

Melinda Marie Leko

School of Special Education, School Psychology, and Early Childhood Studies
University of Florida
PO Box 117050
Gainesville, FL, 32611
leko@coe.ufl.edu

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Special Education* 2005-2008
Minor: Research and Evaluation Methodology
Dissertation: Understanding the various influences on
special education preservice teachers' appropriation of conceptual
and practical tools for teaching reading
Advisor: Mary T. Brownell
The University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
- M.Ed. Elementary Education* 2001-2002
The University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
- B.S. Psychology* 1998-2001
The University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
- B.A. Criminology* 1998-2001
The University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Associate Director* 2023-present
School of Special Education, School Psychology, and Early Childhood Studies
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
- Professor* 2022-present
School of Special Education, School Psychology, and Early Childhood Studies
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
- Co-Director* 2022-present
Collaboration for Effective Educator Development, Accountability
and Reform (CEEDAR) Center
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
- Professor* 2020-2022
Department of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

<i>Department Chair</i> Department of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI	2018-2021
<i>Associate Professor with Tenure</i> Department of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI	2017-2020
<i>Associate Professor with Tenure</i> Department of Special Education The University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS	2017
Collaboration for Effective Educator Development, Accountability and Reform (CEEDAR) Center Staff	2016-2022
<i>Assistant Professor</i> Department of Special Education The University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS	2014-2016
<i>Assistant Professor</i> Department of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education The University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI	2009-2014
<i>Assistant Scholar</i> Department of Special Education The University of Florida, Gainesville, FL	2008-2009
<i>Project Coordinator</i> Department of Special Education Project Literacy Learning Cohorts (LLC) The University of Florida, Gainesville, FL	2007-2009
<i>Research Assistant</i> Department of Special Education Center on Personnel Studies in Special Education (COPSSE) Project Research in Teacher Education (RITE) The University of Florida, Gainesville, FL	2005-2008
<i>Orton-Gillingham Tutor and Master Trainer</i> Levy County Schools, Williston, FL	2004-2005
<i>Teacher for gifted students</i> Levy County Schools, Williston, FL	2004-2005
<i>Florida Reading Initiative (FRI) Trainer</i> Levy County Schools	2003-2005

Inclusive Elementary Education Teacher
Levy County Schools, Williston, FL

2002-2004

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Educator preparation to promote inclusive and equitable practices for students with disabilities
Reading instruction for adolescents with disabilities
Educators' implementation of evidence-based practices and high-leverage practices

HONORS & AWARDS

Irving and Rose Fien Endowed Professorship
University of Florida

2024-2026

Teacher Education Division (TED) Excellence Award
Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)

2022

Cooper Lectureship
University of Virginia

2019

Division of Student Housing Honored Instructor Award
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

Fall 2009, 2012

Council for Exceptional Children Division of Research
Selected for participation in the Early Career Workshop
held during the Annual Meeting of the Council for Exceptional
Children (CEC)

April 2010

Division of Research (DR) Student Research Award
Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)

2008

Teacher Education Division (TED) Dissertation Award for Doctoral Level Research
Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)

2008

Alumni Fellowship Award
The University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

2005-2008

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Class Valedictorian
The University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

2001

PUBLICATIONS

†peer reviewed *invited ♦ Graduate Student

Journal Articles

54. †Wilkerson, K., Olsen, R., **Leko, M. M.**, Rupp, A. & Dai, R. (in press). Supporting rural special educators working toward licensure: Creation of virtual professional development. *Rural Special Education Quarterly*.

53. **Leko, M. M.**, Griffin, C., & Ulrich, T. (2024). Setting the stage for a new prologue. *Teacher Education and Special Education*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/08884064241281591>

52. †***Leko, M. M.**, Dieker, L., Wilkins, I., †Liu, S., & Davis, T. (2024). Special education teacher shortages: Surveying the landscape and strategizing solutions. *Journal of Special Education Leadership*, 37(1), 15-25.

51. †Zepp, L., Trezek, B., & Leko, M. M. (2024). Preparing special educators to teach reading using multimedia instruction: A literature review. *Journal of Special Education Technology*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/01626434241232121>

50. †Rupp, A., McCabe, K., Doren, B., & **Leko, M. M.** (2024). Making sense of the rural special education teacher shortage. *Journal of Education Human Resources*, 42(4), 530-557.

49. †***Leko, M.**, Hitchcock, J., Love, H., Houchins, D., & Conroy, M. (2023). Quality indicators for mixed methods research in special education. *Exceptional Children*, 89(4), 432-448.

48. †*Zepp, L., Mueller, C. O., & **Leko, M. M.** (2022). Expanding preservice teachers' conceptions about disability through young adult literature. *Journal of Special Education Preparation*, 2(3), 32-38.

47. †*Forsberg, M., & **Leko, M. M.** (2022). Improving relationships and student outcomes through restorative circles. *Intervention in School and Clinic*, 58(1), 39-45.

46. †Wilkerson, K., †Sikora, E., & **Leko, M. M.** (2022). Complicating the narrative about emergency certified special educators. Manuscript submitted for publication. *Exceptionality*, 30(5), 366-375. DOI: 10.1080/09362835.2021.1938061

45. †Bross, L. A., Patry, M. B., **Leko, M.**, & Travers, J. C. (2021). Barriers to competitive integrated employment of young adults with autism spectrum disorder. *Education and Training in Autism and Developmental Disabilities*, 56(4), 394-408.

44. *†**Leko, M. M.**, Cook, B. G., & Cook, L. (2021). Qualitative methods in special education research. *Learning Disabilities Research & Practice*, 36(4), 278-286. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ldrp.12268>

43. †Lane, K. L., Oakes, W. P., Cantwell, E. D., Common, E. A., Royer, D. J., **Leko, M. M.**, Schatschneider, C., Menzies, H. M., Buckman, M. M., & Allen, G. E. (2019). Predictive validity of Student Risk Screening Scale for Internalizing and Externalizing (SRSS-IE) scores in elementary schools. *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders*, 27(4), 221-234.

42. †Brownell, M. T., Benedict, A., **Leko, M. M.**, ♦Peyton, D., & ♦Pua, D. (2019). A continuum of pedagogies for preparing teachers to use high leverage practices (HLPs). *Remedial and Special Education, 40*, 338-355.
41. †Common, E. A., ♦Buckman, M. M., Lane, K. L., **Leko, M. M.**, Royer, D. J., Oakes, W. P., & ♦Allen, G. E. (2019). Exploring solutions to address students' social competencies to facilitate school success: A usability and feasibility study. *Education and Treatment of Children, 42*, 4, 489-514.
40. †**Leko, M.M.**, ♦Alzahrani, T., & ♦Handy, T. (2019). Literacy instruction for adolescents with learning disabilities: Examining teacher practice and preparation. *Learning Disabilities: A Contemporary Journal, 17*, 117-138.
39. †**Leko, M.M.**, Roberts, C., ♦Peyton, D., & ♦Pua, D. (2019). Selecting evidence-based practices (EBPs): What works for me. *Intervention in School & Clinic, 54*, 286-294.
38. †Lane, K. L., Oakes, W. P., ♦Cantwell, E. D., ♦Royer, D. J., **Leko, M. M.**, Schatschneider, C., & Menzies, H. M. (2019). Predictive validity of Student Risk Screening Scale for Internalizing and Externalizing (SRSS-IE) scores in secondary schools. *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders, 27*, 86-100.
37. †*Brownell, M. T., & **Leko, M. M.** (2018). Advancing coherent theories of change in special education teacher education research: A response to the special issue on the science of teacher professional development. *Teacher Education and Special Education, 41*, 158-168.
36. †Haydon, T., Stevens, D., & **Leko, M. M.** (2018). Source and protective factors: The role of the principal in special education teacher stress. *Journal of Special Education Leadership, 31*, 99-107.
35. †**Leko, M. M.**, Chiu, M. M., & Roberts, C. A. (2018). Individual and contextual factors related to secondary special education teachers' reading instructional practices. *The Journal of Special Education, 51*, 236-250.
34. †♦Knackstedt, K., **Leko, M. M.**, & ♦Siuty, M. (2018). The effects of secondary special education teacher preparation in reading: Research to inform state policy in a new era. *Teacher Education and Special Education, 41*, 70-85.
33. †♦Alzahrani, T., & **Leko, M. M.** (2018). The effects of peer tutoring on reading comprehension performance of secondary students with disabilities: A systematic review. *Reading & Writing Quarterly, 34*(1), 1-17.
32. †♦Siuty, M., **Leko, M. M.**, & ♦Knackstedt, K. (2018). Unraveling the role of curriculum in teacher decision-making. *Teacher Education and Special Education, 41*, 39-57.
31. †♦Hagiwara, M., Shogren, K., & **Leko, M. M.** (2017). Reviewing research on the Self-determined Learning Model of Instruction: Mapping the terrain and charting a course to promote

