

**ISABELLA FURTH, PH.D.**  
8720 Donaker Street ♦ San Diego, CA 92129  
(858) 337-7347  
[ifurth@me.com](mailto:ifurth@me.com)

---

12 years of experience in policy research, writing, design and structured dialogue.  
Skilled writer of grants, reports, articles, informational materials and presentations.  
Seasoned facilitator of small and large group discussions.  
Hands-on experience with layout and design.  
Strong project management skills.  
Confident public speaker.

---

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Viewpoint Learning**  
San Diego, CA  
2001–present

*Viewpoint Learning designs and conducts specialized dialogues that engage the public, leaders and other stakeholders on complex policy issues. Projects range from opinion research (understanding public priorities around issues requiring difficult tradeoffs), to strategic planning, to public engagement. Clients include Fortune 500 companies, governments, major foundations and other organizations across the United States, Canada and Europe.*

### **Senior Associate (2006–present)**

*Deeply involved in all aspects of designing, facilitating, analyzing and reporting Viewpoint Learning’s dialogues. Projects cover a wide range of policy areas, including: health care, education, municipal budgets, Federal spending and the deficit, environmental sustainability, early childhood development, community water fluoridation and land use.*

- Responsible for all materials used in Viewpoint Learning dialogues:
  - Research subject area, interview experts and advocates.
  - Identify and articulate multiple approaches to a challenging issue.
  - Draft, edit and revise materials through multiple editorial phases.
  - Design and lay out materials, including workbooks, questionnaires, handouts, information sheets.
- Facilitate dialogue sessions with leaders, stakeholders and the general public in communities nationwide. (Groups range in size from 10–150+.)
- Analyze qualitative and quantitative data from research dialogues.
- Create written reports and presentations on findings. Oversee production of edited videos.
- Write project proposals, grant applications, articles, op-eds.
- Present findings at local, state and national meetings and conferences.

### **Associate (2002–2006)**

- Completely overhauled company’s graphic identity, including changes to logo, presentation template and design of dialogue materials and reports.
- Maintained Viewpoint Learning website and YouTube channel.

### **Executive Assistant to the Chairman (2001–2002)**

- Drafted op-eds, articles and book chapters, and created presentations for Viewpoint Learning Chairman Dan Yankelovich.
- Provided administrative and editorial support.

## ISABELLA FURTH, PH.D.

---

### OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### San Diego State University

##### Adjunct Professor of English (1998–1999)

- Designed and taught courses in literature and composition.

#### University of California, Irvine

##### Postdoctoral Fellow (1997–1998)

##### Lecturer/Teaching Assistant (1990–1997)

- UC Regents' Dissertation Fellowship 1996
- UCI Summer Dissertation Fellowship 1995
- English Department Outstanding Teaching Award 1992, 1994

#### Hubei University/Tongji Medical College

Wuhan, People's Republic of China

##### Lecturer (1988–1990)

- Designed and taught courses in English as a Foreign Language, literature, writing and conversation.
- 

### ARTICLES AND REPORTS

Authored more than 40 reports on Viewpoint Learning research. Subjects include health care, education reform, environmental sustainability, governance, state and federal budgets. Selected titles:

- *Citizen Dialogues on Sea Level Rise: Start with Impacts/End with Action* (2013). Prepared for the Union of Concerned Scientists.
- *The Future of Health Coverage and Health Insurance Exchanges in Mississippi* (2012). Prepared for the Mississippi Health Advocacy Program.
- *The Future of K-12 Education in Anchorage: Report on Community Conversations* (2012). Prepared for the Mayor's Education Summit (Anchorage, AK).
- *California's Community Clinics and Health Centers: Taking Initiative in a New Health Care Landscape* (2012). Prepared for the Blue Shield of California Foundation.
- *The First Five Years: Choice-Dialogues on Early Childhood in New Mexico* (2010). Prepared for the W. K. Kellogg Foundation.
- *Voices for Health Care: Engaging the Public to Advance Significant Health Care Reform* (2009). Prepared for the W. K. Kellogg Foundation.
- *Understanding Public Judgment on Science-Intensive Issues: San Diego Dialogues on Community Water Fluoridation* (2007). Prepared for the California Dental Health Foundation.

Selected Articles and Op-Eds:

- "Public Engagement in California: Escaping the Vicious Cycle." *National Civic Review*, Fall 2006. (with Dan Yankelovich)
  - "A Public United around Education Reform." *New American Media*, March 2006.
  - "The Role of Colleges in an Era of Mistrust." *The Chronicle Review*, September 2005. (with Dan Yankelovich)
- 

### EDUCATION

#### University of California, Irvine

Ph.D. American Literature

#### Yale University

B.A. English; minor in Chinese (summa cum laude)

---

### OTHER

#### Computer skills

Adobe InDesign

#### Foreign languages

Conversational Chinese (Mandarin)  
Conversational French