

Sheila Witherspoon, Ph.D.

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Doctoral Dissertation Chair ~ Content Expert: Cognition and Instruction

College of Doctoral Studies

Psychology and Counseling

Grand Canyon University

Phoenix, Arizona

EDUCATION

(2006) Certificate of Graduate Study in Psychiatric Rehabilitation (Courses Completed)

University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina

NPSY 756 Vocational Implications of Psychiatric Disabilities

NPSY 757 Psychopathology for Counselors

NPSY 758 Classification and Assessment of Mental Disorders

NPSY 760 Addictions Rehabilitation

NPSY 761 Dual Disorders

(2005) Ph.D. Counselor Education

Concentration: School Counseling (CACREP-approved program)

The impact of environmental influences on the career choices of African American males:

Aspirations of becoming professional athletes

University of South Carolina, Department of Education Studies

Columbia, South Carolina

(1998) M.Ed., Counselor Education

Elementary and Secondary Counseling

South Carolina State University

Orangeburg, South Carolina

(1988) B.A., Political Science, Pre-Law,

South Carolina State University,

Orangeburg, South Carolina

SCHOLARSHIP AREAS

Online Doctoral Experiences of Students of Color

Pipeline Programs and Career Development of African Americans (K-Graduate/Professional Schools)

Urban School Counseling: Academic School Counselor Advocacy, School Climate and School Culture (Microaggressions)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

(September 2014 – present)

DOCTORAL DISSERTATION CHAIR

CONTENT EXPERT: Cognition and Instruction

College of Doctoral Studies (ONLINE)

Psychology and Counseling

Phoenix, Arizona

- Manage dissertation committee members and methodologists
- Provide oversight to the doctoral learner and the required dissertation processes and procedures
- Provide feedback on dissertation proposals using qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods methodology.
- Support processes and procedures for providing quality dissertations
- Facilitate the IRB process supporting doctoral learner research
- Maintain records and updates as required by the college for each learner, including the dissertation management system.
- Serve as a content expert for doctoral learners in the area of cognition and instruction.

Relative Courses Taught (APA/CACREP -approved)

Grand Canyon University

PSY-825, Advanced Research Design (Online: Qualitative, Quantitative, Mixed Methods)

PSY-955, Dissertation I

PSY-960, Dissertation II

PSY-965, Dissertation III

PSY-966, Research Continuation I

PSY-967, Research Continuation II

PSY-968, Research Continuation III

PSY-969, Research Continuation IV

PSY-970, Research Continuation V

PSY-975, Dissertation Research Continuation

Witherspoon, S. (2015). **Faculty Research Grant**, The Impact of Online Program Delivery on Diminishing Racial Barriers and Obstacles: Experiences of African Americans who earned Their Doctorates from Proprietary Institutions. **\$1,000.00**. Grand Canyon University.

Witherspoon, S., (2015). **Grand Canyon University Scholarly Engagement Grants** *Enhancing the Academic Advocacy of School Counselors: When Lower Achieving Counselees of Color Become High Achieving College Graduates*. National Association of African American Studies Conference, Baton Rouge, LA. **\$1,250.00**.

Courses Taught (APA/CACREP/NCATE -approved)

Walden University: Research and Program Evaluation (Online) Walden University

(September 2013 – August 2014)

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR

Department of Educational Leadership and Counseling
New Jersey City University, Jersey City, NJ

- Revised and designed *COUN 616 Counseling, Consultation, Referral, and Resources in Schools*. Noted by the CACREP Team as the syllabus by which all syllabi in the counseling program should be patterned.
- Taught and supervised masters-level students pursuing school counseling certification and licensed professional counseling (clinical mental health) in live and blended formats.
- Participated in professional service in leadership and advisory capacity by presenting for a Chinese Delegation on Education on “Core Curriculum Standards and the State of NJ”

(January – August 2013)

VISITING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Department of Behavioral Science
Mercy College, Dobbs Ferry, NY

- Designed and taught a 15 week online course for masters-level students pursuing school counseling certification, and mental health counseling licensure.
- Contributed school counseling expertise for NCATE and CACREP self-study for initial accreditation.
- Traveled to satellite campuses (Bronx, NY facility) to teach 1st generation graduate students from the NYC area.

(2012 - 2013)

ADJUNCT ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Department of Educational Foundations and Counseling
Hunter College, New York, NY

- Supervised masters-level internship students (clinical mental health counseling, school counseling, rehabilitation counseling) using a state-of-the art counseling laboratory and technology to assess the counseling skills taught.
- Provided curricula support and instructional design in the area of counseling testing and assessment.
- Participated in professional service in leadership and advisory capacity on a university, department, national, and state level.