adoption and use. *Advances in Neurodevelopmental Disorders*, 1, 3-13.

30. †Li, B., Mooring, J., Blanchard, S., Johri, A., **Leko, M. M.**, & Cameron, K. (2017). A kinetic parallel computer sculpture for educating broad audiences on parallel computation. *Journal of Parallel and Distributed Computing*, 105, 183-199.

29. †**Leko, M. M.**, ♦Handy, T., & Roberts, C. A. (2017). Examining the reading instructional practices of secondary special educators. *Exceptionality*, 25, 26-39.

28. †♦Olson, A. J., **Leko, M. M.**, & Roberts, C. A. (2016). Providing students with significant disabilities access to the general education curriculum. *Research and Practice for Persons with Severe Disabilities*, 41, 143-157.

27. †*Rock, M., Spooner, F., Nagro, S., Vasquez, E., Dunn, C., **Leko, M. M.**, ..., & Jones, J. (2016). 21st century change drivers: Considerations for constructing transformative models of special education teacher development. *Teacher Education and Special Education*, 39, 98-120.

26. †**Leko, M. M.** (2015). To adapt or not to adapt: Navigating an implementation conundrum. *TEACHING Exceptional Children*, 48, 80-85.

25. †***Leko, M. M.**, Brownell, M.T., Sindelar, P. T., & Kiely, M. T. (2015). Envisioning the future of special education personnel preparation in a standards-based era. *Exceptional Children*, 82, 25-43.

24. †**Leko, M. M.**, Roberts, C. A., & ♦Pek, Y. (2015). A theory of secondary teachers' adaptations when implementing a reading intervention program. *The Journal of Special Education*, 49, 168-178.

23. †**Leko, M. M.**, ♦Kulkarni, S., ♦Lin, M., & ♦Smith, S. (2015). Delving deeper into the construct of preservice teacher beliefs about reading instruction for students with disabilities. *Teacher Education and Special Education*, 38, 186-206. doi: 10.1177/0888406414557677

22. †♦Olson, A., Roberts, C., & **Leko, M. M.** (2015). Teacher, student, and peer-directed strategies to access the general education curriculum for students with Autism. *Intervention in School & Clinic*, 51, 37-44. doi: 10.1177/1053451214546406

21. †**Leko, M. M.**, Kiely, M.T., Brownell, M.T., Osipova, A., Dingle, M., & Mundy, C. (2015). Understanding special educators' learning opportunities in collaborative groups: The role of discourse. *Teacher Education and Special Education*, 38, 138-157.

20. †Mundy, C., & **Leko, M. M.** (2015). Uncovering and informing pre-service teachers' beliefs about poverty. *Networks*, 17, 1-10.

19. Trainor, A., & **Leko, M. M.** (2014). Special issue: Qualitative special education research: Rigor, purpose, and contribution. *Remedial and Special Education*, 35, 263-266.

18. †**Leko, M. M.** (2014). The value of qualitative methods in social validity research. *Remedial and Special Education, 35*, 275-286.
17. †Brownell, M. T., Lauterbach, A., Dingle, M., Boardman, A., Urbach, J., **Leko, M. M.**, Benedict, A., & Park, Y. (2014). Individual and contextual factors influencing special education teacher learning in literacy learning cohorts. *Learning Disability Quarterly, 34*, 31-44.
16. †♦Roberts, C. A., & **Leko, M. M.** (2013). Integrating functional and academic content into literacy instruction for adolescents with significant cognitive disabilities through shared story reading. *Research and Practice for Persons with Severe Disabilities, 38*, 1-16.
15. †♦Roberts, C., **Leko, M. M.**, & Wilkerson, K. (2013). New directions in reading instruction for adolescents with severe cognitive disabilities. *Remedial and Special Education, 34*(5), 305-317.
14. †**Leko, M. M.**, Mundy, C. A., ♦Kang, H., & ♦Datar, S. (2013). If the book fits: Finding appropriate texts for adolescents with disabilities. *Intervention in School & Clinic, 48*(5), 267-275.
13. †Mundy, C., Ross, D., & **Leko, M. M.** (2012). The professional development practices of two Reading First reading coaches. *Reading Horizons, 51*(4), 279-298.
12. †**Leko, M. M.**, & Mundy, C. (2012). Preparing secondary educators to support adolescent struggling readers. *Preventing School Failure, 56*(2), 137-147.
11. ***Leko, M. M.**, Brownell, M. T., Sindelar, P. T., & ♦Murphy, K. (2012). Promoting special education preservice teacher expertise. *Focus on Exceptional Children, 44*, 1-16.
10. †**Leko, M. M.**, & Mundy, C. A. (2011). Understanding preservice teachers' beliefs and constructions of knowledge for teaching reading to struggling readers. *Kentucky Teacher Education Journal, 1*(1), 2-22.
9. †Dingle, M., Brownell, M., **Leko, M. M.**, Boardman, A., & Haager, D. (2011). Developing effective special education reading teachers: The influence of professional development, context, and individual qualities. *Learning Disability Quarterly, 34*, 87-103.
8. †*Brownell, M., Griffin, C., **Leko, M. M.**, & ♦Stephens, J. (2011). Improving collaborative teacher education research: Creating tighter linkages. *Teacher Education and Special Education, 34*, 235-249.
7. †McCray, E., Rosenberg, M., Brownell, M., deBettencourt, L., **Leko, M. M.**, & ♦Long, S. (2011). School-university partnerships for special education teacher preparation. *Journal of Special Education Leadership, 24*(1), 47-58.
6. †**Leko, M. M.** & Brownell, M. T. (2011). Special education preservice teachers' appropriation of pedagogical tools for teaching reading. *Exceptional Children, 77*, 229-251.

5. †Bishop, A. G., Brownell, M. T., Klingner, J. K., **Leko, M. M.**, & Galman, S. A. (2010). Understanding differences in beginning special education teachers: The influence of personal attributes, preparation, and school environment on classroom reading practices. *Learning Disability Quarterly*, 33, 75-92.
4. †**Leko, M. M.**, & Smith, S.W. (2010). Retaining beginning special educators: What should administrators know and do? *Intervention in School & Clinic*, 45, 321-325.
3. †**Leko, M. M.**, & Brownell, M. T. (2009). Crafting quality professional development for special educators: What school leaders should know. *TEACHING Exceptional Children*, 42(1), 64-70.
2. †**Leko, M. M.**, & Griffin, C.C. (2009). Articulating learning disabilities in the digital age. *Learning Disability Quarterly*, 32(2), 70-86.
1. †**Leko, M. M.**, Mundy, C. A., & Kiely, M. T. (2009). Reading disabilities: Research, recommendations, and resources for teachers. *The Florida Reading Journal*, 45(2), 6-14.

