

Fatih Aktas, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

Department of Educational Sciences

Istanbul Aydin University

Address: Inonu Street, 34295, Sefakoy - Kucukcekmece, Istanbul, Turkey

Email: fatih.aktas@alum.lehigh.edu ; fatihaktas1@aydin.edu.tr

SUMMARY OF ACADEMIC/RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Comparative and international education policy analysis, including: teacher education and quality, gender equity, global citizenship education, and technology use in classrooms
 - Creativity and innovation in education, including: motivating learners and teachers through creativity, promoting education well-being, turning passion into occupation, and bringing about positive social change through creativity and innovation
 - Globalization and education equity
 - Education in developing and post-colonial countries and sustainable development
 - Globalization and policy transfer (borrowing/lending) in education
 - Globalization and international development
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Comparative and International Education, May 2017

Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, USA

Dissertation: The Emergence of Creativity as an Academic Discipline in Higher Education Institutions

Concentration: Sustainable Development

M.A., Comparative and International Education, May 2013

Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, USA

Thesis: Labor Market Outcomes for College Graduates with an Associate Degree

Concentration: Political Science and International Relations

Intensive English Language Training Certificate, Feb.2011-Aug.2011

Center for Intensive English Studies, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL, USA

B.S., Computer Science Teaching, June 2010

Firat University, Elazig, Turkey

- Summa Cum Laude (Top Scoring Student in the Department of Computer Science Teaching)
- 3rd highest GPA in College of Technical Education

WORK EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, Department of Educational Sciences, Istanbul Aydin University, Istanbul, Turkey, September 2018-Present.

Mountaintop Project Research Fellow, *Sustainability in the Developing World: Can NGO interventions create frameworks for self-sufficiency in education systems?* Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, USA, June 2016-August 2016.

Editorial Assistant, *European Education: A Journal of Issues and Studies*, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, USA, April 2015-April 2016

- Published quarterly by Taylor & Francis, this international peer-reviewed journal is devoted to original inquires and dialogue on education across the member states of the Council of Europe. The journal features articles on education in individual member states as well as the impact of European education initiatives globally. The journal especially encourages theoretical and empirical studies, interdisciplinary perspectives, and critical examination of the impact of political, economic, and social forces on education.
- Assessed manuscripts and made recommendations to senior editors, assisted with developing calls for proposals, managed the external review process, proofread publications, and liaised with senior editors and other editorial assistants to monitor the publication process.

Graduate Assistant, Comparative and International Education, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, USA, August 2014-May 2015

- Research Assistant for the Comparative and International Education program.
- Research Assistant for Dr. Iveta Silova and Dr. Alexander W. Wiseman.

Graduate Assistant, Library and Technology Services, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, USA, October 2014-May 2017

- Part of the Library and Technology Services team, assigned to support the faculty, staff and students of the College of Education, providing coordinated support for technology needs.

Editorial Assistant, *Forum for International Research in Education (FIRE)*, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, USA, May 2013-January 2015

- *FIRE: Forum for International Research in Education* is an international, peer-reviewed publication promoting interdisciplinary scholarship on the use of internationally comparative data for evidence-based and innovative change in educational systems, schools, and classrooms worldwide. FIRE publishes articles, book reviews, research essays and bibliographies three times per year.
- Assessed manuscripts and made recommendations to senior editors, assisted with developing 'Calls for Proposals', used my own experience in proofreading and designing publications, and liaised with senior editor and other editorial assistants to monitor and make publication decisions.

Computer Teacher, Trade Vocational High School, Gaziantep, Turkey, September 2010

- Taught essential computer skills (hardware/software) at Trade Vocational High School over a five-week period.

Network Specialist/Professional Internship, Esenboga TAV Airport, Information Technology Center, Ankara, Turkey, June 2008.

- Interned at Esenboga TAV Airport, gained experience in network and computer systems over a five-week period.

SKILLS

- **Research**
 - **Quantitative skills:** ANOVA, ANCOVA, MANOVA, MANCOVA, Regression Analysis
 - **Qualitative skills:** Interviews, Focus Groups, Discourse and Content Analysis
- **Computer**
 - **Statistical Software Applications:** SPSS, G-Power
 - **Qualitative Software Applications:** NVivo
 - **Operating Systems:** All Windows Versions
 - **Applications:** Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Final Cut Pro
- **Grant writing and Fundraising**

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Co-Chair of Education Committee, Lehigh University UNICEF Club, Fall 2014-Spring 2016

- Co-Organize educational activities on campus to raise awareness about issues that children face worldwide.
- Co-Organize advocacy campaigns on the Lehigh campus.