(2012 - 2013)

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR

Harold Abel School of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Counseling
Capella University (Online)
Minneapolis, MN

- Facilitated and built an online community among graduate students in school counseling and human development course discussions, active participation among learners in an online delivery.
- Assessed learner engagement, provided appropriate feedback on assignments, as well as coaching and reinforcement of effective critical thinking.
- Mentored graduate students, participates in dissertation committee meetings.
- Actively participated in appropriate department division or university committees.

(2011 -2012)

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Department of Educational Psychology,
Rutgers the State University of New Jersey
New Brunswick, NJ

- Secured a grant for \$3,500.00 to transition a live course to an online format.
- Assisted in providing expertise in school counseling to obtain initial CACREP accreditation.
- Taught and provided academic, career and professional advisement and supervision to masters level students pursuing school counseling certification using live, online, and hybrid format.

(2011 – 2012)

CONTRIBUTING FACULTY

School of Counseling Services
Mental Health Counseling, College of Social and Behavioral
Sciences
Walden University, Minnesota, MN (Online).

- Facilitated course discussions, active participation among learners in an online delivery.
- Mentored graduate students, participated on dissertation committee meetings.
- Assessed learner assignments, providing appropriate feedback, coaching and reinforcement of effective critical thinking.
- Contributed to research, grants and publications as a counselor educator.

(2007 – 2010)

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Educational Leadership, School Counseling & Special Education
Dept.: School Counseling
Monmouth University, West Long Branch, New Jersey.

- Established and maintained scholarship agenda that has secured over \$30,000 in grant funding to support research, publication, and presentation to inform the counseling discipline at professional conferences.
- Taught and provided academic, career and professional advisement and supervision to masters-level students pursuing school counseling, counselor supervision, student affairs and college counseling using live, online, and hybrid format.
- Participated in professional service in leadership and advisory capacity on a university, department, national, and state level.

(2005 – 2007)

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, COORDINATOR, SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM

Western Michigan University
Kalamazoo, Michigan

- Coordinated graduate program in school counseling serving as a liaison between the state department of education, the school counseling community college of education, and local school district.

- Established and maintained scholarship agenda that secured over \$10,000 in grant funding to support research, publication, and presentation to inform the counseling discipline at professional conferences.
- Traveled to teach courses at off-campus sites (WMU – Grand Rapids & Battle Creek)

(June 2004 – August 2004)

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR

Counseling, Human Development, and Educational Leadership
Montclair State University
Montclair, New Jersey

- Instructor for graduate level course *Counseling Theories (COUN 577)*.
- Provided active and cognitive learning opportunities for graduate students in various counseling fields (school, marriage/family, agency, higher education, educational administration).
- Utilized technological instruction as relevant to counseling theory.
- Graded and evaluate student progress.

COUNSELING EXPERIENCE

(January 2012 – August 3, 2012)

FACULTY MENTOR/ADVISOR, Ronald E. McNair
Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program, Rutgers the
State University of New Jersey, Livingston College,
Piscataway, New Jersey

- Served as a Faculty Mentor to McNair Scholars on matriculating into a doctoral program selection process as well as strategies to persist towards college graduation and matriculation into doctoral programs.
- Developed and taught “The Research Proposal” course during the Summer Institute to prepare scholars to submit for research opportunities and doctoral programs.
- Assisted students in completing applications (doctoral programs, fellowships, scholarships, and summer research opportunities) by continuously editing personal statements and relevant application materials such as CVs.
- Assisted the program director in identifying, recruiting, and interviewing potential McNair Scholars, Faculty Mentors, and graduate student support for teaching, mentoring and instruction.

(2002 – 2003)

GRADUATE ASSISTANT, TRIO Upward Bound
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC

- Developed and taught a College Enrichment Course for lower income, first generation high school students.
- Guided students through researching information on college admissions, scholarship opportunities, financial aid, career planning, and college entrance exams
- Presented seminars on time management and study skills.

(January 2002 -April 2002)

DOCTORAL PRACTICUM

Orangeburg-Wilkinson High School
Orangeburg, South Carolina

Provided individual counseling (Academic, Career, Personal-Social) for second year freshmen in jeopardy of being retained in the 9th grade. Students were referred for the following concerns:

- Excessive disruptive behavior in class and poor academic achievement.
- Issues of sexual orientation and aggressive behavior.
- Grief counseling ~ Family dysfunction and lack of appropriate parental supervision.