Manuscripts Under Review

1. Grobart, E., Wilkerson, K., & **Leko, M. M.** (2024). Preservice special educators' development of self-efficacy: The role of student teaching. Manuscript submitted for publication. January 10, 2024.
2. **Leko, M. M.**, Trezek, B., Zepp, L., Ruppert, A., & Liu, S. (2024). Preparing the special education workforce for academic instruction. In. M. Rock, B. Billingsley, L. Dieker, & M. Leko (Eds.), *Transforming the Special Education Workforce: Research and Complex Systems Perspectives*. AERA. Manuscript under review.
3. Brownell, M. T., **Leko, M. M.**, Williams, J., & Sohn, H. (2024). Facilitating professional learning across the career span: Securing the expert teachers we need to effectively educate students with disabilities. In. M. Rock, B. Billingsley, L. Dieker, & M. Leko (Eds.), *Transforming the Special Education Workforce: Research and Complex Systems Perspectives*. AERA. Manuscript under review.

Books

1. **Leko, M. M.** (2016). *Word Study in the Inclusive Secondary Classroom: Supporting Struggling Readers and Students with Disabilities*. New York: Teachers College Press.

Book Chapters & Monographs

9. †*Griffin, C., **Leko, M. M.**, Ulrich, T., & Peterson, A. (2024). Need for future research.

In E. McCray, E., Bettini, M. Brownell, J. McLeskey, & P. Sindelar (Eds.), *Handbook of Research on Special Education Teacher Preparation (2e)*. Routledge.

8. †*Brownell, M. T., **Leko, M. M.**, & Mason-Williams, L. (in press). What do we know about effective teaching and teacher education for teachers working with students with disabilities? In J. Kauffman, D. Hallahan, & P. Pullen (Eds.), *Handbook of Special Education (3e)*. Routledge.

7. †***Leko, M. M.**, Brownell, M.T., O'Brien, K., & Nagro, S. (2024). Capitalizing on the potential of practiced-based preparation in special education teacher preparation. In E. McCray, E., Bettini, M. Brownell, J. McLeskey, & P. Sindelar (Eds.), *Handbook of Research on Special Education Teacher Preparation (2e)*. Routledge.

6. †*Brownell, M., **Leko, M. M.**, & Benedict, A. (in press). Understanding and developing expert teachers for students with learning disabilities. In C. Okolo, N. Patton Terry, & Cutting L. (Eds.), *The Handbook of Learning Disabilities*. Guilford.

5. †***Leko, M. M.**, Roberts, C., ♦Zepp, L., ♦Chandrashekhar, S., & ♦Forsberg, M. (2021). The role of professional development in effective inclusive elementary schools. In J. McLeskey, F. Spooner, B. Algozinne, & Waldron, N. (Eds.), *The Handbook Effective Inclusive Elementary Schools: Research and Practice*. New York: Routledge.

4. †***Leko, M. M.**, & Roberts, C. A. (2014). Improving teacher practice in inclusive schools: The role of professional development. In J. McLeskey, N. Waldron, F. Spooner & B. Algozinne (Eds.), *The Handbook of Research and Practice for Effective Inclusive Schools*. New York: Routledge.

3. †*Brownell, M., & **Leko, M. M.** (2014). Preparing special educators to teach literacy. In P. Sindelar, E. McCray, M. T., Brownell, and B. Lignugaris-Kraft (Eds.), *Handbook of Research on Special Education Teacher Preparation*. New York: Routledge.

2. †***Leko, M. M.**, Brownell, M. T., & ♦Lauterbach, A. (2010). High-incidence disabilities. In R. Boon (Ed.), *Best Practices for the Inclusive Classroom: An Evidence-based Guide for Teachers*. Austin, TX: Prufrock Press.

1. †*Brownell, M. T., **Leko, M. M.**, Kamman, M., & King, L. (2008). Defining and preparing high quality teachers in special education: What do we know from the research? In T. Scruggs & M. Mastropieri (Eds.), *Advances in Learning and Behavioral Disabilities, Volume 21, Personnel Preparation*. Bingley, UK: Emerald Group Publishing Limited.

Other Publications

Rosenberg, M., Brownell, M. T., McCray, E. D., deBettencourt, L., **Leko, M. M.**, & Long, S. (2008). School-University Partnerships: Impact on Teacher Quality and Retention. *National Center to Improve Policy and Practice in Special Education*.

GRANTS & FUNDED PROJECTS

Extramural Funded

Mathews, H.M. (2024-2028). *Project Design: Exploring How Special Educators' Working Conditions Relate to Their Role Enactment, Engagement, and Effectiveness in Inclusive Service Delivery Models*. \$699,430. Role: Internal Mentor. Competitive/refereed. Funded.

Duenas, A. (2023-2027). Institute of Education Sciences #R324B230011 (\$680,110). *imPACTO: Partnering for Autism Focused Social Communication Intervention with Transborder Latine Caregivers*. Role: External Mentor. Competitive/refereed. Funded.

McCray, E., Kamman, M., & **Leko, M. M.** October 1, 2022-September 30, 2027. *Collaboration for Effective Educator Development, Accountability, and Reform (Version 3.0)*. U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs. (\$18,200,000). Role: Co-Director. Competitive/refereed. Funded.

Morin, K. August 1, 2021-June 30, 2025. *Supporting Teachers of Autism in Years 1-3 (Project STAY)*. U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences (Early Career Research Award). (\$700,000). Role: External mentor. Competitive/refereed. Funded.

Wilkerson, K., **Leko, M. M.**, Doren, B., & Ruppar, A. *Addressing emergency Certification in Rural Education Settings (Project ACRES)*. July 1, 2020-June 30, 2024. U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences. (\$1,400,000). Role: Co-Principal Investigator/Project Consultant. Competitive/refereed. Funded.

Leko, M. M., Wilkerson, K., Doren, B., Ruppar, A., & Gonzalez, T. *Scholarship in Teacher Education (SITE)*. January 1, 2019-September 30, 2023. Office of Special Education Programs. (\$1,248,677). Role: Principal Investigator. Competitive/refereed. Funded.

Wilkerson, K., & **Leko, M. M.** *UW-Madison Special Education Teacher Residency Program (UW-Madison SET)*. June 1, 2019- May 31, 2024. U.S. Department of Education. (\$ 2,552,004). Role: Co-Principal Investigator. Competitive/refereed. Funded.

Rock, M., Dieker, L., **Leko, M.**, Billingsley, B., & Ryndak, D. *The Role of Systems Thinking and Change in Ameliorating the Special Education Workforce Crisis, Improving Preparation and Support, and Fortifying the Pipeline to Improve Outcomes for Students with Disabilities: Research, Policy, and Practice*. January 10, 2019- March 31, 2020. American Educational Research Association (AERA) (\$35,000). Role: Co-Principal Investigator. Competitive/refereed. Funded.

Ruppar, A., & Doren, B. *Rural Special Educators: Surveying the Landscape, Identifying Inroads*. January 1, 2019-December 31, 2020. Spencer Foundation. (\$50,000). Role: Co-Investigator. Competitive/refereed. Funded.

Leko, M. M., Lane, K. L., & Travers, J. *Researchers in Intensive Interventions, Tiered Systems, and Evidence-based Practices (KU RITE)*. August 1, 2016- July 31, 2021. Office of Special Education Programs. (\$1,248,109). Role: Principal Investigator. Competitive/refereed. Funded.

Intramural Funded

Leko, M. M. (2018-2019). *Examining the Student Teaching Experience of Special Educators from Multiple Preparation Pathways*. Graduate School, University of Wisconsin-Madison (\$29,814). Role: Principal Investigator. Funded.

