

*College of Education and Allied Professions
Faculty Research Interests*

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Elementary Grades Faculty

Barbara Bell: methods to motivate upper elementary and middle grades readers in learning to read for meaning; analysis of key elements of knowledge and dispositions needed to be a successful teacher of reading; methods to help more young children become successful readers – constructors of meaning

Rus Binkley: teachers from working class backgrounds; underachieving elementary school students; classroom democracy; democratic teaching; race, class, and gender awareness among pre-service teachers; Marginalization of Social Studies in elementary and middle schools; Teaching about religion in public schools; Religious oppression in public schools

Patricia Bricker: integration of science and literacy education; inquiry-based science education in elementary and middle grades; environmental education; education and social justice; teacher professional development and empowerment (with specific interests in Professional Learning Communities and instructional coaching)

Teresa Folger: retrospective miscue analysis with "Readers of Promise" (those who struggle but seemed to be successful in any way as they use coping skills to work through academic materials); collaborative retrospective miscue analysis at elementary, middle, and high school levels (implementing and noting effects); teacher education in the areas of literacy pedagogy; research effective teaching methods and organizations, including use of technology in pre-service teacher literacy methods class

Bob Houghton: strategies, models and practices that use digital technology to improve learning, teaching, thinking and communicating; methods for 21st century literacy through multimedia; collaborative learning using distance education; entrepreneurship theory for education; theory for curriculum change that enables education to keep up with and lead innovation as the pace of cultural change accelerates

Marylou Matoush: literacy in learning in context and related emergent sociocultural understandings. That interest centers on multiliteracies and includes: visual literacy; critical literacy; literacy and critical/creative thinking; emergent literacy and dramatic play, literacy and the arts; emergent literacy and written language; second language learning; the authentic assessment of literacy events, and the sociocultural influence of picture books

William “Dee” Nichols: His research interests include vocabulary instruction and reading comprehension with particular interest in professional development in these areas. He is also interested in the early stages of reading development including fluency instruction.

Terry Rose: mathematics non-routine problem solving; and teaching mathematics for conceptual understanding

Middle Grades Faculty

Vicki Faircloth: knowledge, dispositions and skills of teachers trained in alternative licensure programs versus traditional teacher education programs

Dave Strahan: learning and teaching in the middle grades; instructional improvement and teachers’ professional development; instructional coaching and collaborative leadership

Educational Leadership and Foundations

Ann Alexander: The community college presidency; effective teaching in community colleges; leading organizations through change; the learning college; millennial in rural community colleges; community college partnerships with K-12; higher education, business/industry (especially for entrepreneurial and economic development purposes); academic leadership in community colleges; fund-raising in community colleges.

Frederick Buskey: I am exploring the factors that influence school leaders' ability to engage in moral leadership. I am looking at licensure program elements and events in schools as well as policies. I am committed to finding ways to support the moral development of school leaders as a way to respond to the individual needs of children in our public schools, including the idea that ethical leadership may at times be seditious and insubordinate.

Eddie Case: Experiences of GLBTQ students in secondary school, GLBTQ issues in teacher preparation.

David Coley: How to attract and retain the next generation of teachers and what do principals of effective schools do differently.

Cheryl Daly: Organizational leadership, college learning environments, diversity issues in higher education, faculty careers, and faculty development. I utilize a range of organizational theories to study ways to improve the work environment for diverse faculty and the learning environment for diverse students. In particular, I examine the ways that organizational structures and cultures shape both faculty roles and teaching/learning contexts. The methods that I utilize are both quantitative and qualitative – with the qualitative methods focusing primarily on field-based interviews.

Mary Jean Herzog: Rural Education, Qualitative Research Methods, Teacher Education, Teaching Methods, Democracy in Education. Add: Appalachian Studies.

Eleanor Hilty: Research on the lives of teachers; e.g., moonlighting, student failure, issues related to teaching and learning; research on issues related to boys; e.g., child development, identity, literacy, behavior, teaching and learning; methodology includes both qualitative and questionnaire/survey data

Casey Hurley: Schools organization, Models of schooling, Educational politics and policy, Paradigms governing the field of educational administration.