(1998- 2001)

SCHOOL COUNSELOR

Park Hills Elementary School
Spartanburg, South Carolina

- Coordinated and delivered the first comprehensive school counseling program based on the ASCA National Program Model.
- Counseled counselees using individual, group guidance and small group counseling toward the development of academic, career and personal-social growth.
- Organized a school counseling advisory council that consisted of parents, teachers, community leaders, and social service specialists.

(1995- 1997)

ADMISSIONS COUNSELOR/RECRUITER: Coordinator of Campus Tours

South Carolina State University, Orangeburg, SC

- First coordinator of campus tours for individuals, families, and student groups.
- Achieved program goal of recruiting over 800 students into a university freshman class.
- Evaluated prospective student applications and recommended admissions decisions.
- Recruited from college fairs, high schools, and 2-year colleges.
- Assisted in the organization of special university recruitment and promotional events.

(January 1995- August 1995)

EMPLOYMENT/PEER COUNSELOR: "Alliance for Successful Teen Employment Program"

Middlesex County College, New Brunswick, NJ

- Recruited and trained over 200 high school and college students in a pre-employment training program.
- Achieved program goal of placing over 150 high school and college students in employment opportunities.
- Presented curriculum on resume writing, interviewing techniques, and positive self-image.
- Interviewed and screened participants for job readiness in summer internships.
- Developed job opportunities and provided follow-up with participating employers.

DISTINCTIONS/HONORS/AWARDS/

- 2006 Southern Regional Education Board, Atlanta, Georgia
- 2005 Service Grant Award \$500
- 2004-2005 Dissertation Fellowship, \$15,000

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND LEADERSHIP

- American Educational Research Association (AERA) (2005 – present)
 - Division E: Counseling and Human Development
 - ***New Faculty Mentoring Program, mentee – AERA 2009 Conference***
 - SIG: Doctoral Education, Online Teaching & Learning, Research Focus on Black Education
 - Proposal Reviewer – 2008
- American Counseling Association (ACA) (2004 – present)
 - Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES)
 - North Atlantic Regional Association for Counselor Education and Supervision
 - North Central Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (NCACES)
 - ***Executive Council – State Representative – 2005 – 2007***
- American School Counselor Association (ASCA) (2005 – present)
- New Jersey School Counseling Association (2005 – present)
- New Jersey Center for the Advancement of School Counseling (NJCASC) (2008-2009)
- New Brunswick Education Foundation, ***Vice President, Board of Directors*** (2008-present)
- ***Liaison, School Counselor Educators Discussion Group***, Michigan Department of Education (2005 – 2007: University representative)

Editorial Boards

- Proposal Reviewer (2015) Black Doctoral Network Conference
- Professional School Counseling Journal (2006 - 2008) Journal/Conference Reviewer
- American Educational Research Association, Proposal Reviewer (2008)
- Illinois Career Development Association - ***Ad hoc reviewer***, Special Issue, Toward a Life Work: Courage, Creativity, and Collaboration (2006)

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

Henfield, M.S. & Owens, D., & **Witherspoon, S.** (2011). African American in Counselor Education Programs: Perceptions of Their Experiences. *Counselor Education and Supervision*. 50:4, 226-242.

Henfield, M.S. & **Witherspoon, S.** (2006). Counseling gifted African American females. *The Counseling Interviewer*, 38, 29-35.

Witherspoon, S. (2005). *Special Issue: Counseling African American Adolescents. Transitions: A Peer Mentorship Group for African American Males" Minnesota School Counseling Association, The Counseling Interviewer, 37.4, 23-29.*

Book Case Studies

Witherspoon, S. (2007). "Bad As He Wants to Be" In Larry Golden and Patricia Henderson (Ed.) *Case Studies in School Counseling*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Merrill Prentice Hall, Publishers.

Witherspoon, S. (2003). "Given A Second Chance" In L. Flowers (Ed.), *Diversity Issues in Higher Education: Case Studies for Higher Education and Student Affairs Professionals*, Chapter 3—Race and Ethnicity Case Studies, Springfield, IL: Charles C. Thomas Publishers.

PAPERS/POSTERS/PRESENTATIONS/WORKSHOPS/KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Witherspoon, S., (February, 2015). *Enhancing the Flipped Learning Experience of Non-Traditional, First Generation Graduate Students of Color: Implications for Student Engagement.* National Association of African American Studies Conference, Baton Rouge, LA

Witherspoon, S., (February, 2015). *Enhancing the Academic Advocacy of School Counselors: When Lower Achieving Counselees of Color Become High Achieving College Graduates.* National Association of African American Studies Conference, Baton Rouge, LA

Witherspoon, S., (October, 2014). *Enhancing the Academic Advocacy of School Counselors: When Lower Achieving Counselees of Color Become High Achieving College Graduates.* New Jersey School Counseling Association Fall Conference, Long Branch, NJ.

