Designed and implemented innovative faculty development programs;
- ◆ Provided consultation on classroom design and technology enhancements for a variety of learning environments;
- ◆ Facilitated cooperative activity among university entities (e.g., IT, Center for Teaching Excellence, Libraries, etc.) to further the appropriate application of technology for teaching and learning.

*October 1998 to 2005, 2010 to Present*

Adjunct Professor, School of Education/College of Health Care Sciences

Nova Southeastern University (Ft. Lauderdale)

- ◆ Serve as Adjunct Professor for graduate courses in online and face-to-face environments;
- ◆ Advise students in the Instructional Technology doctoral program, guided dissertation research, and oversaw document completion;
- ◆ Provide input for program review and development.

*March 2002 to April 2003*

External Evaluation Team Leader

Digital Dakota Network (Pierre, SD)

- ◆ Conducted project evaluation for federally-funded Star Schools Grant;
- ◆ Coordinated activities of three-person external evaluation team;
- ◆ Wrote annual report of progress toward goals, strengths, weaknesses, and recommendations.

September 1994 to August 1999

Director, Center for Learning Technologies  
Old Dominion University (Norfolk, VA)

- ◆ Oversaw and provided leadership for Faculty Development/Instructional Design, Media Services, Instructional Graphics, and Learning Assessment Lab service units;
- ◆ Designed and conducted workshops and seminars related to teaching, instructional technology, and assessment;
- ◆ Participated in the design of technology-enhanced classrooms and lecture halls for traditional and televised instruction;

August 1989 to August 1994

Assistant Professor of Educational Technology  
University of Northern Colorado

- ◆ Designed and taught graduate and undergraduate courses in educational technology, specializing in instructional design and distance education;
- ◆ Advised master's and doctoral students in Educational Technology degree programs;
- ◆ Chaired the Professional Teacher Education Council, served on Faculty Senate, and various university committees.

## SELECTED KEYNOTES, WORKSHOPS, PRESENTATIONS

*ChatGPT: Words in the Wild*. Panel Discussion Moderator/Chair. Experiment@'23, International Conference, Evora, Portugal, June 2023.

*Designing Assignments for Meaningful Learning*. Workshop presented for Experiment@'21, International Online Conference. November 2021.

*Criteria for Evaluating Distance Education Program Quality*. Keynote presentation at Distance Learning Challenges in Higher Education: Supporting Expanded Programs and Access, A3ES Symposium, Lisbon, Portugal, September 2021.

*Adaptive Learning: So Close, So Far to Go*. Keynote presentation (online) for Second International Colloquium on Recent Trends in Computer Science. Hosted by Vidyavardhaka College of Engineering, Mysuru, India. July 2021.

*Digital Natives and Other Myths*. Labstats podcast, 17 May 2021.

<https://labstats.com/podcast/s1e16-susan-zvacek-digital-natives-and-other-myths/>

*Digital Natives and Other Mythical Beasts*. Keynote presentation (online) for ACM SIGUCCS Annual Conference. March 2021.

*Thinking and Knowing: Assessing What We Cannot See.* Co-Presenter (with Keith Willey),  
Keynote Address at Virtual EDUCON Conference, Porto, Portugal, April 2020.

*Guidelines for Assignments Using Remote and Virtual Labs: Building the Instructional Framework.* Workshop presented at Experiment@'19 Conference, Madeira, Portugal. June 2019.

*Every Click You Make: Who is Watching You?* Keynote Presentation at Experiment@'19 Conference, Madeira, Portugal, June 2019.

*Adaptive Learning Systems: So Close, but So Far to Go.* Presented at YiXue Education Symposium, Beijing, April 2018.

*Let's Get Skeptical About Technology.* Presentation at IIDEA (International Institute for Developing Engineering Academics) Forum, Beijing, China, July 2017.

*Lab-created Learning.* Keynote Presentation at IFEEES/Chinese Academy of Engineering Workshop, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China, July 2017.

*It's Hip to Flip (Your Course).* Workshop presented at Faculty of Engineering, University of Porto (FEUP), Portugal, June 2016.

*Spurious Claims and Zombie Factoids: What's the Big Deal?* Keynote presentation at E-Learning Consortium of Colorado Annual Conference, Breckenridge, CO, March 2016.

Zvacek, S.M. *Collaborative Concept Mapping Online.* Workshop Session at Teaching and Learning with Technology Symposium, Denver, CO, October 2015.