Jacque Jacobs: My research interests include: issues related to serving students with disabilities in K-12; any issues related to the principalship, and issues related to education of girls and young women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

Kathleen Jorissen: The nexus of policy and practices that affect educator quality, including federal, state, local, and institutional policies related to:

- 1 Preparation, evaluation, and professional development of school administrators
- 2 Preparation, evaluation, and professional development of teachers

Meagan Karvonen: My research interests include: large scale assessments for students with disabilities; general curriculum access and curriculum alignment; mixed methods research program evaluation methodologies; social factors in education (especially health and mental health)

Sarah Meltzer: Professional development and instructional support for teachers; teacher support and training in the integration of technology into classroom curriculum; development of classroom

management, planning and teacher leadership through professional development and teacher preparation; development of technology-rich curriculum.

Dixie McGinty: Include (1) testing and student assessment, (2) education and the economy, and (3) Survey research methodology.

Kevin Pennington: My research interests include: The evolving ability of small, rural community colleges to fulfill their historic roles, evaluating the impact of rural community colleges upon economic development and measures of rural poverty, unique problems associated with rural community colleges, the study of general education science courses at the community college.

Ann Sundstrom: My research interests include: The principalship, collaboration in K-12 schools, PK-20 partnerships - specifically building relationships between practitioners and theorists, social justice – as it pertains to cultural diversity as well as students with disabilities, and development of job imbedded professional development for school leaders.

Lucian Szlizewski: Research interests: Reasons and remedies for student disengagement; Classroom Time Management; Quality Teaching and Studenting; and becoming an effective principal/educational leader.

Sandy Tonnsen: My research interests, while varied, center primarily on issues of equity and issues of leadership. I am especially interested in women's issues, defined broadly, but including leadership and access to administrative positions in schools/districts. I am also interested in the superintendency, its relationship to student achievement and the issues facing women who are, or who aspire to be, superintendents.

Health, Physical Education, and Recreation:

Bob Beaudet: increasing the focus on fitness in secondary physical education; implementing the sport education/ fitness education model in schools; developing movement activities for students with severe disabilities

David Claxton: increasing levels of physical activity; physically active homework; balance as a component of health-related physical fitness; fitness contributions of various forms of physical activity

Justin Menickelli: augmented feedback and self-regulated motor skill learning; dissociative and associative cognitive strategies during aerobic exercise

Bill Papin: actively working on research relating to the effectiveness of teaching online VS hybrid VS traditional. Another related area is instructing fitness and activity online.

Maurice Phipps: outdoor leadership and instruction; leadership styles and group dynamics; unconscious motivations and adventure activities; cooperative learning

Debby Singleton: Increasing physical activity in K-12; increasing access & education of healthy nutrition options in K-12; increasing activity levels & functional abilities of older adults; outdoor recreation and its impact on tourism in Western North Carolina.

Ben Tholkes: campus outdoor recreation; recreational use of public lands; recreation programs for youth-at-risk; anxiety and performance in adventure recreation; impacts of crowding on public lands

Maridy Troy: obesity; metabolic rate; cardio respiratory exercise and injuries; step exercise,

balance and health related fitness; exercise to improve balance

Gayle Wells: alcohol/drug issues and college students; eating disorders and college students; cultural influences on health behaviors; obesity in children

Human Services

Lisa Bloom: Classroom management, behavioral disorders, positive behavioral support for students with mild to moderated disabilities, community in the classroom, action research for teachers, gaining students' perspectives

Dale Brotherton: Marital and family development across the lifespan, family functioning models

Dale Carpenter: Diversity, assessment, program evaluation, instructional methods for children with learning disabilities

Karena Cooper-Duffy: Teaching emergent literacy to children with significant cognitive disabilities, positive behavior support for children with significant cognitive disabilities; providing support to teachers to encourage teacher efficacy

Russ Curtis: Integrated Health Care, School-wide Positive Behavioral Support, Positive Psychology, Energy Psychology, and Leadership.

