

# Faculty

## Presentations and Creative Activity

### Faculty

#### Dr. Broderick

- Facilitated a professional development workshop in March on the Cycle of Inquiry emergent curriculum planning process for Reggio-inspired preschool teachers in Alexandria, VA.
- Presented in April to the Nashville Reggio Study Group regarding her chapters in the book, *Listening to Children: Seeing Possibilities*. She also presented at the Learning Institute at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, June 3-4.
- Spoke on play for the *Education A-Z* radio program hosted by Mark Merz from Emory and Henry College. Dr. Broderick's statement is embedded into a two-part interview with Erika Christakis, the author of *The Importance of Being Little* that can be found on the WEHC archives: <https://archive.org/details/Education62215Standards>
- Coordinating the Reggio track at the ETSU Early Childhood Conference where Andrew Stremmel will be a featured speaker (July 15-16).

#### Dr. Geiken

- Participated in the National Science Teachers Association Elementary Science Extravaganza. As the editor for the Early Childhood Resources Review column of the journal *Science and Children*, her role at the extravaganza is to share the early childhood resources that have been reviewed, to seek new authors for the column, and to share ways early childhood teachers can learn more about science.
- Coordinating the STEM track for the ETSU Early Childhood Conference (July 15-16). She has lined up presenters to share ideas in science, technology, outdoor education, water activities, physics for young children, inquiry activities, and more. The featured speaker is Peggy Ashbrook, who will share lots of ideas on ways to share STEM with young children. Peggy is an author for the National Science Teachers Association and has a regular column in *Science and Children*.
- New publication:**  
Geiken, R., Uhlenberg, J. & Yoshizawa, S. (2015). Implementing ramps and pathways in the classroom. In B. Zan, L. Escalada, J. Uhlenberg, B. VanMeeteren, S. Counsell, S. S. Yoshizawa, & M. Sander (Eds.), *STEM learning with young children: Inquiry teaching with ramps and pathways*. New York, NY: Teacher College Press.

#### Dr. Sharp

- Presented at the Tennessee Reading Association conference in Dec. Her session was "Phonological Awareness, Phonemic Awareness, and Phonics." She also provided an all-day professional development session with Miller Perry Elementary School teachers in Sullivan County, on Close Reads and Guided Reading.
- Will present a full-day preconference session at the ETSU Early Childhood Conference on July 14 entitled, *Literacy: Connections to Content, Concepts, and Thinking Processes*.

## Student Resources

- Boot Camp:** Thesis and Dissertation writing and editing support, workshops, time to write. Four weekend sessions per semester at Sherrod Library. Emily Frances Redd; REDD@mail.etsu.edu
- Graduate Student Success:** Assistance with setting and maintaining personal and academic goals when experiencing stress. Ivy Buerkle; Sherrod Library, Room 462; 423-439-7062; gradsuccess@etsu.edu; <http://www.etsu.edu/gradstud/successservice.aspx>
- Sherrod Library**
  - Graduate Student Support:** <http://sherrod.etsu.edu/patron/grad>
  - Dr. Wendy Doucette, Graduate Services Librarian, doucettew@etsu.edu
  - Workshops:** [http://sherrod.etsu.edu/sites/default/files/2015\\_grad\\_workshop\\_dates.pdf](http://sherrod.etsu.edu/sites/default/files/2015_grad_workshop_dates.pdf)

## Admission Process

Applicants for the PhD in Early Childhood Education Program are evaluated once each year for admission in the fall semester. Application information deadline is March 15<sup>th</sup>. This deadline is flexible until enrollment is filled. The program has a number of fellowships to support full time doctoral students that are awarded on a competitive basis. Admission to the program has the same requirements as existing graduate school requirements plus additional specific requirements:

- Application form
- Application fee (\$35 USA or \$45 International)
- One official transcript from each institution attended (undergraduate and graduate)
- Personal resume
- Personal essay including a written statement of career and ethical goals, professional experience, and area of interest for a dissertation
- Official Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores taken within the past 5 years. Preferred scores are 50<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher
- Four letters of recommendation
- Master's Degree in Early Childhood or a related field from a regionally accredited university
- An interview with the admissions committee

Michelle Johnson, middle, on successfully passing her comprehensive exam. Fall 2015



# EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

## Early Childhood PhD Program

Spring and Summer 2016 Newsletter



PhD Students' Literacy Presentations in Dr. Kathryn Sharp's ECED 6600 Processes of Language and Literacy Learning course.

### Early Childhood Education Program

#### Vision

The vision of the early childhood program is to engage in and encourage lifelong learning and produce teachers, researchers and leaders who advocate for and create quality early childhood experiences in early care and education.