Albers, C., Garbacz, A., & Doren, B. **Leko, M.,** & Ruppar, A. *FOCUS Partnerships: Enhancing Mental and Behavioral Health for Children and Youth in Rural Wisconsin Communities*. School of Education, University of Wisconsin-Madison. (\$249,826.91). Role: Co-Investigator. Competitive/refereed. Funded.

Leko, M. M. (2014-2015). Assessing teachers' capacity for providing reading instruction in STEM classrooms. Center for Research, University of Kansas (\$8,000). Role: Principal Investigator. Funded.

Leko, M. M. (2011-2012). *Developing and validating an observation tool to assess the quality of reading instruction for adolescents with disabilities*. Graduate School, University of Wisconsin-Madison (\$30,297). Role: Principal Investigator. Competitive/refereed. Funded.

Leko, M. M. (2010-2011). *Assessing the quality of reading instruction for secondary students with disabilities*. Graduate School, University of Wisconsin-Madison (\$27,227). Role: Principal Investigator. Competitive/refereed. Funded.

Advisory/Consultation

Basham, J., Gravel, J., Zimmerman, K., & Hall, T. October 1, 2020- September 30, 2024. *COaching On Learning for UDL (Project COOL)*. U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (Model Demonstration Project). Role: Project Advisor. Competitive/refereed. Funded.

Hensley, K. & Wagner, D. October 1, 2023-September 30, 2028. *Project IMPACT (Improving Minnesota Paraprofessional Access to Careers in Teaching)*. U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs. (\$1,100,000). Role: Advisory Board Member. Competitive/refereed. Funded.

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

National

*invited

♦ Graduate Student

63. **Leko, M.**, ♦Ge, G., & ♦Hinojosa, A. (November, 2024). Profiles of emergency certified special educators: Implications for workforce and professional development. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Teacher Education Division (TED), Pittsburgh, PA.
62. ♦Gomez, L., ♦Dai, R., & **Leko, M.** (November, 2024). Forge Ahead! Increasing rural special education teachers' self-efficacy and use of high leverage practices. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Teacher Education Division (TED), Pittsburgh, PA.
61. **Leko, M.**, ♦Hinojosa, A., ♦Liu, S., & ♦Neigum, T. (November, 2024). Virtual coaching for rural emergency certified and early career special educators: Project development, implementation, and evaluation. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Teacher Education Division (TED), Pittsburgh, PA.
60. **Leko, M.**, ♦Bethea, M., ♦Morin, L., & ♦Clark, J. (November, 2024). Forging collaborative professional relationships for early career special educators through online communities of practice. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Teacher Education Division (TED), Pittsburgh, PA.
59. ***Leko, M. M.**, ♦Liu, S., & ♦Gomez, L. (2024, February). Ensuring students with LD have access to well-prepared teachers: The role of practice-based preparation. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Learning Disabilities Association of America (LDA), Orlando, FL.
58. ♦Liu, S., & **Leko, M.** (2023, November). Effects of coaching on preschool teachers' implementation of shared book reading. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Teacher Education Division (TED), Long Beach, CA.
57. **Leko, M. M.**, Kamman, M., McCray, E. & Holdheide, L. (2023, November). Teacher registered apprenticeships as one response to educator shortages: Possibilities and Considerations. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Teacher Education Division (TED), Long Beach, CA.
56. *Brownell, M., **Leko, M.**, Doyle, K., & Cornelius, K. (2023, November). Improving teacher candidate learning through a practice-based approach. Pre-conference workshop presented at the annual meeting of the Teacher Education Division (TED), Long Beach, CA.
55. **Leko, M. M.**, Fogle, K., Holsapple, N., & Bell, P. (2023, July). *Transitions to teaching: Model pathways to special education licensure*. OSEP Combined Leadership and Project Directors' Conference, Washington DC, United States.
54. **Leko, M. M.**, Cornelius, K., DeSutter, K., Johnson, S., & Wagner, D. (2023, July). *Fostering educator expertise through practice-based preparation*. OSEP Combined Leadership and Project Directors' Conference, Washington DC, United States.
53. Zepp, L., Trezek, B., & **Leko, M. M.** (2023, April). *Preparing special educators to teach reading using technological interventions: A literature review*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.

52. Wilkerson, K., Olsen, R., Rupp, A., & **Leko, M. M.** (2023, April). *Supporting emergency-licensed special educators in rural settings*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.

51. Brownell, M., **Leko, M. M.**, Cornelius, K., Wagner, D., & Colpo, A. (2023, March). *Achieving greatness: Improving teaching through feedback and self-assessment*. Annual Meeting of the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children, Louisville, KY.

*50. **Leko, M. M.**, Giffin, J., Cosner, J., Barron, J., & Bianco, M. (2022, July). *The power of partnerships: Innovations used to attract talent and support entry into special education careers*. Panel presentation at the Office of Special Education Programs Leadership and Project Directors' Conference. Washington, DC.

49. Wilkerson, K. L., Neigum, T., Olsen, R., ♦Sikora, E., ♦Zepp, L., & **Leko, M. M.** (2022, March). *Partnering with high need districts through a special education teacher residency program*. Presentation at the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.

48. Chamberlain, R., Wilkerson, K., **Leko, M. M.**, & Rupp, A. (2022, April). Designing effective professional development for emergency-licensed special education teachers in rural education settings. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Diego, CA.

47. ♦Chandrashekhar, S., & **Leko, M. M.** (2022, January). *Preparation for collaboration: A multiple case study*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Council for Exceptional Children, Orlando, FL.

46. *Jones-Bromenshenkel, M., Reister, M., Hott, B., Ault, M., Soback, E., **Leko, M.**, Courtade, G., Slater, L., & Reid, B. (2021, November). *The Role of the University in Preparing and Supporting Special Education Professionals*. OCAICONLINE 2021, Columbus, Ohio.

45. Wagner, D., Cornelius, K., & **Leko, M. M.** (2021, November). *An examination of preservice teachers' beliefs and knowledge regarding effective reading instruction*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children, Ft. Worth, TX.

44. *Berlinghoff, D., McLaughlin, G., Rodriguez, J., Cornelius, K., & **Leko, M. M.** (2021, November). *Using HLPs to for a cohesive approach to developing teachers*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children, Ft. Worth, TX.

43. ***Leko, M. M.** & Griffin, C. C. (2021, January). *Writing for publication*. Webinar sponsored by the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children.

42. *Griffin, C. C. & **Leko, M. M.** (2019, November). *Getting published in TESE*. Panel presented at the annual meeting of the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children, New Orleans, LA.
41. Roberts, C. & Smith, S. (2019, November). *Research roundtable session*. In **M. Leko** (Chair), Research Strand. Symposium presented at the annual meeting of the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children, New Orleans, LA.
40. Wilkerson, K., **Leko, M. M.**, & ♦Sikora, E. (2019, November). *Examining emergency certified special educators: A statewide analysis*. Paper presented at the 2019 annual meeting of the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children, New Orleans, LA.
39. ♦Buckman, M. M., Common, E. A., Royer, D. J., ♦Allen, G. E., **Leko, M. M.**, Oakes, W. P. & Lane, K. L. (2019, January). *Exploring tier 2 solutions to address students' social-emotional learning: A feasibility study*. Paper presented at the 2019 Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Convention and Expo, Indianapolis, IN.
38. Billingsley, B., Griffin, C., Kennedy, M., Maheady, L., Smith, S., & Spooner, F. (2017, November). *Research roundtable session*. In **M. Leko** (Chair), Research Strand. Symposium presented at the annual meeting of the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children, Savannah, GA.
37. Benedict, A., Brownell, M. T., **Leko, M. M.**, Lignugaris/Kraft, B., & Rock, M. (April, 2016). *A scientific approach to teacher education: Using practice-based approaches to prepare special educators to teach within MTSS frameworks*. Panel presentation at the annual meeting of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), St. Louis, MO.
36. **Leko, M. M.** (November, 2015). *Science teacher education for students with disabilities: Charting a course towards effective practice*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of Teacher Education Division (TED) of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), Phoenix, AZ.
35. **Leko, M. M.**, Brownell, M. T., Sindelar, P. T., Kiely, M. T., & Benedict, A. (November, 2015). *Envisioning the future of special education personnel preparation in a standards based era*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of Teacher Education Division (TED), Phoenix, AZ.
34. ♦Siuty, M., **Leko, M. M.**, & ♦Knackstedt, K. (2015, November). *Unraveling the complexities of teacher decision-making: What teacher educators should know and do*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of Teacher Education Division (TED), Phoenix, AZ.
33. ♦Knackstedt, K., **Leko, M. M.**, & ♦Siuty, M. (2015, November). *Pedagogical attributes of teacher preparation that lead to high teacher self-efficacy*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of Teacher Education Division (TED), Phoenix, AZ.