Witherspoon, S., (October, 2014). *Enhancing the Academic Advocacy of School Counselors: When Lower Achieving Counselees of Color Become High Achieving College Graduates.* Black Doctoral Network, Inc. Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

Witherspoon, S., (May, 2014). *Bringing a Doctoral Reality to Undergraduate McNair Scholars: Transition, Resistance, and Pursuit.* Association for Equality and Excellence in Education, Inc. Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Witherspoon, S., (October, 2013). "UNTENURED" *lessons from a scholar of color who never got tenure...and knows why, The Compact of Faculty Diversity's Institute of Teaching and Mentoring.* Arlington, VA.

Invited

Witherspoon, S., (December, 2013). *Common Core Curriculum Standards in the State of New Jersey. Consortium of Chinese Educators.* New Jersey City University, Jersey City, NJ.

Witherspoon, S., (October, 2013). *Education in the United States of America, Consortium of Chinese Educators.* New Jersey City University, Jersey City, NJ.

Witherspoon, S., (October, 2013). Convocation Address, Senior Class of 2014, New Brunswick High School, New Brunswick, NJ.

Witherspoon, S., (September, 2013). *“I Hate Black People”...Engaging All Students in a Welcoming School Climate*. Central Jersey Consortium for Diversity. Monmouth University, West Long Branch, NJ.

Witherspoon, S., (July, 2013). *Career Development Forum (A.M.A.R.D. &V) Artists Mentoring Against Racism, Drugs and Violence: Healing Through the Arts Summer Camp Career Panel*, Douglass Residential College of Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ.

Witherspoon, S., (June 2012). *Educating Minority Males in Grades 4-8*. Rutgers Institute for Improving Student Achievement Summer Institute., New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Witherspoon, S., (May 2012). *Parent Engagement and the First Generation College Student: Strategies and Implementations for Program Leadership in Pre-Post College Pipeline Programs.*, Association for Equality and Excellence in Education, Inc. Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Witherspoon, S., (October 2011). ***Opening Session and Keynote Address***, The Compact on Faculty Diversity’s Institute on Teaching and Mentoring, Atlanta, GA.

Witherspoon, S., (August, 2011). *Career Development Forum (A.M.A.R.D. &V) Artists Mentoring Against Racism, Drugs and Violence: Healing Through the Arts Summer Camp Career Panel*, Douglass Residential College of Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ.

Witherspoon, S., (April 2011). ***Keynote Address***, National Honor Society Induction Ceremony, New Brunswick High School, New Brunswick, NJ.

GRANTS AND RESEARCH PROPOSALS

External

Witherspoon, S. (2012). Self-Efficacy as a Factor Impacting African American Male Attorneys’ Completion of Law School: Implications for Participation and/or Non-Participation in Legal Career Pipeline Programs. **Grant Proposal (\$95, 930.00)**: Law School Admissions Council Pipeline Research Grant.

Internal

Witherspoon, S. (2015). **Faculty Research Grant**, *Invisibility Syndrome: How Online Doctoral Programs May Diminish Racial Barriers Experienced By Doctoral Students of Color in Traditional Doctoral Programs*. **\$1,000.00**. Grand Canyon University.

Witherspoon, S., (2015). **Grand Canyon University Scholarly Engagement Grants** *Enhancing the Academic Advocacy of School Counselors: When Lower Achieving Counselees of*

Color Become High Achieving College Graduates. National Association of African American Studies Conference, Baton Rouge, LA. **\$1,250.00**.

Witherspoon, S. (2015). **Grand Canyon University Scholarly Engagement Grants, Enhancing the Flipped Learning Experience of Non-Traditional, First Generation Graduate Students of Color: Implications for Student Engagement**. National Association of African American Studies Conference, Baton Rouge, LA. **\$1,250.00**.

Witherspoon, S. (2011). Faculty Resource Development, Hybrid Course Conversion Grant, Award - **\$3,500.00**.

Witherspoon, S. (2008). Pathways: A Qualitative Analysis of African American Women's Career Trajectory In S.T.E.M.-based careers: Influencing the Career Exploration of African American Girls. Grant-in-Aid, Monmouth University, Awarded 2009 – **\$1,300.00**

Witherspoon, S. (2008). Service Research Grant, *Initiative to Steer African American Girls to Explore S.T.E.M.* (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Based Careers, Southern Regional Education Board, (**\$500**).

