

Suzanne B. Thomas, Ph.D

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Henderson Hall, Room, # 227*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 2011 – Present | Texas A&M University, Commerce
Assistant Professor of Special Education
Department of Psychology and Special Education
Teach graduate and undergraduate Special Education courses. Instruction provided in lecture and on-line web-based formats. | Commerce, Texas |
| 2007 – 2011 | University of Texas at Tyler
Assistant Professor of Special Education
School of Education
Teach graduate and undergraduate Special Education courses including Survey of Human Exceptionality, Behavior Disorders (graduate and undergraduate), Instructional Programs for Exceptional Learners (graduate and undergraduate), and Early Childhood Special Education (graduate) and Instructional Programs for Learners with Severe and Multiple Disabilities. Instruction provided in lecture, on-line and distance education formats. | Tyler, Texas |
| 2000 – 2007 | The Columbus Organization
Senior Project Consultant
Provide consultation, training, and technical assistance services nationally on variety of issues concerning persons with developmental disabilities. Work closely with state and regional agencies that administer developmental disability services to identify service needs, formulate goals and objectives, write policies and procedures, provide consultation and technical assistance to meet stated objectives, and prepare management reports. Develop and present training programs, workshops, and conferences to national, state and local audiences. Write and produce state and local policies, and marketing materials, and training manuals (both in print and electronic media). Prepare project reports. Provide consultation (with both management and direct service staff) on regulation compliance. Develop relationships with various professional organizations. | King of Prussia, Pennsylvania |
| 1999 – 2001 | Denton State School
Residential Unit Manager
Responsible for 24/7 operation of residential unit serving approximately 150 persons with mental retardation/developmental disabilities employing approximately 200 direct contact and professional staff members. Worked in conjunction with Texas Department of Protection and Regulatory Services to investigate abuse/neglect allegations and other serious incidents. | Denton, Texas |

Developed working relations with professional and family groups.

1995 – 1999

South Mississippi Regional Center Long Beach, Mississippi
Director, Early Intervention Programs

Developed and supervised program serving infants and toddlers with disabilities in multi-county area, including hiring staff, developing policies and procedures, and acquiring multiple buildings/vehicles. Responsible for regulation compliance. Wrote grant applications. Developed family and community relationships, including providing meeting with public leaders, professional groups, and community service groups to promote program awareness and support. Made public (television and radio appearances to provided public service information on prevention issues and program activities. Developed, served on, and facilitated county task force (in various counties) and statewide task force on program integration, child find, and program promotion. Worked in partnership with other agencies on resource development and evaluation of program effectiveness.

1995 – 1999
various semesters

University of Southern Mississippi Gulfpark Campus,
Gulfport, Mississippi
Adjunct Professor of Special Education

Taught various graduate and undergraduate course work including Survey on Human Exceptionalities and Students with Emotional and Behavior Disorders and participated in supervision of student teachers and pre-service interns.

William Carry College Biloxi, Mississippi
Adjunct Professor of Special Education

Taught various undergraduate course work including Survey on Human Exceptionalities and Students with Emotional and Behavior Disorders

1985-1991

Denton State School Denton, Tex
Residential Unit Manager, Quality Assurance Auditor, QMRP

During six year tenure served as Case Manager/Qualified Mental Retardation Professional, Quality Assurance Auditor, and Unit Director. Responsibilities included 24/7 operation of residential unit serving approximately 150 persons with mental retardation/developmental disabilities employing approximately 200 direct contact and professional staff members. Investigated abuse/neglect allegations and other serious incidents and served on committee for making conclusions based on investigations. Developed working relations with professional and family groups. Facilitated interdisciplinary meetings to write educational and training programs and monitored effectiveness. Wrote individual consumer and management reports. Provided supervision to case managers. Responsible for monitoring and conducting training programs on rugulation compliance.

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy	University of Florida Major: Special Education Administration Minor: Educational Leadership Minor: Rehabilitation Counseling	Gainesville, Florida 1994
Master of Education	University of North Texas Major: Special Education	Denton, Texas, 1990
Master of Business Administration	University of North Texas Major: Administrative Management	Denton, Texas, 1988
Bachelor of Science	East Texas State University Major: General Business/Business Education	Commerce, Texas, 1970

PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS-TEXAS

Special Education (Generic) Secondary	1990 - Life 1970 - Life
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PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS

Submitted Manuscripts:

Thomas, S. B., Early Childhood Special Education Family-Teacher Partnerships: Expectations and Implications, submitted to *Journal of Early Childhood Teacher Education*, submitted January 2014

Journal Articles:

Dykes, F., & Thomas, S.B., (in press). "Meeting the Needs of the Hidden Minority: Transition Planning Tips for LGBTQ Youth", *Preventing School Failure (accepted February 2014)*.