32. **Leko, M.M.**, ♦Siuty, M., & ♦Knackstedt, K. (2015, October). *Secondary special educator reading preparation: Researching what, why, and how*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Council on Learning Disabilities (CLD), Las Vegas, NV.
31. Mundy, C., **Leko, M. M.** (2014, April). Uncovering and informing preservice teachers' prior knowledge about poverty. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), Philadelphia, PA.
30. ***Leko, M. M.** (2013, November). *Implementation science and teacher quality: What is the relationship?* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Teacher Education Division (TED), Fort Lauderdale, FL.
29. ♦Roberts, C. A., & **Leko, M. M.** (2013, November). *Influence of context on literacy teachers' instruction for students with severe disabilities*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Teacher Education Division (TED), Fort Lauderdale, FL.
28. Mundy, C., Swoszowski, N., & **Leko, M. M.** (2012, November). *If the Book Fits: Appropriate text selection for adolescents with learning disabilities and emotional or behavioral disabilities*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of LRA, San Diego, CA.
27. ♦Roberts, C. A., **Leko, M. M.**, & Wilkerson, K. (2012, April). *A Critical Literature Review Focusing on Access to Literacy Instruction for Adolescents with Significant Cognitive Disabilities*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of AERA, Vancouver, BC.
26. **Leko, M. M.**, & ♦Roberts, C. (2011, November). *The influence of technology-based reading curricula on teachers' knowledge and practices*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Teacher Education Division (TED), Austin, TX.
25. Lauterbach, A., Brownell, M., Dingle, M., & **Leko, M. M.** (2010, November). *Individual and contextual factors influencing special education teacher learning in literacy learning cohorts*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Teacher Education Division (TED), St. Louis, MO.
24. **Leko, M. M.**, Brownell, M., Kiely, M., Osipova, A., Dingle, M., & Mundy, C. (2010, May). *Maximizing learning opportunities in a special education professional development project*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), Denver, CO.
23. Brownell, M., Dingle, M., Lauterbach, A., Boardman, A., **Leko, M. M.**, & Urbach, J. (2010, May). *Individual and contextual factors influencing special education teacher learning in literacy learning cohorts*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), Denver, CO.
22. Mundy, C., Ross, D., Fang, Z., & **Leko, M. M.** (2010, May). *Reading first reading coaches' interpretations and enactments of their role as reading coach*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), Denver, CO.

21. **Leko, M. M.**, Brownell, M. T., & Dingle, M. (2010, April). *Maximizing teachers' learning opportunities in collaborative groups*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), Nashville, TN.
20. *Brownell, M. T., **Leko, M. M.**, & Sobel, D. (2009, November). *Research strand: Conducting qualitative special education teacher education research*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Teacher Education Division (TED), Charlotte, NC.
19. Dingle, M., Brownell, M. T., **Leko, M. M.**, Osipova, A., Haager, D., Boardman, A., G., & Prichard, B. (2009, April). *Developing effective special education reading teachers: The influence of professional development, curriculum, and individual qualities*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), San Diego, CA.
18. Mundy, C. A., **Leko, M. M.**, Kiely, M. T., & King, L. (2009, April). *The reading knowledge and practice of three secondary special educators in a personnel preparation program*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), San Diego, CA.
17. **Leko, M. M.**, Brownell, M. T., Dingle, M., & Haager, D. (2009, April). *Teachers learning together: A model of professional development in reading instruction*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), Seattle, WA.
16. Kamman, M., **Leko, M. M.**, & Casey, R. (2009, April). *What helps beginning special education teachers learn to teach?* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), Seattle, WA.
15. **Leko, M. M.** (2009, February). The role of discourse in promoting special educators' problem-solving and knowledge use in reading. In K. Harris (Chair), *Improving Practice: Current Research on Professional Development and Outcomes for Students with Disabilities*. Symposium conducted at the meeting of the Pacific Coast Research Conference, Coronado, CA.
14. **Leko, M. M.** (2008, November). *Understanding the various influences on special education preservice teachers' appropriation of conceptual and practical tools for teaching reading*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Teacher Education Division (TED) of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), Dallas, TX.
13. Mundy, C. A., **Leko, M. M.**, & Kiely, M. T. (2008, November). *Knowledge and practice of secondary special education teachers in a personnel preparation program*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Teacher Education Division (TED) of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), Dallas, TX.
12. **Leko, M. M.** & Brownell, M. T. (2008, June). *The use of questioning in a collaborative professional development group on problem-solving skills and knowledge use of special education teachers providing reading instruction*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Institute of Education Sciences (IES), Washington, D.C.

11. Mundy, C. A., **Leko, M. M.**, & League, M. (2008, April). *Profiles of special education teachers' content knowledge of reading*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Council for Exceptional Children, Boston, MA.
10. **Leko, M. M.** & Griffin, C. C. (2008, March). *Examining the Internet knowledge base on learning disabilities: What teacher educators should know*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, New York, NY.
9. **Leko, M. M.**, & Sindelar, P. T. (2007, November). *Supporting beginning special educators: Examining the past, present, and future of induction*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children, Milwaukee, WI.
8. **Leko, M. M.** (2007, November). *Special education teacher induction: A review of the literature*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children, Milwaukee, WI.
7. **Leko, M. M.** (2007, November). *Preservice teacher beliefs about reading instruction for struggling readers*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Reading Conference, Austin, TX.
6. **Leko, M. M.**, & Brownell, M. (2007, July). *Project RITE: Exploring teacher education policy and practice*. Paper presented at the Office of Special Education Programs Project Directors' Conference (OESP), Washington, DC.
5. Kiely, M. T., **Leko, M. M.**, Kamman, M., & Montoya, A. (2007, April). *Preparing special educators in reading instruction: The impact of state certification policies on special education teacher certification programs*. Panel discussion at the National Social Science Association Conference, Las Vegas, NV.
4. **Leko, M. M.** (2006, November). *Understanding preservice teachers' beliefs about struggling readers*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children, San Diego, CA.
3. Kiely, M.T., **Leko, M. M.**, Montoya, A., & Kamman, M. (2006, November). *Preparing special educators in reading instruction: The impact of state certification policies*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children, San Diego, CA.
2. **Leko, M. M.**, Bishop, A., & Brownell, M.T. (2006, October). Understanding the beliefs preservice teachers hold about struggling readers. In D. Scanlon (Chair), *Teacher-related and vocational issues in special education*. Symposium conducted at the meeting of the World Congress on Learning Disabilities, Burlington, MA.
1. Arriaza, S., Kamman, M., Kiely, M.T., **Leko, M.**, & Montoya, A. (2006, October). Preparing special educators in reading instruction: The impact of state certification policies on the nature,

structure, and delivery of special education teacher certification programs. In D. Scanlon (Chair), *Teacher-related and vocational issues in special education*. Symposium conducted at the meeting of the World Congress on Learning Disabilities, Burlington, MA.