Eliza Dean: nature/outdoor/wilderness education in early childhood classrooms; continuity of care (looping) in early childhood classrooms; elementary school principals' perceptions of kindergarten; international early childhood programs

Mary Deck: spirituality in counseling

Sharon Dole: online course design, online community building, online collaboration, twice exceptional students, bibliotherapy and video therapy, creativity, differentiation of instruction

Mary Ford: accommodating the needs of ld students in distance education courses on line, learning profile of the adult students in distance education or words to that effect, counseling iep- are they a possibility, teachers with disabilities teaching student with disabilities

Jim Kirk: Employment counseling, career development, and workplace issues

Cathy Grist: Preschool assessment, social-emotional competence in the birth through kindergarteners, personality in preschoolers

Kathryn Laveck: consultation in early childhood settings; inclusion of children with special needs in early childhood settings; infant/toddler child care and education; family centered practices in early childhood education; community change processes (not an area of expertise, but an emerging interest)

Jane Perlmutter: young children's understanding of mathematical ideas; parental perceptions of the importance of play for kindergarten children; the uses of circle time as a teaching tool in kindergarten; developmentally appropriate practices in kindergarten

Lisen Roberts: School counseling, children's literature, teaching and learning

Phyllis Robertson: Counseling services for students with disabilities; cross cultural issues in counseling and education; collaboration between schools and community mental health agencies; solution-focused counseling

Valerie Schwiebert: mentoring (womentoring); women's and gender issues in counseling; adult development and aging; assessment

David Shapiro: Stuttering, stuttering intervention, and people who stutter. My multinational investigation of stuttering intervention is being expanded in two directions: to the assumptions and intervention practices of indigenous healers who treat people who stutter; and to the assumptions and intervention practices of clinicians in former Soviet-block countries

John Sherlock: distance education pedagogy, human resource development, leadership, phenomenological research methods, employee recruitment/retention, strategic human resource management

Susan Stewart: assessment of the instructional environment; informal classroom-based assessment (curriculum-based assessment); software and technology used in classrooms

Pam Vesely: The use of visual imagery to improve reading comprehension; design and implementation of curriculum based measurements to assess student learning; imagery skills in young children; communication variables within cultural diversity; using daily assessment information in designing appropriate modifications/ adaptations for students with disabilities; community building in online and face-to-face courses; supporting and developing creative and critical thinking in higher education; research to practice barriers and needed supports for teachers

Wen Chun Wang: bilingual children and play; parental perceptions of children's play; early childhood literacy; comparative preschool education; early childhood curriculum; and multicultural education

David Westling: Confronting challenging behaviors: The knowledge and practice of teachers; creating effective positive behavior supports through on-line collaboration using web-based software; applying information technology to address challenging behavior: implications for administrators and policy-makers

Psychology

Millie Abel: stress and worry, sense of humor, smiling, impression formation, sex and gender differences, psychological aspects of legal issues, work discrimination and harassment.

Kia Asbert: stress and resilience; impact of child maltreatment and trauma on adolescent and adult functioning, (including involvement with the legal system); coping and social support; emotion regulation

Lydia Aydlett: infant social, language and interactional development; gender differences in infant behavior and emotional disorders in children; the developmental sequel to child maltreatment; program evaluation for non-profits serving children

Candace Boan: self-concept, body image, and cognitive-behavioral therapy with adolescent females

Leonardo Bobadilla: The developmental trajectory of psychopathic and antisocial traits. The validity of the “Successful Psychopath” construct. Cluster B personality disorders and other disinhibitory disorders. Personality protective factors against drug abuse and dependence. Use of cognitive and psychophysiological measures for the assessment of disinhibitory traits.

Thomas Ford: role of disparaging humor in fostering social environments of tolerance of discrimination and personal expressions of prejudice, the relationship between humor and coping with stressful events, the relationship between religion and prejudice, and unintentional racism in public school settings.