#### NAEYC Professional Preparation Standards

- STANDARD 1.** Promoting Child Development and Learning
- STANDARD 2.** Building Family and Community Relationships
- STANDARD 3.** Observing, Documenting, and Assessing to Support Young Children and Families
- STANDARD 4.** Using Developmentally Effective Approaches
- STANDARD 5.** Using Content Knowledge to Build Meaningful Curriculum
- STANDARD 6.** Becoming a Professional
- STANDARD 7.** Early Childhood Field Experiences

## Honors & Awards



### Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) Fellowship Recipient

Katherine Madison is in her second year as a PhD student. She has the honor of being the first ETSU student to receive the SREB State Scholarship. The goal of the SREB program is to increase the number of PhD minority students who seek careers in higher education as faculty and staff. It provides many different forms of support, including: financial, academic/research funding, career counseling, job postings, scholar counseling and advocacy, a networking directory, a career fair, and a yearly invitation to the SREB conference, which is hosted in various locations throughout the U.S. Each participant is expected to work closely with a mentor. Katherine had the pleasure of attending the 2015 conference in Arlington, VA. in October and looks forward to the 2016 conference in Tampa, FL. She met many current SREB students as well as many who completed the program. Through this wonderful experience she attended several meetings and met many people with shared scholarly interests. As an SREB participant Katherine is beginning to work on her research under the mentorship of Dr. Arnold Nyarambi, Associate Professor of Special Education in the Department of Teaching and Learning.

# Spotlight on Students



Teresa Boggs



Cathy Landy

**Dissertation Title:** The effects of environmental modifications and visual supports in the home on engagement and challenging behaviors in children with autism.

**Expected graduation date:** Summer 2016

Teresa's research focuses on the impact of environmental arrangement and visual supports in the home environment for young children with autism spectrum disorder. She has been actively involved in parent training programs and recognizes that the child's home, parents, and primary caregivers are essential for positive language and learning outcomes. She said the ECED doctoral coursework added new knowledge on the importance of environments for young children and encouraged her desire to better understand how the child's home environment can be redesigned to improve the child's engagement and behavior.

She is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Audiology and Speech Language Pathology, developing clinical programs for a variety of children with language and learning activities at the ETSU Nave Center, where she trains graduate students to implement these programs.

**Dissertation Title:** The state of outdoor education in Northeast Tennessee: Preschool teacher attitudes on outdoor education.

**Expected graduation date:** Spring 2017

Cathy is an environmental enthusiast. She was the environmental education coordinator at Buffalo Mountain camp. In that capacity, her work with children led her to the Early Childhood PhD Program where she focuses on outdoor education as influenced by environmental education, constructivist theories, and developmentally appropriate practices.

In a large survey across the counties in Northeast Tennessee she will gain information on teachers' perceptions and use of outdoor classrooms. With this baseline data, her dissertation will provide insight for guiding teachers to better understand and teach with environmental education in mind.

Cathy's extensive training, includes Nature Explore, Growing up Wild, The Virginia Save our Streams, and Adopt a Water Shed. This training will support her work with early childhood teachers in the region.

Currently, Cathy is a Teaching Assistant in the Early Childhood Program.

## Student Presentations and Creative Activity

Sonia A. Yoshizawa

- Co-authored a book that is tentatively scheduled for release this Fall:

Isbell, R. & Yoshizawa, S. (in press). *Nurturing creativity: An essential mindset for young children's learning*. Washington, DC: National Association for the Education of Young Children.

- Accepted an invitation to speak and conduct Ramps & Pathways STEM Teachers' Workshop at Lawrenceville Presbyterian Preschool in Lawrenceville, NJ, in March 2016, which is based on the recent STEM book, co-authored with Dr. Rosemary Geiken and other collaborators.

Geiken, R., Uhlenberg, J. & Yoshizawa, S. (2015). Implementing ramps and pathways in the classroom. In B. Zan, L. Escalada, J. Uhlenberg, B. VanMeeteren, S. Counsell, S. S. Yoshizawa, & M. Sander (Eds.), *STEM learning with young children: Inquiry teaching with ramps and pathways*. New York, NY: Teacher College Press.

Tara Voit

Tara Voit received a \$3000 scholarship from the Office of Equity and Diversity to attend the 2016 Educational Retreat for Anti-Biased Curriculum Workshop in the Marche region of Italy, in the town of Mercatello sul Metauro. The workshop will be offered by well-known author, Dr. John Nimmo, and Debbie LeeKeenan, of Lesley University, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The Workshop title is *Learning Together in a Special Place: Perspectives on Leadership for Change: Identity, Social Justice and the Right to be Visible*. The conference dates are June 16-25.