Regional

6. ***Leko, M. M.** (2021, August). *Let's Rally 2021*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of Region 10 Minnesota.

5. **Leko, M. M.** (2015, January). *Examining secondary special education teachers' reading instructional practices*. Paper presentation at KU School of Education Research Conference, Lawrence, KS.

4. ***Leko, M.**, ♦Roberts, C., ♦Dahl, H., & ♦Olson, A. (2011, October). *Supporting students with high-incidence disabilities: Keys to Success*. Paper presentation at the Foster Grandparent Keys to Success Training Conference, Madison, WI.

3. **Leko, M.** (2007, April). *Understanding the beliefs preservice teachers hold about struggling readers*. Paper presented at the Florida Reading Research Conference, Tampa, FL.

2. Bishop, A., **Leko, M.**, & Brownell, M.T. (2006, November). *Portraits of highly effective special education teachers: Making a difference in reading achievement*. Poster session presented at the University of Florida College of Education Centennial Conference, St. Petersburg, FL.

1. Kiely, M.T., Kamman, M., **Leko, M.**, & Montoya, A. (2006, October). *The influence of state policy on teacher preparation: How states' policies and requirements for special education teachers in reading instruction affect teacher preparation programs*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Florida Council for Exceptional Children, Panama City, FL.

COURSES TAUGHT

University of Florida

EEX 7304 Introduction to the field of inquiry in special education *F 2022, 2023, 2024

University of Wisconsin-Madison

RP&SE 873 Professional Seminar (Doctoral Seminar) F 2019, 2020
Sp 2020, 2021

RP&SE 660 Research and Grant Writing in Special Education Teacher Education Sp 2022

RP&SE 660 Foundations of Special Education Teacher Education (Doctoral Seminar) F 2019

RP&SE 630 Internship F 2019
Sp 2011

RP&SE 699 Independent Reading Su 2011
Su 2018

		F 2011, 2012, 2013, 2018, 2019 Sp 2010, 2013, 2014, 2020 Su 2011, 2018
RP&SE 100	Disability and Society(Online)	
RP&SE 465	Language and Reading Instruction for Students with Disabilities	Sp 2018, 2019, 2020
RP&SE 464	Diagnosis, Assessment, and Instructional Planning in Special Education	F 2017, 2018
RP&SE 873	Professional Development of Special Education Researchers (Doctoral Seminar)	F 2017, 2019 Sp 2018 F 2013
RP&SE 200	Issues in Special Education	
RP&SE 465	Language and Reading Instruction for Students with Disabilities (4 credits)	Sp 2013, 2014
RP&E 803	Current Issues in Special Education (Doctoral Seminar)	Sp 2012
RPSE 475/476	Special Education Practicum	Sp 2012, 2013 F 2012
RPSE 477/478	Special Education Student Teaching	Sp 2012, 2013 F 2012
RP&SE 660	Multicultural Special Education: Foundations for Freshmen	F 2011, 2012
RP&SE 660	Issues and Trends in Special Education Teacher Education (Doctoral Seminar)	F 2011
RP&SE 472	Secondary Methods and Curriculum for Students with Learning and Behavioral Disabilities	Sp 2011
RP&SE 479	Language and Reading Instruction: Learning and Behavioral Disabilities	Sp 2010, 2011, 2012
RP&SE 471	Methods and Curriculum for Students with Learning and Behavioral Disabilities	F 2009, 2010
RP&SE 469	Academic Instruction for Students with Learning and Behavioral Disabilities	F 2009, 2010
University of Kansas		
SPED 932	Scholarship of Teaching (Doctoral Seminar)	S 2016, 2017
SPED 854	Family and Interprofessional Collaboration in Special Education (Online)	Su 2015, F 2015
SPED 641/741	Methods and Assessment: Literacy Interventions for Struggling Learners and Students with High-Incidence Disabilities	Sp 2015, F 2015, 2016
SPED 741	Methods and Assessment: Literacy Interventions for Struggling Learners and Students with High-Incidence Disabilities (Online)	F 2014, Sp 2017
SPED 997	Independent Study	F 2014, Su 2016
University of Florida		
EEX 3070	Teachers and Learners in Inclusive Schools	F 2006, Sp 2007

EEC 3706	Emergent Literacy	Sp 2006
EEX 6233	Assessment, Curriculum, and Instruction for Students with Mild Disabilities	F 2008 (Coteacher)

*F=FALL; SP=SPRING; SU=SUMMER

ONLINE COURSES AUTHORED AND DEVELOPED

RPSE 100	Disability and Society
SPED 898b	Masters Project Portfolio
SPED 854	Family and Interprofessional Collaboration in Special Education
SPED 741	Methods and Assessment: Literacy Interventions for Struggling Learners and Students with High-Incidence Disabilities

SUPERVISION & MENTORING

Theses & Dissertations at University of Florida

School of Special Education, School Psychology, and Early Childhood Studies

Doctoral Advisor and Dissertation Chair

PhD

Serena Jinxiu Liu
Lisa Morin
Angela Hinojosa
Maggie Bethea
Laura Gomez
Ge Ge
Renaë Simonds

EdD

Kunbi Adefule
Alexis Ochoa (Co-Chair)
Heather Cobb (Co-Chair)
Austin McGrew-Haynes
Erica Asencio-Knox (Co-Chair)

Dissertation Committee Member

PhD

Jessica Williams
Christina Flake
CJ Clardy

Megan Worth 2023

Inside the Teacher's Mind: Exploring Social and Emotional Learning for Students with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders

EdD

Sara Jane Kenney

Jonathan D'Amico 2024

Change Leadership for Inclusion: Understanding Processes, Practices, and Personnel

Ashley Farrington 2023

Special Education Paraprofessionals' Perspectives on the Hiring and Onboarding Process

School of Human Development and Organizational Studies

Chad Wagner

School of Teaching and Learning

Kelly Breland 2024

Evaluating the learning needs of late career stage teachers and how professional learning communities can support learning

Theses & Dissertations at University of Wisconsin-Madison

Department of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education

Doctoral Advisor and Dissertation Chair through 2022

Lauren Zepp

Malinda Forsberg

Aloura Pearson

Shweta Chandrashekhar

Larry Love

Punished: Identity Development of Black Boys in a Figured World of Exclusion

Defended November 21, 2022

Rebekka Olsen

Family-School Partnerships in Special Education: Challenges, Resources, and Innovations during Virtual Learning

Defended May 13, 2021

Heather Dahl

Literacy-Related Beliefs and Practices of Mothers of Young Children with Disabilities

Defended July 7, 2014

Amy Olson

One Middle School's Process of Providing Students with Significant Disabilities Access to the General Education Curriculum

Defended June 17, 2014

Carly Roberts

Identity Development of Literacy Teachers of Adolescents with Significant Cognitive Disabilities

Defended May 6, 2013

Dissertation Committee Member

Julie Clark, in progress

Elizabeth Sikora, in progress

Sarah Bubash, in progress

Yuewn-Lann Lang, in progress

Rui Dai

Evaluating the Effect of Autonomy-Supportive Teaching and Provision of Choices on Students' Engagement

Defended November 27, 2024

Lingyu Li

Teacher Agency for Inclusion of Dual Language Learners with Disabilities: Stories of Chinese-English Dual Language Immersion School Teachers

Defended May 9, 2022

Jessica McQueston,

You BETCHA!: Evaluating the Use of Literacy Professional Development to Support Students with Extensive Support Needs

