



VCU

School of Education

Speed Sharing Profiles

**Dr. Jose G. Alcaine**

Office of Research and Faculty Development

Research Interests: Higher education policy, university administration, university leadership, college access and funding, universities as change agents, and how universities interact with their surrounding communities in economic, social and regional development

Current Projects: Research development, programming, and institutional capacity

**Dr. Christine L. Bae**

Foundations of Education

Research Interests: Cognition, engagement, individual differences in learning, STEM education in diverse contexts

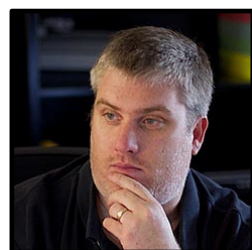
Current Projects: Middle school science education (PD, science instruction, and student engagement and learning), Urban Teacher Residency Model (elementary teaching, student outcomes in cognitive and affective domains), Retrieval-based study strategies for long-term retention

**Dr. Thomas H. Beatty**

Child Development Center

Research Interests: Early Childhood Education, Teacher Quality

Current Projects: Longitudinal Evaluation of Early Language, Cognition, and Mathematics (collaboration); Characteristics of Private Preschool Education Programs that Attract and Retain High Quality Teachers (student capstone)

**Dr. Jon Becker**

Department of Educational Leadership

Research Interests: Distance education - critical policy analysis; the student experience

Current Projects: I have a grant proposal out to do an autophenomenographic study of distance education. I have a massive dataset of tweets using "my online course/class" on which I will do a semantic analysis to see what students are saying on social media about their experiences with distance education. Finally, I am looking to do a critical policy analysis of the new Online Virginia Network.

**Dr. Risha Berry**

Office of the Dean

Research Interests: Institutionalized racism, structural racism, systems theory, poverty

Current Projects: Developing a prospectus for the iCubed Social Justice Core in collaboration with the School of Social Work and Wilder School; submitting articles for publication related to organizational containment (structural barriers Black principals may encounter related to their career pathway)



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**Dr. Mike Broda**

Department of Foundations of Education

Research Interests: "Thorny" statistical problems (repeated measures, nested data, missing data, difficult to measure concepts), effective use of statistical modeling, randomized trials, technology use as intervention

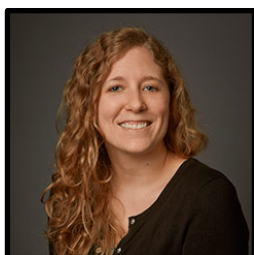
Current Projects: A few - examining the longitudinal development of self-efficacy in elementary and secondary writers; examining the relationship between perfectionism, social support, and anxiety/depression in VCU undergrads; examining the predictors of social wellbeing for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities

**Dr. Jason Chow**

Department of Counseling and Special Education

Research Interests: Language development, math intervention, cognition, classroom behavior, meta-analysis, learning sciences

Current Projects: Developmental studies in math, language, and cognition, meta-analyses, relations between mathematical knowledge, anxiety, and teaching, behavior management interventions for speech-language pathologists, teacher language complexity and mathematical input

**Dr. Katherine Dabney**

Department of Teaching and Learning

Research Interests: Formal and informal educational experiences that influence achievement, literacy and eventually persistence in science-related career fields, especially among underrepresented groups in STEM

Current Projects: NSF AISL Project EXPLORE (Exploring Longitudinal Research on Out-of-school Time Experiences in STEM)

**Dr. Andrew Daire**

Dean's Office

Research Interests: Couple and family stress and its influence on health outcomes. Secondary research area is in the application of career development theory and interventions with STEM recruitment and retention.

Current Projects: I have data from a previous grant with over 6,000 participants where we examine the impact of brief couple and relationship education (CRE) interventions on individual and couple stress, influence of CRE interventions on those with chronic illness, and strategies to increase family and economic stability and mobility in economically marginalized populations.

**Carla Dannouf**

Literacy Institute – VALRC

Research Interests: Grants management

Current Projects: Grant administration



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**Dr. Parthy Dinora**

Partnership for People with Disabilities

Research Interests: Family decision making about services and supports for children with disabilities, intervention research for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) (abuse prevention, health literacy), predictors of enhanced outcomes for adults who use Medicaid I/DD services, research/evaluation methods & measures that address the specific needs of adults with I/DD

Current Projects: Intervention research for adults with I/DD (abuse prevention, health literacy); predictors of enhanced outcomes for adults who use Medicaid I/DD services; several projects related to adult services and supports for people with I/DD

**Dr. Terry Dozier**

Center for Teacher Leadership/Dept. of Teaching and Learning

Research Interests: Mentoring; teacher leadership; residency model of teacher preparation; National Board Certification

Current Projects: Richmond Teacher Residency; Support for teachers going through National Board Certification; teacher leadership training; New Teacher Center mentoring model; Clinical Faculty program