December Graduates & faculty. Left to right: Dr. Kim Cassidy, Dr. Evanshen, Dr. Charity Hensley-Pipkin, Dr. Sharp, Dr. Jill Leonard.

**Early Childhood PhD Program Co-Coordinators:**

Dr. Broderick, [broderic@etsu.edu](mailto:broderic@etsu.edu)  
Dr. Evanshen, [evanshep@etsu.edu](mailto:evanshep@etsu.edu)

**Website:**

<http://www.etsu.edu/coe/teachlearn/eced/doctoral/program.aspx>

**Apply to the Program:** <http://www.etsu.edu/gradstud/>

ETSU is an AA/EEO Employer. TBR #220-014-15 .1M

# Faculty Scholarly Highlights



Dr. Carol Trivette

Dr. Trivette is the *new* Associate Director of Research at the ETSU Center of Excellence in Early Childhood Learning and Development.

One of the projects Dr. Trivette is working on is the Bridging the Word Gap: National Research Network. This project is a federally funded grant through University of Kansas in which she works with a group of national researchers who are trying to understand what we know and do not know from the research literature about parent-mediated language interventions among families living in poverty. As part of this work, she is involved in a research mentoring/collaboration with a new professor at West Virginia University whose research interests involves parents of young children living in poverty.

Dr. Trivette is also working on a DEC position statement with Doris Duke, Child Well-Being Fellow, on child abuse and young children with disabilities. We hope that this position statement will be endorsed by NAEYC and the child protection organizations. If you are interested in policy development and this topic in particular, please join the DEC position statement work group.



Dr. Pamela Evanshen

Dr. Evanshen serves in two roles, as the Chair of the Department housing the Early Childhood undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral-level programs, and as the *new* Associate Director of Academics at the ETSU Center of Excellence in Early Childhood Learning and Development.

In the role of Associate Director of Academic Programming Dr. Evanshen will lead the efforts for enhancing collaboration among the early childhood faculty and the faculty and staff at the Child Study Center and Little Bucs early care and education programs.

One of the first initiatives that Dr. Evanshen will lead is the development of a collaboration between the Child Study Center, the Center of Excellence, and Head Start.

In addition, Dr. Evanshen is currently working on a project under review for publication focusing on a tool for assessing the physical classroom environment in elementary schools.

## Conferences of Interest to Students and Faculty

**Appalachian Association for the Education of Young Children (AAEYC):** Spring Conference. Beth Huber, Little Bucs Master Teacher, is a good contact.

**Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI):** Dr. Sharp is a member of ACEI in a leadership position with them. <http://acei.org/programs-events/summit.html>

The TN Chapter site: <http://www.ate1.org/pubs/home.cfm>

**Association for Constructivist Teaching (ACT):** October conference each year. Dr. Broderick is a Board Member of ACT and newsletter editor. ACT's online journal, *The Constructivist*, is now a proceedings journal that also accepts outside submissions. Carolyn Hildebrandt ([Carolyn.Hildebrandt@uni.edu](mailto:Carolyn.Hildebrandt@uni.edu)) and Meir Muller ([meirmuller@sc.rr.com](mailto:meirmuller@sc.rr.com)) are the editors.

<https://sites.google.com/site/assocforconstructteaching/>

**Association for Teacher Educators (ATE):** Dr. Sharp is a member. <http://www.ate1.org/pubs/home.cfm>

**Division for Early Childhood: DEC:** Dr. Trivette is a good contact for this conference. <http://www.dec-sped.org/proposals>

**National Association for Early Childhood Teacher Educators (NAECTE):** Their conference is always held in conjunction with NAEYC. Proposals come out in May each year. Dr. Evanshen is a good contact for NAECTE. [http://www.naecte.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=21&Itemid=34](http://www.naecte.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=21&Itemid=34)

**National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC):** Proposals for both conferences are usually due in mid- to late January: <http://www.naeyc.org/events>

**Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)** <http://www.srkd.org/meetings/biennial-meeting>

**Southern Early Childhood Association (SECA):** <http://www.southernearlychildhood.org/conference-information/>

**Tennessee Association for the Education of Young Children (TAEYC):** Proposals are now being accepted for the October 2016 conference to be held in Franklin, TN. <http://www.taeyc.org/calendar.html>

**ETSU Early Childhood Conference:** Usually the third week in July. July 14-16, 2016. All ECED faculty are contacts for this conference. <http://www.etsu.edu/coe/child/programs/conference/default.php>