

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors in the order listed on Form Page 2. Follow this format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED FOUR PAGES.**

NAME Da Fonte, Maria Alexandria		POSITION TITLE Assistant Professor	
eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login)			
EDUCATION/TRAINING (Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable.)			
INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	MM/YY	FIELD OF STUDY
Venezuelan Institute of Audiology and Language	AS	1993	Speech and Language Therapy
University Gran Mariscal de Ayacucho, Venezuela	BS	1998	Integrated Rehabilitation
Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN	MS	2001	Special Education
Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN	PhD	2008	Special Education

**A. Positions and Honors**

**Positions**

- 1998 – 2003 Feeding Disorders Specialist, Self-employed, home-based assessment and intervention of Feeding and swallowing for children with special needs
- 1998 – 2003 AAC Specialist, Self-employed, home based assessment and intervention of children with neurological, motor and genetic disorders
- 2001 – Pres AAC Consultant, Paso a Paso Foundation Caracas, Venezuela
- 2003 AAC and Feeding Disorders Specialist, HUMANA S.A. Venezuela
- 2008 – Pres Assistant Professor of the Practice in Special Education, Vanderbilt University, Peabody College, Department of Special Education
- 2009 Comprehensive Program Mentor, *Cooperating Teacher Mentoring Program Workshop*, Kim Paulsen, PI, Vanderbilt University, Peabody College, Department of Special Education
- 2009 – Pres AAC Consultant, *Project JEEP (Joint Engagement, Enhanced Milieu Teaching and Play)*, Vanderbilt University, Peabody College, Department of Special Education

**Honors**

- 2006 American Speech-Language Hearing Association Student Research Travel Award
- 2006 AAC Institute: AAC Student Scientific Paper Award
- 2007 College of Education Graduate Student Support Program Award
- 2007 Purdue Research Fellowship (PRF)
- 2008 College of Education Graduate Student Support Program Award

**B. Publications**

- Yadav, A., Bouck, E. C., Da Fonte, M. A., & Patton, S. (2009). Instructing special education preservice teachers through literacy video cases. *Teaching Education, 20* (2), 149-162.
- Da Fonte, M. A., & Taber-Doughty, T. (in press). The use of graphic symbols in infancy: How early can we start? *Early Child Development and Care*.
- Da Fonte, M.A., Pufpaff, L., & Taber-Doughty, T. (in press). Vocabulary use during storybook reading: Implications for children with augmentative and alternative communication needs. *Psychology in the Schools*.