Thomas, S.B., (2014, February). Saying "I DO" to family-teacher partnerships, *LD Forum, A Publication of the Council for Learning Disabilities*, (2-4).

Morse, D. T. Tannehill, R. T., Masten, W. G., Zascavage, V., Thomas, S. B., Bass, C. L., Duke, D., Williams, K. (2014). Dealing with Non-response on the Torrance Tests of Creative Thinking (Figural). *International Journal of Hispanic Psychology*, 6(2).

Thomas, S. B. & Packer, D. (2013). A Reflective Teaching Road Map for Pre-Service and Novice Early Childhood Educators, *International Journal of Early Childhood Special Education*, 5(1), 1-14.

Thomas, S.B., & Dykes, F. (2013). Families Speak to Early Childhood Educators: Impressions and Expectations, *SRATE Journal*, 22(2) 55-64.

Thomas, S.B., Mallett, J., & Dykes, F. (2013). Family Expectations: One Dimension of Effective Family-Teacher Partnerships, *Research to Practice: K-12 Scholarship Journal*, 3(1), 4-24.

Hott, B.L., Thomas, S.B., Abbassi, A., Hendrix, L., & Aslina, S.D. (2013). Supporting Students with Emotional Disabilities, *National Forum Journal of Counseling and Addiction*.3(1).

Hott, B.L., Thomas, S.B., Abbassi, A., & Aslina, S.D., & Hendrix, L.M., (2012). What Every Counselor Should Know: Practical Tips for Participating in the IEP Meeting, *Journal of Counseling and Addiction*.

Thomas, S.B., Hott, B.L., Hendrix, L.M., Abbassi, A., & Aslina, S.D., (2012). Putting Special in Education: Meeting the Needs of All Children, *Journal of Counseling and Addiction*.

Thomas, S. B. & Dykes, F. (2011). Promoting Successful Transitions: What can we learn from RTI processes to enhance outcomes for all students? Preventing School Failure. 55(1) 1-9.

Thomas, S. B., Stanley, M., & Hayes, A. (2010). Put on a happy face: Molly's story. National Teacher Education Journal. 3(3) 65-72

Dykes, F., & Thomas, S.B. (2010). Strategies for every teacher's toolbox. Principal Leadership. 11(2) 26-30.

Beverly, C. L. & Thomas S. B. (1999). Family assessment and collaboration building: Conjoined processes. International Journal of Disability and Education 46(2) 179-197.

Thomas, S. B. (1998). Family-centered early intervention. Book review of Partnerships in family-centered care: A Guide to collaborative early intervention. Journal for a Just and Caring Education 4(3), 355-359.

Thomas, S. B. (1998). Book review of Meeting the challenge: Living with chronic illness. National Adrenal Disease Foundation Newsletter 9(2), 4.

Beverly, C. L. & Thomas, S. B. (1997). Developmental and psycho-social effects of HIV in school-aged population: Educational implications. Education and Training in Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities 32(1).

Rader, M. C., Lenk, L. L., & Thomas, S. B. (1995). Educational challenges of students with traumatic brain injury. Journal for Just and Caring Education 2(1), 191-199.

Smith, S. W., Siegel, E. M., O'Connor, A. M., & Thomas S. B. (1994) Effects of cognitive-behavioral training on aggressive acts and anger behavior of three elementary-aged students. Behavioral Disorders, 19 (2).

Monographs and Training Materials:

Thomas. S. B. for The Columbus Organization (2008). The Philosophy of Self-Determination: Supporting an Approach to Self-Determination (training monograph and train-the-trainer materials). Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services.

Thomas. S. B. for The Columbus Organization (2008). Person Centered Planning: An Introduction. Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services.

Thomas. S. B. for The Columbus Organization (2008). Person Centered Planning: The Process. Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services.

The Columbus Organization (2002, 2003, 2004). Training Monographs: Annual Risk Assessment and Mitigation Conference. (three annual conferences) California Department of Developmental Services.

The Columbus Organization (principal author S. B. Thomas) (2002). Incident Management for Persons with Developmental Disabilities: A Review of the Literature. California Department of Developmental Services.

The Columbus Organization (principal author S. B. Thomas) (2002). Mortality Review: A Review of the Literature. California Department of Developmental Services.

