

MICHAEL ROEMER, Ph.D.

COMPASSIONATE COLLABORATIVE INNOVATIVE

CONTACT

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Fort Worth, Texas, U.S.A.

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

A *people* person who thrives on finding compassionate, collaborative, and innovative solutions, I have a love of fostering learning excellence in and out of the classroom. My leadership and educational philosophies are the same: *it starts with care*. From there, I aim to create trust and a sense of belonging in a school environment that inspires innovation, encourages positive relationships, and emphasizes exploratory discovery.

EDUCATION

University of Texas, Austin

Ph.D., Sociology (2008)

M.A., Asian Cultures and Languages (2002)

Connecticut College

B.A., Japanese & Asian Studies (1996)

Center for International Studies and the Liberal Arts Program Completion

ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP

Director of Global Education, *Trinity Valley School*

Fort Worth, TX 2011-Present

bit.ly/TVSGlobal

PreK-12 co-ed independent day school with more than 1000 students

Hired to found a K-12 Global Education Program that changed the school's culture by connecting students, faculty, and parents with people from 70+ countries via in-person and virtual exchanges; supervise and collaborate with Lower, Middle, & Upper School parents, faculty/staff, and students on a variety of local and global exchanges and Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion discussions, lessons, and programs; oversee program and trip budgets; interview, supervise, and advise visiting international assistant teachers; manage disciplinary issues with TVS and guest students; train faculty and students for transformational travel abroad; coordinate PK-12 family volunteers; design and oversee student travel programs; support students, faculty/staff, and parents by organizing trainings, speakers, and activities and by listening

CONTINUING EDUCATION

- o NAIS *Fellowship for Aspiring School Heads Institute* (Class of 2022)
- o Harvard Business & Graduate Schools of Education *Certificate in School Management and Leadership*
- o CloseUp *School Leader Institute*
- o Glasgow Group *National Diversity Practitioner Institute*
- o Independent Schools Experiential Education Network *Winter Institute*
- o Where There Be Dragons *Best Practices in Global Education*
- o Harvard Graduate School of Education *Global Education Think Tank*
- o Hundreds of hours of conferences, workshops, & webinars on risk management, hiring, leading change, mental health/well-being, school safety, DEI/anti-bias, innovative and global education, school technology, etc.

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee Chair/Co-chair, *Trinity Valley School* 2017-20; Present (Co-Chair); 2020-2021 (Chair)

Coordinate, inform, update, and train faculty, staff, and student committee members on a variety of DEI matters; helped expand from 6-person Upper School committee to 26 staff/faculty (Staff, Athletics, Lower, Middle, & Upper) and 21 Upper School students; promote and organize multicultural campus-wide discussions, assemblies, and off-campus and student-led trainings

Other Committees, *Trinity Valley School* (since 2012)

Strategic Planning Committee, Campus Life

Head of School Selection Committee

Technology Committee

New Hires (including 2021 Director of Equity, Inclusion, & Community)

Curriculum, Learning, & Instruction Committee

Accreditation Committee Member,

Independent Schools Association of the Southwest 2019

SELECTED HONORS & AWARDS

- NAIS *Fellowship for Aspiring School Heads Institute*
- FORT WORTH SISTER CITIES *Bob Bolen Board Leadership Award*
- DFW WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL *Global Educator of the Year*
- BALL STATE UNIVERSITY *Lawhead Teaching Award*
- CITY OF AUSTIN *Community Service Award*
- TEXAS COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES *Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities, Honorable Mention*
- KUMAMOTO PREFECTURE *Goodwill Ambassador*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

My worldviews are also shaped by observations at schools and universities in 16 countries, including attending 3rd grade and a year in college in Japan.

My publications can be found in NAIS' *Independent Ideas* (2017), *Sociologies of Religion* (Brill, 2015), *Journal of the European Teacher Education Network* (2015), *Journal of Ritual Studies* (2012), *Handbook of Contemporary Japanese Religions* (Brill, 2012), *Towards a Sociological Theory of Religion and Health* (Brill, 2011), *Leadership in Nonprofit Organizations* (Sage, 2011), *Atheism and Secularity* (Praeger, 2010), *Social Forces* (2010), *Review of Religious Research* (2010), *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* (2007), *On the Road to Being There* (Brill, 2006), and others.

I have presented my research at the European Teacher Education Network, American Sociological Association, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, American Academy of Religion, Association of the Sociology of Religion, Association of Asian Studies, and the University of Texas at Austin, and have given invited talks at Ball State University, St. Edward's University, Tarleton State University, Fort Worth Rotary Club, Western Rotary Club, Fort Worth Japanese Society, Japan-America Society of Austin, and Trinity Valley School.

I have received \$136,176 in grants for independent and collaborative research.

College and Department Promotion and Tenure Committee
Departmental Chair, *Ball State University* 2010-2011

Resident Director, *Saint Mary's Hall* 1998-2002

BOARD GOVERNANCE

Board of Directors:

2012-Present *Fort Worth Sister Cities International* Advisory Board, Educational Task Force, Past Executive Committee Member & Nagaoka Chair
Awarded Board Leadership Award (2018)

2004-08 *Japan-America Society of Austin*, Membership Chair
Awarded City of Austin Community Service Award (2005)

Other:

2012-Present *European Teacher Education Network*
ETEN Co-ordinator, Past Webmaster

2018-Present *DFW World Affairs Council*
Global Young Leaders Steering Committee

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Trinity Valley School (2011-Present) *Director of Global Education*

- Collaborated with Young Women's Leadership Academy to design and fundraise for a 2-week summer experiential learning program: "Experience Fort Worth"
- Teach hybrid classes (9-12th graders): "Religion in Culture," "Modern Asia," "Global Leadership," "Social Justice", & "Service Learning" and 7-8th grade Selective "World Peace Game"
- Lead and collaborate with parents and students to arrange Homestay Programs for short- and long-term international guests (140+ TVS families for 230+ guests since 2011), including Virtual Hosting Exchange in 2020-21
- Oversee and conceive travel abroad programs in Australia, China, England, Eswatini, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Quebec, Scotland, & Spain

Ball State University (2008-11) *Assistant Professor (Tenure-track)*

- Introduced two "immersive learning" student-centered, student-driven, and project-based courses, e.g., a 4-week summer research/project-based course that included 10 days in Japan in addition to traditional courses in "Religion in Culture," "East Asian Buddhisms," "Japanese Religions," and others

The University of Texas, Austin (2002-08) *Teaching Assistant*

- Created and solo-taught "Gods and the Good Life"
- Solo-taught "Japanese I" and co-taught courses in Asian Studies and Sociology

Cornell College (2007) *Lecturer*

- Designed "Religion and Psychosocial Health in Japan and the U.S." course for One Course at a Time structure

Saint Mary's Hall (1996-97; 1998-02) *Instructor, Resident Director*

- Created and taught new curriculum and courses on Japanese I-IV, Asian & African Civilizations, World History, and Japanese Pop Culture
- Implemented new technologies in the classroom to support diverse learners
- Mentored and initiated new programs for 7-12th grade boarders
- Founded and taught afterschool Improv Club

Japan Exchange and Teaching Programme (1997-98), *Coordinator for International Relations*, Kumamoto City Hall, Japan

- Taught lessons to children and adults about U.S. culture, history, and food