*From Know-What to Know-How to Know-Why.* Keynote Presentation at Experiment@'15 Conference, Azores, Portugal, June 2015.

*High Impact Innovation in Higher Education.* Presentation at Café Foresight, Denver, CO, June 2015.

*My Students are Tech-Savvy, Right?* Keynote presentation at Computer Supported Education Conference (CSEDU), Aachen, Germany, May 2013.

*Being Your Own Best Boss: Self-Regulated Learning for Higher Education.* Keynote Presentation at "Higher Education, Higher Learning?" Conference, Tallinn, Estonia, January 2013.

*Teaching for Higher Order Thinking Skills.* Half-day Workshop Session at "Higher Education, Higher Learning?" Conference, Tallinn, Estonia, January 2013.

*Assessing Learning in the Online Environment*. Keynote presentation for the Northwest E-Learning Community 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Vancouver, WA, October 2011.

*Teaching for Higher Order Thinking with Virtual and Remote Labs*. Keynote for the World Engineering Education Flash Week Conference, Lisbon, Portugal, September 2011.

*Teaching for Higher Order Learning*. Workshop series for Sociedade Portuguesa para a Educação em Engenharia, presented at the University of Porto, Portugal, July 2011.

*Classroom Design, Learning, and Architecture*. Panel presentation and workshop (with David Livingood) sponsored by OEPI-Oficina Ejecutora del Programa de Inversiones (Executive Office of the Investment Program), University of Costa Rica. San José, Costa Rica, 2011.

*Classroom Design: Partners and Processes*. Webinar (with Kathleen Dooley) sponsored by the Consortium of College and University Media Centers, March 9, 2011. Archived at <http://breeze.iu.edu/p66686182/>

*Assessing Learning in the Online Environment*. Staff development workshop for Eastern Iowa Community College District, Eldridge, IA, November 2010.

*The Bb Exemplary Course Program and Your Learning Ecosystem*. Keynote presentation at Virginia Blackboard User Group conference (VA-BUG), Shenandoah University, Winchester, VA, September 2010.

*Digital Nation: Opening Session*. Presented (with Dan Kamala and Meg McGranahan) at the Annual Conference of Colleague-to-Colleague, Overland Park, KS, August 2010.

*Teaching for Higher Order Thinking*. Workshop at Faculty of Engineering, University of Porto (FEUP) and University of Minho, Porto and Guimaraes, Portugal, June 2010.

*Thinking in Action: Learner Engagement in Exemplary Online Courses*. Presented (with Rosemary Dixon) at the Durham Blackboard Users' Conference, Durham, England, January 2010.

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Simonson, M., & Zvacek, S. (2024). *Teaching and learning at a distance: Foundations of distance education, 8<sup>th</sup> ed.* Information Age Publishing.

May, D., Alves, G., Kist, A., & Zvacek, S. (2023). Online laboratories in engineering education research and practice. In A. Johri (Ed.), *International handbook of engineering education research*, pp. 525–552. Routledge.

- Restivo, M. T., Abreu, P., Chouzal, M. F., & Zvacek, S. (2021). The experimental lab in engineering education: Instructional effects. *In press*.
- Pinto, S., & Zvacek, S. (2020). Cognitive apprenticeship and T-shaped instructional design in computational fluid mechanics: Student perspectives on learning. *International Journal of Mechanical Engineering Education*, (6 April 2020).  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0306419020915725>
- Simonson, M., Smaldino, S., Albright, M., Zvacek, S. (2019). *Teaching and Learning at a Distance: Foundations of Distance Education, 7th ed.* Information Age Publishing.
- Zvacek, S.M. (2016). Building creativity into engineering education: Practical strategies. *International Journal of Creativity & Problem Solving*, 26(2), 141-155.
- Simonson, M., Smaldino, S., Zvacek, S. (2016). *Teaching and Learning at a Distance: Foundations of Distance Education, 6th ed.* Information Age Publishing.
- Zvacek, S.M., Restivo, M.T., and Chouzal, M.F. (2015). Accuracy of self-assessment among graduate students in mechanical engineering. *IEEE Xplore Digital Library, International Conference on Interactive Collaborative Learning*, Florence, IT, 1130-1133.
- Zvacek, S.M., Restivo, M.T., and Chouzal, M.F. (2013). Concept mapping for higher order thinking. *International Journal of Engineering Pedagogy*, 3, 6-10.
- Zvacek, S.M. (2013). Book Review: Higher education in the digital age by William G. Bowen. *Teacher-Scholar*, 5, 59-61.
- Zvacek, S.M. (2012). Preface to *Using Remote Labs in Education*, pp.11-16. Edited by Javier Garcia Zubia and Gustavo R. Alves. Bilbao, Spain: University of Deusto Press.
- Zvacek, S.M. (2010-2015). *Talking about Teaching*. Column in the SPEE Quarterly Newsletter (Sociedade Portuguesa Para a Educaçã em Engenharia (Portuguese Society for Engineering Education)).
- Zvacek, S.M. (2010). Book review: Assessing the online learner by Palloff and Pratt. *Quarterly Review of Distance Education*, 10(3), 59-61.
- Zvacek, S.M. (2009). Creating engaging online courses. *International Journal of Online Engineering*, 5(2), 8-10.
- Zvacek, S.M. (2007). Away from the office: A Fulbrighter's semester in Prague. *College & University Media Review*, 13, 95-101.