Thomas, S. B. (1995). Automatic and effortful memory processing by students with and without mental retardation. Florida Education Research Council, Sanabel, Fl.

Repetto, J. B., Thomas, S. B., & Schwartz, S. E. (1993). Transition: The IDEA way. Tallahassee, FL: Florida Department of Education, Bureau of Education for Exceptional Students.

Thomas, S. B., & Noll, A. (1994). Natural supports in supported employment: Annotated bibliography. Tallahassee, FL: Florida Department of Education.

Rader M. C., & Spitznagel, R. J. (1993). What we know about educating students with traumatic brain injury. Tallahassee, FL: Florida Department of Education. (Research assistant)

GRANT PREPARATION

“Project RIP-TIDES: Research, Innovation, Performance: Training for Improved Data Effectiveness in Schools”. Submitted grant request. Funding request \$40,000.

“Teaching Math Facts to Adults with Intellectual Disabilities: A Comparison of Touch Point Math and Conventional Math Instruction”. UT-Tyler Faculty Internal Research Grant, funded for \$7,468.00, (2009).

“Children with Adrenal Insufficiency: What Can We Learn From Families”. UT-Tyler president’s Summer Research Grant. Funded for \$3000.00 (2008)

“Augmentative and Assistive Communication Technology in Early Intervention.” Funded by the Mississippi Developmental Disabilities Planning Council, September, 1996, 1997, 1998.

"Recall Ability as a Function of Cognitive Encoding." Funded by Florida Education Research Council, August 1994.

"Project ECLIPSE: Early Childhood Leadership Personnel in Special Education." Participated in preparation of grant for training program in unified early childhood and early childhood special education. September 1994

"Project Re-Set: Re-educating Special Educators for Transition." Participated in preparation of grant to improve and expand transition programs for students with disabilities, December 1991.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

International/National:

"Using Technology to Increase Student Engagement and Achievement", co-presenter, American Council on Rural Special Education National Conference, March 2013, Orlando, Florida, March 2013.

"One, Two Buckle My Shoe. Using Strategies to Teach Math to Adults with Intellectual Disabilities". International conference of American Association on Intellectual and other Developmental Disabilities, St. Paul/Twin Cities, Mn., May 2011.

"From Gown to Town: University school collaboration to support children with learning disabilities" (co-presenter). Council for Exceptional Children, Teacher Education Division, St. Louis, Mo., November 2010.

"Family Perceptions: How Can We Develop Partnerships to Enhance Student Achievement." Council for Exceptional Children, Nashville, Tn, April 2010

"Let's Put On A Happy Face – Dona's Story". Council on Learning Disabilities, Irving Tx, October 2009.

"Adrenal Insufficiency and Rare Disorders: What Can We learn Form Families?" Council for Exceptional Children, Seattle, Wa, April 2009.

"University Collaboration with a Public Middle and High School: Improving Reading and Research", Teacher Education Division (TED) of the Council for Exceptional Children, Charlotte, NC, November 2009.

"Transition and RTI: Beyond the Great Divide", co-presented Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children, Dallas, November 2008.

"Preparing General Education Faculty to Implement Inclusive Strategies in Pre-service Programs", co-presented Teacher Education Division, Council for Exceptional Children, Dallas, November 2008.

"A New Vision of Risk Management", American Association on Mental Retardation, Philadelphia, June 2004.

"Emerging Issues in Risk Management", Young Adult Institute, New York, May, 2004.

"Risk Management – Managing Data for Improved Service Systems" American Association on Mental Retardation, Chicago, May 2003.

"Trends in School-Home Communication Patterns in Early Intervention Settings" Division of Early Childhood, Council of Exceptional Children, Washington D.C., December, 1999.

"Steps in the Right Direction: From Talking About Families to Talking with Families." Division of Early Childhood, Council of Exceptional Children, New Orleans, November, 1997.

"Family Assessment in Early Intervention." National Conference of the Division of Early Childhood, Council of Exceptional Children, Phoenix, Arizona, December, 1996.

"Automatic and Effortful Memory Processing by Students with and without Mental Retardation". American Association on Mental Retardation, San Francisco, May, 1995.

"Human Immunodeficiency Virus in Early Intervention Classrooms: Moving Beyond the Fear." National Division on Early Childhood, Council for Exceptional Children, St. Louis, October 1994.

"Transition Services for Students with Physical Disabilities and Cognitive Impairments." International Conference on Mental Retardation, Council for Exceptional Children, Arlington Heights, Illinois, September 1994.