Jim Goodwin: sense of direction abilities, cognitive maps (the understanding of our geographical environment), and way finding (the ability to navigate successfully through the environment); gender differences in spatial cognition; history of experimental psychology in the United States, 1890-1930

Windy Gordon: Emotional state and change in attitudes; student satisfaction and retention; psychological factors in challenge and adventure activities

John Habel: qualitative research, especially interviewing; children and adolescents with behavioral and/or emotional disorders; teaching and learning in higher education; diversity in schools and in teacher education

Bruce Henderson: school bus behavior and influences; memory—what teachers and students know about how it works; learning styles

Hal Herzog: Moral judgment and decision making, the psychology of human-animal interactions, gender differences

Alvin Malesky: Community notification of sex offenders, expert witness testimony, attachment style and abuse history; internet sexual predators; the insanity defense; Student and Faculty utilization of social networking websites; online videogame usage

David McCord: Five-factor model of personality; M5 questionnaire: reliability and validity; relationship between personality traits and other psychological characteristics and behaviors; evolutionary psychology

Ashley Owens: The psychology of learning and motivation, case-based instruction in university courses, pre-service teacher education, teachers’ emotions

Will Poynter: visual search and attention; effects of aging on visual perception; perception and performance differences between left and right-hand dominant individuals; computer software applications for use in psychology research

Mickey Randolph: Cognitive-Behavioral intervention designed to train females ages 10-18 in nutrition, physical fitness and life skills; the body project: self esteem and body image; changes across the developmental life cycle; gender issues; family violence: partners, adult-child and siblings, teen dating violence

Lori Unruh: Developing a better understanding of factors related to student learning and effective instruction and intervention including supports that teachers need to provide effective instruction; especially interested in topics such as academic competence, academic engagement, motivation, self-esteem, etc.; also interested in prevention strategies related to grade retention, drop-outs, and academic failure.

Center for Mathematics and Science Education

Elaine Franklin: Discourse analysis in the context of inquiry science lessons – how discourse (levels of discourse) between students affects their conceptual understanding; the impact of authentic research experiences on the construction of knowledge in science and mathematics; use of common pedagogy in math and science classes and how using a common pedagogy affects teachers' ability to integrate math/science instruction.

Center for Support of Beginning Teachers, Office of Alternative Licensure, SUTEP

Janice Holt: the effects of induction and alternative entry programs on teacher retention and new teacher development (special interest - e-mentoring and the role of the principal); how new teachers view their practice (their "level" of professional thinking) and how this information can inform induction programs; differentiated support for teachers in their first 3 years of teaching and induction program design

Office for Field Experience

Ken Hunt: diversity education for teacher candidates candidate dispositions non-traditional delivery of staff development and training for educators distance supervision international experiences in clinical practice

Office for Rural Education

Kim Elliott: teacher recruitment; teacher perceptions of best practice in recruitment for rural schools; principal leadership; standards based school improvement initiatives; college access initiatives for middle and high school students; funding for rural schools; teacher efficacy in the age of accountability

Office of Special Programs/Teaching Fellows

Jackie Smith: Teacher recruitment and support of beginning teachers; Tactics to spark interest among students in pursuing licensure in math, science, and special education fields; Involvement of parents in public education; Character education; Challenges of school administrators; Effective school leaders and how leadership styles impact teachers' decisions to remain in the profession (teacher retention)

Technology and Curriculum

Lee Nickles: Modeling education systems with cognitive engineering methods, using web server log data for evaluation, using technology to support educational systems, and engineering education

Associate Dean

Dan Grube: physical education teachers' use of time: time spent in managerial tasks; subjective warrants of the physical education major: candidates perceptions of the role of the physical education teacher (pre and post teacher preparation program); adventure-based pedagogy: effective teaching behaviors for adventure education settings

Dean of the College of Education and Allied Professions

Michael Dougherty: Writing textbooks on consultation and collaboration, analogue studies in interpersonal process in consultation and collaboration