Alumni Network:
Vera L. Jacobson “92”

Area of focus.
Theatre Arts Education

Describe your career, especially what you are doing now.
After graduation I went into a teaching career. I was awarded “New Teacher of the Year, 1998 NCTE”. I taught in San Francisco schools for four years, while obtaining a Masters of Arts in Arts Education from SF State University, 1998. I left the theatre position to obtain the position of Department Chair of the Business Technology Academy program. This is a small learning community teaching at-risk teens career and technical education. In 2007 I was hired as the Career Technical Education Coordinator of Sequoia Union High School District helping to reform education. Currently, I am a second year doctoral student here at CSU East Bay’s, “Educational Leadership for Social Justice.” My doctoral research is focused on reforming education by making K-12 more practical, individualistic, purposeful, and holistic. With this new research I plan to work towards reforming K-12 curriculum with a 21st century mindset.

How has your Cal State experience helped you career-wise?
Due to the smaller class size, a unique teaching staff dedicated to personalized instruction, and amazing artistry I do not believe I would have had such a well-rounded educational experience.

If friends or family are important to your life’s story, say so here.
My family and friends have shaped me, influenced me, taught me, and most importantly loved me. They have supported me through my journey and I am very grateful for such love, loyalty, and inspiration they share with me.

Tell us your best advice for students.
Stick to it! An education in the theatre arts raises your sense of personal awareness as well as awareness of the human experience which enables you to succeed in any field.

Vera L. Jacobson

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