"Legislation and Significant Court Decisions in Residential Facilities for Persons with Developmental Disabilities." American Association on Mental Retardation, Boston, June, 1994.

"Transition: The IDEA Way." Division on Career Development and Transition, CEC, Albuquerque, October, 1993 (co-presenter).

"Students with Traumatic Brain Injury: Educational Challenges and Successful Strategies." Symposium on Exceptional Children and Youth, Bangor, Maine, October, 1993.

"The Schools Response to Children and Adolescents with Traumatic Brain Injury: The New Group Under IDEA." Division of Career Development, Kansas City, October, 1991.

State/Regional/Local:

"Examining the Parental Satisfaction of Families of Preschool Children with Disabilities enrolled in Head Start Programs" (co-presenter with Dr. David Brown). Texas Council for Exceptional Children. Ft. Worth, Texas, June 2014.

"Meeting the Needs of All Learners". Invited Presentation, Sam Houston State University chapter of the Council for Exceptional Children, Huntsville, Texas, March 2013.

"Family Communication Perceptions: Did the Family Hear What you Thought you Said?" (co-presenter) Texas Council for Exceptional Children, San Antonio, June 2012.

Promoting Language and Literacy Comprehension for Students Who Are Culturally Diverse and/or English Language Learners: Strategies that Work!" (co-presenter), Invited Pre-Conference Workshop, Council for Exceptional Children-Texas, San Antonio, Tx., June 2011.

"Seeing Through A Mirror Dimly: Pre-Service Teachers Come Face-to-Face with Differentiation" (co-presenter), Council for Exceptional Children-Texas, San Antonio, Tx., June 2011.

“Teaching Math Facts to Adults with Intellectual Disabilities” American Association on Intellectual Disabilities, Texas Chapter, San Antonio, Tx, July, 2011.

“Teaching literacy through the arts: Ways to promote inclusion of children with learning differences (co-presenter). UT-Tyler Early Childhood Summer Institute, June 2010.

“A Pinch of This and a Tablespoon of That: A Recipe for Accessing the General Curriculum with Standards-Based IEPs”, co-presented, Texas Council for Exceptional Children 29th annual Conference, June 2009.

“Opening doors for All Learners: Using Differentiated Instruction in the Diverse Classroom”, co-presented, Phi Delta Kappa, April 2009.

“Barriers to Reading”, co-presented, The Association for the Improvement of Reading (TAIR), winter reading conference, January 2009.

Data Based Decision-making: Is the Road to Measuring Student performance Lined with Stickers and M&Ms? Co-presented Consortium of State Organizations for Texas Teacher Education (CSOTTE), October 2008.

Preparing Pre-service Educators for Work with Academically Diverse Learners in PK-12 Classrooms. Consortium of State Organizations for Texas Teacher Education (CSOTTE), October 2008.

“Transition and RTI: Beyond the Great Divide”, co-presented Texas Council for Exceptional Children, Irving, June 2008.

“Uncovering Practical Intervention Strategies for Secondary Education Students”, co-presented Texas Council for Exceptional Children, Irving, June 2008.

“Rights Assessment: Tools for Program Planning Teams and Human Rights Committees”, Texas Association on Mental Retardation, San Antonio, July 2005.

“Risk Management – Managing Risk for Improved Service Systems” Texas Association on Mental Retardation, Dallas, July 2003.

“Steps in the Right Direction: From Talking About Families to Talking with Families.” Southeast Regional American Association on Mental Retardation, Birmingham, Alabama, November, 1998

“Applying the Planning Process: Making Tomorrow’s Long-Term Today’s Reality.” Southeast Regional American Association on Mental Retardation, Louisville, Ky. November, 1997.

“Personal Perspectives on Disabilities: Expectations & Partnerships.” 15th Annual Miller lecture Series, Mississippi University for Women, March 1997.

“Early Intervention: A Family Perspective.” Southeast Regional American Association on Mental Retardation, Biloxi, Mississippi, November, 1996.

“Assessment of Family Systems: Forming Parent-Professional Partnerships.” Annual conference of the Mississippi Early Childhood Association, Jackson, Mississippi, October, 1996.

"The American with Disabilities Act: Inclusion in Early Intervention." conference of the University of Southern Mississippi School of Social Work, Gulfport, Mississippi, September, 1996.

"Providing Support: A Family Perspective." Southeast Region Association on Mental Retardation, Memphis, November, 1995.