United Nations Youth Delegate, Darfur Rehabilitation Project (DRP), Spring 2012

- Completed research about 'Ethnic Conflict in Sudan.'

Executive Board Member, Turkish Student Club (TSC), Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, USA, 2011-2012

- TSC Representative to Global Union meetings at Lehigh University.
- Coordinated information exchanges between TSC and other student clubs.

Executive Board Member, International Development and Education Association (IDEA) Club, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, USA, 2011-2012

- IDEA Club Representative to Global Union meetings at Lehigh University.
- Coordinated information exchanges between IDEA Club and other student clubs.

Community Volunteer, Turkish Human Resources Education and Health Foundation (TIKAV), Ankara, Turkey, 2007-2010

- Taught computer skills to 10-15 children per week.
- Provided recreational activities to children to teach proper social skills.

Youth Volunteer, International Award for Young People, Ankara, Turkey, 2007-2010

- Led discussions and role playing exercises.
- Delivered presentations about Turkish culture.

HONORS & FELLOWSHIPS

Member of the Year 2015-2016, the 2016 UNICEF Student Summit, Washington D.C., USA, February 2016.

The Thomas/Brucker Minority Doctoral Scholarship, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, USA, 2013-2014.

Fulbright Scholar, Completed MA degree in Comparative and International Education, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, USA, 2011-2013.

Golden Award, International Award for Young People, Elazig, Turkey, June 2010.

Youth Delegate, European Union Project on “The Laboratory of Creativity and Innovation” Youth Participation, Krakow, Poland, March 2010.

Youth Delegate, European Union Project on “Overcoming Phobias in Youth Projects through Outdoor Activities,” Istanbul, Turkey, October 2009.

Golden Participant, Trust the World Interregional Youth Public Movement, Award Association, Republic of Karelia, Russia, August 2009.

AWARDS

New Scholars Travel Merit Award, \$400, Comparative and International Education Society (CIES) 2016 Conference, Vancouver, Canada, March 2016.

UNICEF Travel Reimbursement, \$100, the 2016 UNICEF Student Summit, Washington D.C., USA, February 2016.

Diversity Committee Travel Fund, \$150, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, USA, March 2015.

Dean’s Endowed Student Travel Fund, \$75, Lehigh University, College of Education, Bethlehem, PA, USA, March 2015.

Graduate Student Senate Travel Grant, \$150, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, USA, February 2015.

Dean’s Endowed Student Travel Fund, \$400, Lehigh University, College of Education, Bethlehem, PA, USA, January 2014.

Graduate Student Senate Travel Grant, \$150, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, USA, November 2013.

Graduate Student Senate Travel Grant, \$150, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, USA, February 2013.

Dean’s Endowed Student Travel Fund, \$500, Lehigh University, College of Education, Bethlehem, PA, USA, December 2012.

PUBLICATIONS

Edited Books

Leight, R. L., Silova, I., & **Aktas, F.** (2016). *A history of education at Lehigh University: 100 years of excellence*. Bethlehem, PA: Lehigh University, College of Education.

Book Chapters

Aktas, F. & Silova, I. (2016). Institutionalizing Education Degree Programs: The Establishment and Growth of the Department of Education (1932-1963). In Leight, R. L., Silova, I., & **Aktas, F.** (Eds.), *A history of education at Lehigh University: 100 years of excellence*. Bethlehem, PA: Lehigh University, College of Education.

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

Aktas, F., Pitts, K., Richards, J. C., & Silova, I. (2017). Institutionalizing global citizenship: A critical analysis of higher education programs and curricula. *Journal of Studies in International Education*, 21(1), 65-80.

Unpublished Reports

Silova, I., **Aktas, F.**, Duong, H., Earhart, K., Goebel, J., Pitts, K., (2016, January). *Lehigh University International Internship Program: Program Evaluation*.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Aktas, F. (2016). *The Emergence of Creativity as an Academic Discipline in Higher Education Institutions (March 6-10, 2016)*. Presented at the 60th Annual Meeting of the Comparative and International Education Society (CIES) in Vancouver, Canada.