Defended November 20, 2020

Halil Cakir

Contradictions, Transformative Agency, and Collective Design: Facilitating Inclusive Problem-Solving and Systemic Design at an Urban Middle School for Addressing Racial Disparities in School Discipline

Defended August 11, 2020

Dosun Ko

Transformative Agency toward Tribal Prolepsis: Culturally Decolonizing Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports

Defended August 5, 2020

Abdalmajeed Alrabiah

The Relationship Between Parents' Future Expectations and Self-determination for their Child with a Disability in Saudi Arabia

Defended May 6, 2019

Aneta Leczycki

Student, Parent, and Staff Perceptions of Student Experiences Derived from Enrollment in College Inclusion Programs for Students with Significant Disabilities

Defended August 4, 2014

Min-chi Yan

Reading Instructional Approaches in Juvenile Correctional Facilities: A National Survey of Teacher-Reported Practices, Challenges, and Recommendations

Defended June 4, 2014

Janette Ferrer

A case study about the use of e-portfolio assessment for secondary students with and without disabilities in an inclusive classroom in Puerto Rico

Defended April 25, 2013

Shane Smith

Mathematics Instruction in an Alternative School for Students with Disabilities: A Case Study

Defended July 21, 2012

Tida Tubpun

General Education and Special Education Teachers' Beliefs and Perceptions of Skills for Response to Intervention (RTI)

Defended May 3, 2012

Yun-Ju Huang

Developing English as foreign language pedagogy for students with learning disabilities in Taiwan: Insights from individual cases

Defended August 7, 2011

Beth Glass

Caring student-teacher relationships: Perspectives of students with emotional disabilities and their teachers

Defended September 15, 2011

Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Laura Lang

Secondary Literacy Coaches as Critical Agents of Change

Defended March 26, 2012

Sarah Adumat Masters Thesis Committee Member

Unintended Consequences: Pre-Service Science Teachers' Immersion in Modeling-Based Inquiry in Tropical Ecology

Defended July 6, 2012

Department of Educational Psychology

Michelyn Butler Dissertation Committee Member

Implementation of Evidence-Based Book-Reading Strategies by Head Start Teachers: Benefits of Professional Development and Effect on Children's Literacy Outcomes

Defended May 16, 2012

Maggie Altschaeffl Dissertation Committee Member

Promoting Treatment Integrity of Parent- and Teacher-delivered Math Fluency Interventions: An Adult Behavior Change Intervention

Defended May 12, 2014

Department of Education Leadership and Policy Analysis (ELPA)

Lanora Heim Dissertation Committee Member

Leadership Strategies that Develop Staff Capacity and Create School Structures to Promote Integrated High-Achieving High Schools for Bilingual Students

Defended May 10, 2012

Masters Committees

Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education

Masters Advisor

Alex Romanski
Lauren Abplanalp
Samuel Blue
Kacey Esser
Melanie Galdes
Samantha Luebke
Gina Parisi
Nathan Pyka

Tara Scott
Jason Pasch
Tanner Amundson
Matthew Raymond
Kathleen Lincicum
William Sustachek

Theses & Dissertations at University of Kansas

Department of Special Education

Doctoral Advisor and Dissertation Chair through 2017

Turkey Alzahrani

Grace Leu (co-advisor)
Elizabeth Meitl (co-advisor)
Grant Allen (co-advisor)
Mark Buckman (co-advisor)

Dissertation Committee Member through 2017

Eric Common
David Royer

Jodi Henderson
*Effect of Degree of RTI/MTSS Implementation on Reading and Mathematics Achievement
Growth in a Metropolitan School District*
Defended March 16, 2017

Doctoral Probationary Review Committees

Cassandra Hunt (2017)
Stephanie Craig (2017)
Samantha Gross (2017)
Mayumi Hagiwara (2016)
Kavita Indar (2016)
Lara Mann (2016)
Mariche Llanto (2015)

Department of Curriculum and Teaching

Dissertation Committee Member through 2017

Debbie Lopez-Boren
*The One-to-One Initiative and Its Effect on Knowledge, Learning and the Positioning of English
Language Arts Teachers*
Defended April 26, 2016

Lizette Burks
Duane Flecks

Department of Speech-Language-Hearing

Dissertation Committee Member through 2017

Allison Meder

Masters Committees

Department of Special Education

Masters Advisor through 2017

Andra Drake	Courtney MacCallum
Ursula Conley	Samantha Rivotto
Rosalyn Baker	Chendan Ouyang
Lorena Carrillo	Otis Burnett
Emily Cappel	William Reeves
Amy Diamond	Susan Care
Jill Metcalf	Kimberly Ingraham
Charles Taylor	Andrea Curtis
Amy Aldrich	Beth Montick
Silvia Hinojos-Salayandia	Kellie Biggs
Amber Gilbert	Jennifer Bortvit-Mapes
Jessica Bunting	Lisa LaCombe-Moos
Lavada Figueroa	Rachael Shaffer
Amie Smith	

Masters Committee Member

Nicole Spiess

The Importance of Self-Advocacy and Communication in the Work Environment

Graduate Examination Reader at University of Wisconsin-Madison

Claire Stetler Qualifying Examination	Spring 2021
Radeen Yang Qualifying Examination	Spring 2021
Lingyu Li Preliminary Doctoral Examination	Spring 2020
Kate Roberts Qualifying Examination	Fall 2019
Elizabeth Sikora Qualifying Examination	Fall 2019
Katie Barofsky Preliminary Doctoral Examination	Fall 2019
Victoria Kalscheuer Preliminary Doctoral Examination	Spring 2019
Katie McCabe Preliminary Doctoral Examination	Fall 2018
Halil Cakir Preliminary Doctoral Examination	Spring 2018
Kyree Brooks Masters Examination	Spring 2018
Larry Love Qualifying Examination	Fall 2017
Kemal Afacan Masters Examination	Fall 2013
Greg Lyons Qualifying Examination	Fall 2013
Diana Becker Qualifying Examination	Fall 2013
Bandar Alhossan Qualifying Examination	Spring 2013
Tammera Severtson Masters Examination	Summer 2013
Cahit Kaya Qualifying Examination	Spring 2013
Aaron Perzigian Preliminary Doctoral Examination	Spring 2013
Meng-Chuan Lin Preliminary Doctoral Examination	Fall 2011
Nancy Molfenter Preliminary Doctoral Examination	Fall 2011
Saili Kulkarni Doctoral Competency Examination	Spring 2011

Saili Kulkarni Masters Examination	Summer 2010
Shane Smith Preliminary Doctoral Examination	Summer 2010
Jessica Mendel Masters Examination	Spring 2010
Yun-Ju Huang Preliminary Doctoral Examination	Spring 2010
Kim Streit Masters Examination	Fall 2009

Non-Thesis Graduate Level Mentoring at University of Wisconsin-Madison

Grace Doval (Masters) Advisor	Graduated May 2014
Maria Johnson (Masters) Advisor	Graduated December 2013
Sujata Datar (Masters) Advisor	Graduated December 2011
Julie Clark (Masters) Advisor	Graduated December 2011
Lauren Zepp (Masters) Advisor	Graduated August 2012

Undergraduate Mentoring and Advising at University of Wisconsin-Madison

Undergraduate Advisees

Fall 2011	Michael Fliegel, Chantal Fuller, Craig Gagnon, John Halliburton, Gabrielle Heier, Kimberly Helton, Emily Jayne, Emily Jefko, Melissa Komp, Jennifer Radle
Fall 2010	Abigail Nikolay, Margaret Sather, Kent Parker, Candice Wentlandt, Alyssa Vogt, Renee West
Fall 2009	Aloura Pearson, Kelly Eickert, Jennifer Sanger, Nicole Liebetrau, Kimberly Chapman, Kristin Gettler, Rebekah Reichardt

Undergraduate Research Scholars (URS)