Witherspoon, S. (2007) Research Proposal Submission, *From Roots to STEM: Examining an Initiative to Steer Girls to Explore S.T.E.M.* (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Based Careers Faculty Research and Creative Activities Support Fund (FRACASF), Western Michigan University, (**\$10,000.00**).

Courses Taught (CACREP/APA-approved)

Grand Canyon University

PSY-825, Advanced Research Design (Online: Qualitative, Quantitative, Mixed Methods)

PSY-955, Dissertation I

PSY-960, Dissertation II

PSY-965, Dissertation III

PSY-966, Research Continuation I

PSY-967, Research Continuation II

PSY-968, Research Continuation III

PSY-969, Research Continuation IV

PSY-970, Research Continuation V

PSY-975, Dissertation Research Continuation

Professional Issues & Ethics in Counseling

Counseling Theories

Human Development

Career Counseling and Development

Group Counseling: Theory and Counseling Theory Practice

Tests and Measurement

Introduction to School Counseling

School Counseling Programming & Practice

Counseling, Consultation, Referral, and Resources in Schools
Practicum in School Counseling
Internship in School Counseling I
Internship in School Counseling II
Internship in Clinical Mental Health Counseling
Counseling the College Bound Student (Online/Course Developer & Facilitator)
Introduction to Counseling & Interviewing Skills
Introduction to College Counseling & Student Affairs

Walden University: Research and Program Evaluation (Online) Walden University

Doctoral Committee Chair/Memberships

Rolanda Bowman, General Psychology, Grand Canyon University (2015 – present)

Cleata Brown, General Psychology, Grand Canyon University (2015 – present)

Kuterah L. Donald, Ph.D., Leadership in Educational Administration, Capella University (2013-2014)

Carolyn Dorsey-Durepo, General Psychology, Grand Canyon University (2015 – present)

Lacretia Dye, Ph.D., Counselor Education, Western Michigan University (2006 – 2007)

Timothy Feltmeyer, Grand Canyon University (2014 – present)

Anthony Fusco, General Psychology, Grand Canyon University (2014 – present)

Mary Hanna, General Psychology Grand Canyon University (2015 – present)

Frederick Ingersoll, General Psychology, Grand Canyon University (2015 – present)

Danielle Keller, General Psychology, Grand Canyon University (2015 – present)

Kevin Kilborn, General Psychology, Grand Canyon University (2014)

Stephaney Morrison, Ph.D., Counselor Education, Western Michigan University (2006 – 2007)

Carrie O'donnell, General Psychology, Grand Canyon University (2015)

Margery Runyan, Ph.D., Human Services, Capella University (2008)

Cynthia Stuart, Ph.D., Human Services, Capella University (2008)

Craig T. Tyson, Ph.D., Counselor Education, University of South Carolina (2007)

Terryl Vahsholtz, General Psychology, Grand Canyon University (2014 – present)

Patricia Washington, General Psychology, Grand Canyon University (2015 – present)

Stephanie Wilson, General Psychology, Grand Canyon University (2014 – present)

COMMUNITY/UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES AND SERVICE

Rutgers University

Program: School Counseling Advisory Board (2011 – 2012)

Monmouth University (2008 – 2010)

University: Human Relations Advisory Council; Governance Committee (elected)

School of Education: *Co-Advisor*, Mu Upsilon Omega chapter, Chi Sigma Iota International Counseling Academic Honor Society (2008-2009)

Departmental Coordinator, Substance Abuse Coordinator endorsement (2007-2009)

Western Michigan University (2005-2007)

University/College of Education Service: Professional Educators Board

Departmental Service: Counselor Education Training Committee

Co-Chair, Admissions Committee

Professional Service (2008-2010)

New Jersey Center for the Advancement of School Counseling (NJCASC) Kean University
Consultant-Mentor, Trenton Central High School, Trenton, New Jersey

Southern Region Education Board: Mentoring and Dissertation Support Group (MADSG)

CONSULTING

(2010) *Preparing for Graduate School*, McNair Scholars, Bloomfield College, Bloomfield, NJ

(2007) Lincoln International Elementary School, Kalamazoo, MI – Anger Management:
Assistance needed with African American male 1st grade students.

REFERENCES

Ansley Abraham, Ph.D., Director
SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Program
Southern Regional Education Board
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Department of Educational Leadership, School Counseling,
& Special Education
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