"Early Intervention Programs--Partners Working Hand-in-Hand." Mississippi Association on Mental Retardation, Biloxi, October, 1995.

"Transitional Services for Youthful Offenders: The Law and The Reality for Correctional Educators." Correctional Educators Association, Daytona Beach, April 1994.

"Transition: The Road to Adult Identity and Quality of Life for Persons with Physical Disabilities and Mild Cognitive Impairments." AAMR, Atlanta, November, 1993.

"Legal and Attitudinal Perspectives in the Provision of Residential Services" American Association on Mental Retardation, Atlanta, November, 1993.

"The Florida Network: Information and Services for Adolescents and Adults with Special Needs." American Association on Mental Retardation, Atlanta, November, 1993.

"The Florida Network: Information and Services for Adolescents and Adults with Special Needs." Division on Career Development, Daytona Beach, February, 1993.

"The Job Performance and Job Satisfaction of Direct Contact Staff: What Every Supervisor Should Know." American Association on Mental Retardation, Ft. Lauderdale, November, 1992.

"What You Always Wanted to Know About Job Satisfaction Among Employees of Residential Facilities But Were Afraid to Ask." American Association on Mental Retardation, Ft. Lauderdale, November, 1992.

"Transition Services for Students with Traumatic Brain Injury." American Association on Mental Retardation, Ft. Lauderdale, November, 1992.

"Transition from School to Work for Students with Traumatic Brain Injury." Division of Career Development, Daytona Beach, February 1992.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

University Service:

Committee Assignments (Departmental), Texas A&M University – Commerce

- Special Education Committee, Library Committee, Retention, Dismissal & Appeals
- Search Committee Chair, Assistant / Associate Professor of Special Education (2014)
- Search Committee Chair, Assistant / Associate Professor of School Psychology (2014)

New Faculty Mentor – Texas A&M University – Commerce

Committee Assignments (College), Texas A&M University – Commerce

- Search Committee, Department Chairperson, Educational Leadership Department

- Search Committee, Assistant / Associate Professor of Math Education (2014)
- Search Committee, Assistant / Associate Professor of Social Work (2014)

Committee Assignments (University), Texas A&M University – Commerce

- Search Committee, Dean, College of Education and Human Services (2014)

University Curriculum and Assessment Committee. Appointed as college representative by Dean of College of Education and Psychology, University of Texas at Tyler, (2010 to 2011)

College Curriculum and Assessment Committee. Chair, College of Education and Psychology, University of Texas at Tyler (2010 to 2011)

Ad hoc committee appointed to revise undergraduate program (to increase special education and ESL certification opportunities) appointed member, (2010 to 2011)

Committee on Students, College of Education and Psychology, University of Texas at Tyler. (committee responsible for hearing student appeals), elected faculty representative from School of Education (2008 – 2010)

Phase I Faculty, School of Education, Team Leader, University of Texas at Tyler (ongoing)

- Coordinator of Phase I faculty
- Facilitator of Phase I Student Advisory Council,
- Responsible for Phase I Orientation (for new students entering educational program)

Ad hoc committee appointed to seek accreditation by the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC) School of Education, University of Texas at Tyler. appointed member (2008 – 2010)

- Chaired dispositions committee
- Developed rubrics for: teacher-directed lesson plans, 5-E lesson plans, and case study
- Supervised research assistants responsible for establishing research base of UT-T TEAC claims as well as reliability and validity of assessment instruments

Student Chapter of Council of Exceptional Children. Co-advisor at UT-Tyler 2007 - 2011

Master's Comprehensive Exam review committee(s) (multiple).

- Developed rubric for scoring written comprehensive examinations

Consultant Service:

Consultant to Texas Department of Aging and Disability to develop a staff-training module on Self Determination. Consultation provided under contract to The Columbus Organization, 2009.

Early Childhood Intervention Assessment (ages birth to 3) to determine eligibility for Early Start Services, Regional Center of the East Bay, Oakland, California, under contract with The Columbus Organization, May and June 2008.

Consultant to Texas Department of Aging and Disability on staff training on Abuse and Neglect. Consultation provided under contract to The Columbus Organization. 2008 – 2009.

Full time national consultant to The Columbus Organization on broad array of issues on developmental disabilities, 2001 to 2007.

Columbus Medical Services, provided consultation and review of ICF-MR compliance, 1999, 2000.

Society for Exceptional Adults, Melbourne Florida. Prepared long-term strategic plan and short-term business plan to enable agency to secure funding, 1994, 1995.