**Dr. Tomika Ferguson**

Department of Educational Leadership

Research Interests: Equity and access, women of color (undergraduate), student-athletes, higher education

Current Projects: Evaluating the success of the Black Athlete Sister Circle Program, K-12 administrators preparation for conversations about cultural awareness and race, equity within athletics

**Dr. Philip Gnilka**

Department of Counseling and Special Education

Research Interests: Personality, Perfectionism, Stress, Coping/Wellness, College Student Adjustment

Current Projects: Perfectionism, Stress, Coping/Wellness projects

**Joanne Huebner**

The Literacy Institute at VCU/Virginia Adult Learning Resource Center

Research Interests: Adult Learning and Development; Adult Literacy; Workforce Development; Adult English Language Learning

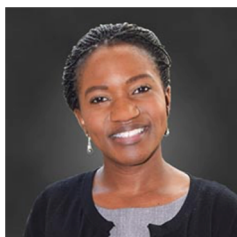
Current Projects: Strategic Writing Instruction for Adults; Department of Education Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education Professional Development/Leadership Grant; Career Pathways for Individuals with Disabilities Grant; VCCS Road to Success in Virginia Program Grant; VCCS SNAP Education & Training Grant



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Dr. Kaprea Johnson

Counseling & Special Education

Research Interests: Health disparities, youth mental health, academic achievement, resiliency, integrated behavioral health care, interprofessional collaboration, diversity and social justice, multiculturalism, school counseling, mental health counseling, counselor education and supervision

Current Projects: Women Therapist in Interprofessional Spaces; How to screen for social determinants of health (SDOH) in therapy



Dr. W. Monty Jones

Department of Teaching and Learning

Research Interests: Teacher learning of instructional technology, teacher learning of online and hybrid teaching, digital fabrication, maker technologies, maker-centered learning

Current Projects: VCU Community Engagement Grant (3D printing in elementary classrooms), Maker-centered professional development for K-12 teachers, Exploring the perceptions of inservice teachers in a virtual field experience



Dr. Jim McMillan

Department of Foundations of Education

Research Interests: Classroom assessment

Current Projects: Students' assessment mistakes; classroom assessment literacy

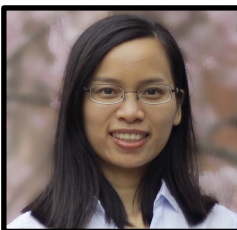


Dr. Bill Muth

Department of Teaching and Learning

Research Interests: Qualitative, phenomenology, incarcerated fathers, multimodal literacy

Current Projects: Book on Family Reentry



Yali Pang

Partnership for People with Disabilities

Research Interests: Nonprofit management, Cultural agility, Social equity

Current Projects: Diversity Fellowship Project on Cultural Brokering Model for Culturally Diverse Families of Children with Disabilities



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**Dr. Hillary Parkhouse**

Department of Teaching and Learning

Research Interests: Youth activism, citizenship education, critical pedagogy, inclusive and just schooling

Current Projects: professional development for success in culturally diverse schools (MERC mixed methods study); undocuALLY teachers (qualitative case study); the impact of critical pedagogy on patriotism (ethnographic case study)

**Dr. Maïke Philipsen**

Department of Foundations of Education

Research Interests: Faculty Work Life; Work-Life integration in Higher Education; Organizational Change

Current Projects: Immunity to Change: Why Higher Education is so Slow to Change

**Dr. Gabriel Reich**

Department of Teaching and Learning

Research Interests: Historical consciousness, history assessment, history teaching

Current Projects: Study of 10th graders' historical consciousness of Monument Avenue; design-based research study of history assessment PD; literature review of critical historical inquiry in secondary classrooms

**Dr. Val Robnolt**

Department of Teaching and Learning

Research Interests: Close reading as an instructional literacy strategy, ways of providing professional development

Current Projects: Close reading implementation project

**Dr. Kathleen Rudasill**

Office of Research and Faculty Development

Research Interests: temperament, teacher-child relationships, mental health in school, classroom quality

Current Projects: IES Goal 3 project to study the efficacy of INSIGHTS into Children's Temperament in rural Nebraska



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**Dr. Michelle Schmitt**

Center for School-Community Collaboration/Dept. of Counselor and Special Education

Research Interests: Positive Youth Development; the avoidance of substance misuse, bullying, gang violence, delinquency, etc. After-school programming. Program development and evaluation

Current Projects: Virginia Tiered Systems of Supports (VTSS; MTSS nationally)

**Dr. Jesse Senechal**

Metropolitan Educational Research Consortium/Dept. of Foundations of Education

Research Interests: Teacher Professionalism, Research Use, Equity and Social Justice

Current Projects: New Teacher Development in RTR, Achieving Equity in School Discipline Policies and Practices, Professional Development for Success in Culturally Diverse Schools, Evaluation of CodeRVA Regional High School