Fall 2011-Spring 2012	Ellen Ehlers
Fall 2010-Spring 2011	Matthew Davis, Caitlin Carranza, Leslie Epstein, Jennifer Radle

Lecturer/Instructor Supervision at University of Wisconsin-Madison

Service Internship Supervisor for Diana Becker	Summer 2013
Teaching Internship Supervisor for Nancy Molfenter	Fall 2011
Faculty Supervisor for Tonja Gallagher RP&SE 474	Spring 2011
Teaching Internship Supervisor for Carly Roberts	Spring 2011, Spring 2012

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Editorial Boards

Co-Editor

Teacher Education and Special Education (TESE)	2019-2024
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Associate Editor

Journal of Positive Behavioral Interventions (JPBI)	2018-2020
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Associate Editor

Intervention in School and Clinic (IS&C)	2017-2021
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Associate Editor

Remedial and Special Education (RASE)	2014-2021
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Guest Special Issue Co-Editor

Remedial and Special Education (RASE)	Fall 2014
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Guest Associate Editor

Journal of Positive Behavioral Interventions (JPBI)	2017
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Guest Associate Editor

Remedial and Special Education (RASE)	2013
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Editorial Board & Field Reviewer

Research in Special Education	2024-present
Remedial and Special Education	2011-2021
TEACHING Exceptional Children	2016-present
Exceptional Children	2015-present
Journal of Teacher Education (JTE)	2010-present
Kentucky Teacher Education Journal (KTEJ)	2011-2012
Intervention in School & Clinic	2011-2021

Guest Reviewer

Inclusive Practices	2024
Career Development and Transition for Exceptional Individuals	2024
Journal of Learning Disabilities	2019
Elementary School Journal	2019, 2024
Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities	2018, 2021
Exceptionality	2018
Education and Treatment of Children	2015
Remedial and Special Education (RASE)	2010
Teacher Education and Special Education (TESE)	2008
Review of Educational Research (RER)	2008

Awards Reviewer

TED Publication Award	2020
CEC TED Dissertation Award	2019
CEC TED Service Award	2018
CEC Division of Research (DR) Doctoral Student Scholars	2018
Gene Budig Teaching Professionship in Special Education	
Ad Hoc Committee. University of Kansas.	2016
CEC Division of Research (DR) Student Research Award for Qualitative Methods	2014

Grant Proposal Reviewer

KU School of Education Graduate Research Fund (GRF)	2015
Florida's 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC)	2007

Field Reviewer for National Conferences

Council for Exceptional Children Annual Conference	2015
Council for Exceptional Children Teacher Education Division	2015
Council for Exceptional Children Teacher Education Division	2006-2009
Council for Exceptional Children Division of Research (DR)	2008- 2009
American Educational Research Association (AERA)	2005-2008

National Committees and Activities

<i>Teacher Education Division (TED) Mentor Roundtables</i>	
Council for Exceptional Children Teacher Education Division	2022
<i>Teacher Education Division (TED) Research to Practice Ad Hoc Committee Chair</i>	
Council for Exceptional Children Teacher Education Division	2017-2019
<i>Teacher Education Division (TED) Research Committee Chair</i>	
Council for Exceptional Children Teacher Education Division	2017-2019
<i>Teacher Education Division (TED) Research Committee</i>	
Council for Exceptional Children Teacher Education Division	2008-present
<i>Doctoral Student Scholars (DSS)</i>	
Council for Exceptional Children Division of Research (DR)	2008-2009
Field reviewer for scholars program	2011, 2018

External Reviewer for Tenure and Promotion

2025 N=1
2024 N=4

2023 N=4
 2022 N=4
 2021 N=3
 2020 N=1
 2019 N=4
 2018 N=1

University of Florida Service

Preparing Future Faculty Fall cohort panelist 2023

University of Florida College of Education (COE) Service

Budgetary Affairs Committee 2022-2024
 Post-tenure Review Committee 2023-present
 Tenure and Promotion Committee 2024-present

University of Florida School of Special Education, School Psychology, & Early Childhood Studies Service

Faculty and Budgetary Affairs Committee 2023-present
 Merit Committee 2023-present
 Program Area Leaders 2023-present
 Special Education PhD Program Coordinator 2023-present
 Special Education Open Rank Search Committee, Chair 2022-2023
 Special Education Asst/Assoc Search Committee, Chair 2024-2025

UW-Madison University and School of Education (SOE) Committees

WCER Director's Advisory Council 2021-2022
 WCER Fellows Award Committee 2020-2021
 Academic Planning Council (APC) 2020
 PLACE Health Director Search and Screen Committee 2019
 WCER Director Search and Screen Committee 2019
 Morgridge Endowed Chair in Reading Search Committee 2018-2019
 Programs Committee 2020
 Social Sciences Divisional Committee 2018-2021
 Committee Connect Office Hours Participant 2018
 Forward Madison Accelerated Licensure in Special Education (ALSE) Faculty Strand Leaders 2018-2022
 Associate Director Teacher Education Center Search Committee 2018
 Coordinating Council for Professionals in Education (CCPE) 2017-2018
 Literacy, Culture, and Language Committee 2009-2014
 Faculty Senate 2011-2014
 Faculty Senate (Alternate) Spring 2011
 Fall 2010

UW-Madison Department of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education Committees

Chair Tenure & Promotion Mentoring Committee for Hailey Love	2020-2022
Chair Tenure & Promotion Mentoring Committee for Zhe An	2018-2022
Special Education Early Childhood Search Committee Chair	2019-2020
Special Education Policy Search Committee Chair	2019-2020
Rehabilitation Psychology Search Committee	2017-2018
	2010-2011
Special Education Search Committee	2017-2018
	2011-2012
	2010-2011
Special Education TPAC Faculty Representative	2010-2014
Teaching Academy Summer Institute (TASI)	2010
Dual Certification Program Committee	2009-2014
Dual Certification Program Coordinator	2012-2014
Special Education Area Committee	Co-chair 2018-2019
	2017-present
	2009-2014
Special Education Teacher Education Committee	Chair, 2017-2018
	Chair, 2011-2014;
	Chair 2017-2018
	2009-2014; 2018-
	2021
Special Education Graduate Studies Committee	Co-chair 2018-2019
	2019-2022

University of Kansas Service & Committees

Graduate Research Conference Judge	2015
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University of Kansas School of Education Service & Committees

Futures Committee	2015-2017
Graduate Research Fund Review Committee	2015

University of Kansas Department of Special Education Service & Committees

Personnel Preparation Programs Committee (Co-chair)	2016-2017
High Incidence Program Coordinator (Chair)	2015-2017
Chair's Advisory Committee	2016-2017
Online Partnerships Committee	2016-2017
ISJ See Saw Research Conference Judge	2016
KUPD Student Research Fair Judge	2015
Special Education Educator Preparation Committee (SEEP)	2014-2017

Community Service

Kanapaha Middle School PTSA recording secretary	2023-2024
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UW-Madison SoE/MMSD Task Force on Early Literacy	2020-2021
Advisory Council Member Advanced Education Programs	
Fort Hayes State University	2016-2017
Liberty Memorial Central Middle School Ci3T Leadership	
Team	2016-2017
Liberty Memorial Central Middle School PDS	2014-2017
Coordinator of Strong Starts Mentoring Program	
Madison Metropolitan School District (MMSD)	2011
External Evaluation of Achieve 3000 for Madison	
Metropolitan School District (MMSD)	2010-2011
External Evaluation of System 44 for Madison	
Metropolitan School District (MMSD)	2010-2011
Pilot External Evaluation of System 44 for Madison	
Metropolitan School District (MMSD)	2009-2010
Tutor Cherokee Middle School	2009-2010
Literacy Center Tutor West High School	2009-2010