Vejvodová, J., Zvacek, S.M. (2007). Differences and similarities: Czech and U.S. online learning. *Conference Proceedings, ICETA 2007 (International Conference on E- Learning Technologies and Applications)*, Stara Lesna, Slovakia. (September 2007)

Pavliček, J., Zvacek, S.M. (2006). *Instructional Strategies in Online Learning*. Conference Proceedings for ICTE, Rol'nov pod Radhoštěm, Czech Republic. (September 2006)

Southworth, H., Cakici, K., Vovides, Y., Zvacek, S. (2006). *Blackboard for Dummies*. Wiley Publishing, Inc.

Zvacek, S.M. (August 2005). Book review. Okoboji: A twenty-year review of leadership, 1955-1974. *Education Review*. Arizona State University.

Zvacek, S.M., Walter, S. (2005). *High-velocity change: Creating collaborative learning environments*. Research Bulletin Volume 2005, No. 15. EDUCAUSE Center for Academic Research.

Zvacek, S.M. (2004). How we do things here: Developing a policy manual for CMS usage. *Distance Learning: A Magazine for Leaders*, 1(2), 7-11.

Zvacek, S.M. (2004). Book review. Assessment Strategies for the On-Line Class: From Theory to Practice. *National Teaching and Learning Forum*, 13(2).

Zvacek, S.M. (2003). Distance education. In A. Kovalchick and K. Dawson (Eds.) *Education and Technology: An Encyclopedia*. ABC-CLIO.

Zvacek, S.M. (2003). Television and learning. In A. Kovalchick and K. Dawson (Eds.) *Education and Technology: An Encyclopedia*. ABC-CLIO.

Zvacek, S.M. (2001). Confessions of a guerilla technologist. *EDUCAUSE Quarterly*, 24(2), 40-45.

## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS and SERVICE

Agência de Avaliação e Acreditação do Ensino Superior (Higher Education Accrediting Agency, Portugal), Advising Consultant for Distance Education Program Review, 2021 to present.

EDUCON Conference Program Co-chair, 2019; Program Review Committee, 2017-2018.

International Society for Engineering Pedagogy (IGIP). International Advisory Board, 2021 to present *Higher Order Thinking* Work Group Leader 2016 to present; Curriculum Development (*Learning Theory* and *Higher Order Thinking* hybrid course modules), 2016.



International Conference on Computer-Supported Education (CSEDU). Program Co-chair, 2017-2019); Program Committee, 2015-16.

IEEE-TALE (Teaching, Assessment, and Learning for Education) Program Review Committee (Proposal Reviewer), 2015.

Consortium for College and University Media Centers. Member, 1999 to 2016; President, 2011; Annual Conference Chair, 2011; Instructional Design Interest Group Chair, 2009 to 2011; Conference Host, 2008.

Sociedade Portuguesa Para a Educação em Engenharia (Portuguese Society for Engineering Education). Named Honorary Member, September 2011.

Blackboard™ Exemplary Course Program. Founding Director, 2003 to 2014.

Association for Educational Communications and Technology. National Conference Chair, Dallas, 2002; National Conference Planning Committee/Roundtable Coordinator, 1993 to 1999; Leadership Development Grants Coordinator, 1991 to 1994; Long-term Planning Committee, 1986 to 1988; Member, 1982 to Present.

Colleague-to-Colleague (Kansas/Missouri Regional Association). President, 2008-9; Member 2004 to 2014.