**Dr. Genevieve Siegel-Hawley**

Department of Educational Leadership

Research Interests: Relationship between schools and society, education policy, race and stratification in schools, school choice

Current Projects: Study of four Richmond area schools engaging in intentional policy and practice to support diverse and equitable education; study of race-conscious educational policies and civil rights under the Trump Administration, national study of the impact of school district secession on racial and economic segregation in schools and housing

**Dr. Kevin Sutherland**

Department of Counseling and Special Education

Research Interests: Intervention research; implementation research; fidelity measurement; intervention development

Current Projects: BEST in CLASS - Elementary (small RCT); BEST in CLASS - Web (intervention adaptation/development); Measurement project (early childhood treatment integrity measures); Middle school violence prevention and positive youth development

**Dr. Adai Tefera**

Department of Foundations of Education

Research Interests: Equity in education, education policy/special education policy, knowledge mobilization/research use

Current Projects: Racial disproportionality in the placement and disciplining of students of color in special education



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**Dr. Colleen Thoma**

Office of the Dean/Department of Counseling and Special Education

Research Interests: Transition education/assessment; access to the general education curriculum in high school; postsecondary education for students with IDD; disability policy

Current Projects: Cost-benefit analysis of postsecondary education; linking transition and academic education using a UDL/UDT approach; personnel preparation related to disability policy

**Dr. Lisa Webb**

Office of the Vice President for Health Sciences/Department of Teaching and Learning

Research Interests: Disability studies and access to higher education/underrepresented student services in health sciences

Current Projects: Impact evaluation of VCU Pipeline Programs (qualitative study); Program evaluation of summer college readiness program for students who are blind or vision-impaired

**Dr. Naomi Wheeler**

Department of Counseling and Special Education

Research Interests: Family stress, health, ACE

Current Projects: Examine the role of ACE and couple distress for immune functioning and health

**Dr. Jeff Wilson**

Department of Educational Leadership

Research Interests: Diversity, Higher Education, Cultural Competency

Current Projects: Diversity Audit in higher education, cultural competency

**Dr. Yaoying Xu**

Department of Counseling and Special Education

Research Interests: Linking assessment to intervention, social validity in single subject research, social skills and language development of English learners

Current Projects: Project KSR



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Dr. Sharon Zumbrunn

Department of Foundations of Education

Research Interests: Motivation, Self-Regulation, Writing, Participatory Action Research

Current Projects: Longitudinal Study of Student Writing Motivation and Self-Regulation; Strategic Writing Instruction for Adults; MetaScriptor: Using Technology for Mindful Writing



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Affiliated Centers



Center for School-Community Collaboration

Director: Dr. Michelle Schmitt

Website: <http://www.cscs.soe.vcu.edu/>

Our Center for School-Community Collaboration helps address social and community issues (such as bullying, youth alcohol/drug use, and youth violence) that can affect children's performance in schools.



Center for Teacher Leadership

Director: Dr. Terry Dozier

Website: <http://www.ctl.vcu.edu/>

Our Center for Teacher Leadership believes that one of the fastest ways to improve student learning is to support and develop the teachers themselves, transforming them into confident, passionate leaders.

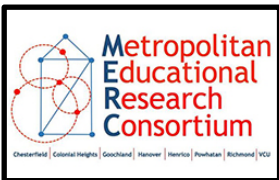


Child Development Center

Interim director: Dr. Thomas Beatty

Website: <http://www.cdc.soe.vcu.edu/>

The Child Development Center offers full-day care and developmentally-appropriate education for the families of VCU faculty, staff and students.



Metropolitan Educational Research Consortium

Interim director: Dr. Jesse Senechal

Website: <http://www.merc.soe.vcu.edu/>

The Metropolitan Educational Research Consortium connects the VCU School of Education with seven local school divisions in order to plan and conduct research (and disseminate findings) that directly address school and community needs.



Partnership for People with Disabilities

Director: Dr. Donna Gilles

Website: <http://www.partnership.vcu.edu/>

The goal of the Partnership for People with Disabilities is to improve the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities by helping them become more self-sufficient at home, at work and in their communities.



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Rehabilitation Research and Training Center

Director: Dr. Paul Wehman

Websites: <http://vcurrtc.org/> and

<http://worksupport.com/>

Our Rehabilitation Research and Training Center aims to improve employment opportunities and quality of life in the workforce for individuals with disabilities.



The Literacy Institute

Director: Cynthia Hutchinson (ExCELL)

Director: Joanne Huebner (VALRC)

Website: <http://www.theliteracyinstitute.org/>

The aim of The Literacy Institute at VCU is to combat the issue of illiteracy in Virginia. A partnership between the School of Education, VCU's Center for Public Policy and the Virginia Literacy Foundation, The Literacy Institute conducts research and creates programs to tackle illiteracy across all ages — from early childhood to adult education.