Florida Department of Education. Prepared training manual on special diploma option for exceptional students, 1994.

Varying Exceptionalities Program for students with traumatic brain injury, Volusia County Schools, Daytona Beach, Florida, 1994.

Florida Department of Education Supported Employment grant, 1993.

Florida Department of Education on Traumatic Brain Injury and Spinal Cord Injury. Behavior Specialist Consultant Clay County Schools, 1991.

University Teaching

TAMU-Commerce 2011 – present

University of Texas at Tyler 2007 - 2011

Graduate Courses Taught

- Exceptional Learners – TAMU-Commerce
- Cognition, Learning & Development –TAMU-Commerce
- Positive Approaches & Strategies to Classroom Management and Individual Behavior Intervention (TAMU-Commerce)
- Behavior Disorders of School Aged Learners - TAMU-Commerce & UT-Tyler
- Instructional Strategies for Special Education – UT-Tyler
- Infants and Young Children with Disabilities – UT-Tyler

Undergraduate Courses Taught

- Introduction to Special Populations - TAMU-C and UT-Tyler
- Special Education Assessment - TAMU-Commerce
- Instructional Strategies for Students with Moderate and Severe Disabilities – TAMU-C and UT-Tyler
- Collaboration & Consultation – TAMU-Commerce
- Community Integration - TAMU-Commerce
- Behavior Disorders - UT-Tyler
- Educational Strategies for Students with Learning Disabilities – UT-Tyler

“Survey of the Exceptional Child & Multicultural Education”, William Carey College, 1997, 1998.

“Introduction to Early Intervention Services”, University of Southern Mississippi, 1997, 1998.

“Curriculum and Assessment of Students with Severe Disabilities”, University of Southern Mississippi, Gulfport, Spring 1998.

“Teaching Students with Behavioral Disorders”, University of Southern Mississippi, 1997.

“Introduction to Mental Retardation”, University of Florida, 1992, 1993

“Career Adjustment and Vocational Development”, University of Florida, 1992

Academic Supervision and Advisement:

Supervision of practicum students completing student teaching assignments in mental retardation, University of Florida, 1992, 1993, 1994.

Public Service:

Elected Board Trustee, Hopkins County Memorial Hospital District
Appointed Member, Zoning Board of Adjustment, City of Sulphur Springs
Member of Board of Elders, Chairperson of Stewardship Committee and Budget and Finance Committee, First Presbyterian Church
Member, Board of Directors, The Nehemiah Foundation
Volunteer, Boys & Girls Club
Chairperson / Director of North East Texas Support Group, National Adrenal Disease Foundation.
Member, Hopkins County Health Care Foundation, Sulphur Springs Symphony League, Sulphur Springs Community Theater

Chairperson of Division of Agency Service Providers, Early Intervention Interagency Coordinating Council, Mississippi Health District IX, 1996-1997.

Project Coordinator, *Project IDEA*. Cooperative project between the University of Florida and the Florida Department of Education to develop materials and training on transition planning, 1993.

Editorial Assistant, *Teacher Education and Special Education* (Journal of the Teacher Education Division, Council for Exceptional Children), 1992-1994.

Internship, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, Division of Mental Retardation. Special assignments with case management and home and community based waiver programs, 1992.

Organizational Service:

Member, Local Arrangements Committee, International Conference of Council for Exceptional Children, International Conference, San Antonio, Texas, March 2013

Publicity Chairperson, Texas Council for Exceptional Children (2112)
State Secretary, Texas Council for Exceptional Children (2013 – 2014; 2014 – 2015)

Member of Board of Directors, Hopkins County Boys and Girls Club, 2003-2004.

State Treasurer, Texas Association on Mental Retardation, 1999 – 2004.

State President, Mississippi Division of Early Childhood, Council for Exceptional Children, 1998

Executive Board State Student Representative, Florida Federation, Division of Career Development, Council for Exceptional Children, 1992.

Commendations:

Research Achievement Award, Texas Council on Exceptional Children, June 2012.

Nominated for Sunny Golden Apple Teacher Award, Radio for East Texas, Sunny 106.5, May, 2008.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAID)(formerly American Association on Mental Retardation [AAMR])

Texas Chapter of AAID

Council on Exceptional Children (National Organization)

Texas Council on Exceptional Children (publicity chairperson 2012 state conference)

Member: Teacher Education Division
 Council on Career Development and Transition
 Council for Children with Behavior Disorders

American Council on Rural Special Education