Goebel, J., **Aktas, F.**, Duong, H., & Earhart, K. (2016). *An International Self: A Case-Study of Student Development and Global Citizenship through International Internship Experiences (March 6-10, 2016)*. Presented at the 60th Annual Meeting of the Comparative and International Education Society (CIES) in Vancouver, Canada.

Chaney, J., Pitts, K., **Aktas, F.**, & Silova, I. (2015). *Institutionalizing Global Citizenship: Critical Analysis of University Mission Statements and Practices (March 8-13, 2015)*. Presented at the 59th Annual Meeting of the Comparative and International Education Society (CIES) in Washington, DC, USA.

Aktas, F. (2013). *Labor Market Outcomes for College Graduates with an Associate's Degree (March 10-15, 2013)*. Presented at the 57th Annual Meeting of the Comparative and International Education Society (CIES) in New Orleans, LA, USA.

SEMINARS & CONFERENCES

Participant, the Possibility and Desirability of Global Learning Metrics: Comparative Perspectives on Education Research, Policy and Practice. Inaugural symposium of the CIES, November 10-11 2016, Scottsdale, AZ, USA.

Participant, the New Scholars Dissertation Mentoring Workshop at CIES 2016, March 6-10 2016, Vancouver, Canada.

Participant, the 2016 UNICEF Student Summit, February 19-21 2016, Washington, D.C., USA.

Participant, Third-Annual UNICEF Student Leadership Symposium, October 14 2015-April 13 2016.

Participant, Lehigh LeaderShape, Camp Canadensis in the Pocono Mountains, May 2015.

Participant, World Innovation Summit for Education "Imagine-Create-Learn: Creativity at the Heart of Education" (I was invited and fully funded to attend WISE Summit), Doha, Qatar, November 2014.

Participant, Comparative and International Education Society, Annual Conference, Puerto Rico, April 2012.

Participant, the Education of Applied Interview Techniques, Turkish Human Resources Education and Health Foundation-TIKAV, Elazig, Turkey, May 2010.

Participant, The Education of Applied Research and Reporting Methods, Turkish Human Resources Education and Health Foundation-TIKAV, Elazig, Turkey, December 2009.

Participant, Professional Development Project Orientation Program on *Basic Economy and Finance, the Differences between International Education Systems, Entrepreneurship, European Union Projects*, Turkish Human Resources Education and Health Foundation-TIKAV, Istanbul, Turkey, June 2009.

Participant, Negotiation Skills, Turkish Human Resources Education and Health Foundation-TIKAV, Elazig, Turkey, April 2009.

Participant, Communications and Reputation Management, Interview Techniques, CV Preparation, Turkish Human Resources Education and Health Foundation-TIKAV, Elazig, Turkey, February 2008.

Participant, Individual Development Project Orientation Program on *Speaking in front of Society, Effective Teamwork*, Turkish Human Resources Education and Health Foundation-TIKAV, Ankara, Turkey, June 2007.

WEBSITE PROJECTS

Contributor to a collective blog written by students at the College of Education at Lehigh University under the instruction of Dr. Iveta Silova, Spring 2013 - Spring 2015, <http://educationpolicytalk.com/author/aktasfatih/>

Contributor to co-creation of a video about homeschooling trend for International Education Policy course under the instruction of Dr. Iveta Silova, Spring 2013, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i88rLU8zCa8>

Contributor to co-creation of a website about child soldiers in armed conflict for Globalization and Education Equity course under the instruction of Dr. Alexander W. Wiseman, Fall 2012, <https://chilsoldiercrisis.wordpress.com/>

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Comparative and International Education Society (CIES), 2012-2016

Fulbright Alumni Network, 2013-Present

CAMPUS MEMBERSHIPS

Lehigh University UNICEF Club, 2014-2017

Turkish Student Club, Lehigh University, 2011-2017

Comparative and International Education Club, Lehigh University, 2011-2017

Firat Computer & Technology Club, Firat University, 2009-2010

LANGUAGES

Turkish, English fluent oral and written; Arabic beginner