

Sandra H Feder Biography

Sandra Feder is a first generation American who was born and raised in the Los Angeles area. After graduating from High School, she started college at the University of California at San Diego. She remembers being the only woman in physics classes. After two years, she transferred to the University of California at Davis where she would be able to take the classes required for a teaching credential. During her years at Davis, she learned to teach discovery algebra to students from low-income families through Project SEED (Special Elementary Education to the Disadvantaged). She earned her B.S. Degree in Mathematics in June 1972. Then, she earned her California Teaching Credential in mathematics and humanities-English in June 1973.

After marriage and a move to Lake Tahoe, she spent one year working for Pacific Telephone, where she was trained to draft telephone systems. Later, she spent two years substitute teaching, and then got a full time teaching job at Loretto High School in Sacramento. Following that, she began teaching at Fairfield High School where she partnered with another teacher to develop an individualized arithmetic program to help high school students prepare to pass the district exit exam. Fairfield High School did not have an ESL program, so she gathered the ESL students and began teaching the first ESL class. During these years she also taught math at Sacramento State University.

After a move to Nevada, she began to work on her master's degree in computer science at the University of Nevada in Reno. She was awarded a Graduate Fellowship and taught math classes at the University as she worked on her Master's Degree. She was the first woman to earn a Master of Science degree in computer science at the University of Nevada, Reno.

After a move back to Sacramento, she worked as an outside contractor for a company writing a medical software package. In this position, she wrote the first commercially available DRG grouper in the United States. Later, she was the only programmer for a small software company that designed exams, did statistical analysis of exam data, and wrote software for city, state and county governments. In the two years she worked for that company, she made a huge impact on the company by writing manuals for the software and helping to expand the business by 300%. Her next employment was for Aerojet TechSystems where she was a systems analyst and the project manager that took the company from paper and pencil manufacturing to an MRP II automated system. That large and expensive project saved Aerojet money within nine months of its installation. During these seven years at Aerojet, she taught Adventures in Aerospace classed at a local elementary school to fourth, fifth and sixth grade classes. She spent two more years in industry as a team leader and project manager for Sprint.

Since she missed teaching, she went to work at San Joaquin Delta Community College as a computer science professor. Two or three years later, she transferred to Sacramento City College where she has been teaching computer programming and Web page development for twelve years. She loves being able to teach students how to be creative and be able to design and program software systems.

In July 1999, she was honored to be selected by the US-China Education Foundation as their computer science representative to the Community Colleges in China Project. She spent five weeks in China helping eight Chinese Universities start their own community colleges. This was a Ford Foundation Grant to help the Chinese people meet their ten years goals by educating more adults through a community college system. She learned a lot about freedom and the value of

education as she assisted seven of the schools to open community colleges. She sees equal access to college (for all people) as a critical part of building a strong economy and a large healthy middle class.

Sandra Helen (Moeller) Feder

Degrees: BS Mathematics – UC Davis June 1972

MS Math/ EE/ Computer Science – University Nevada, Reno June 1984

Honors: 4.0 average in graduate school

Graduate Fellowship – University Nevada, Reno

Phi Kappa Phi – Life Member

Certificates: California Standard Secondary Teaching Certificate – Life – Mathematics

California Single Subject Teaching Certificate – Math, Humanities-English,
Home Economics

APICS – American Production and Inventory Control Certification – while
working for Aerojet TechSystems Corporation

Organizations – American Mensa Sacramento Chapter– Current Webmaster & Data Custodian

JSPAC- Joint Special Populations Advisory Committee

Folsom Lake College – CPATH Grant Team committee

STEM Summit attendance – Sacramento CA

Convergence Conference Attendance

Closing the Achievement Gap Summit – Sponsored by Jack O’Connell and the
CA Dept of Education

BITREC – Business and Information Technology Regional Educational
Consortium

Work Experience – 2 years teaching with Project SEED – Special Elementary Education for
Disadvantaged students

1 Year Engineering office for Pacific Telephone – North Lake Tahoe

2 years substitute Teaching

3 Years teaching high school level

2 years Teaching at University of Nevada, Reno Math dept

7 years as a computer scientist in industry (Aerojet, Sprint, ...)

14+ years teaching at Sacramento City College and San Joaquin Delta
Community College