

Paula Michele White

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Educational History

University of Houston, Houston, Texas

Degree: **Ph.D.** May 2000
Major: Educational Psychology – Individual Differences
Dissertation: Promoting the Mathematics Achievement, Self-Efficacy, and Cognitive Development of At-Risk Adolescents through Deliberate Psychological Education (Chairperson: John Gaa, Ph.D.)

University of Colorado at Boulder, Boulder, Colorado

Degree: **M.A.**, with Honors May 1989
Major: Mathematics Curriculum and Instruction

University of Denver, Denver, Colorado

Degree: **B.S.** June 1982
Major: Mathematics
Minor: Computer Science
Honors: University Scholars Award 1980 – 1982

Teaching Experience

Professor of Education Fall 2010–current
Associate Professor of Education Fall 2004–Spring 2010
Assistant Professor of Education Fall 2000–Spring 2004

Ohio Wesleyan University

Develop and teach courses in Educational Psychology, Middle School Methods, Middle School Mathematics Methods, and Secondary Mathematics Methods. Also, observe candidates in schools, work with advisees, and participate in departmental and professional meetings. Align courses with state and national standards for teacher education.

Director Middle Childhood Teacher Education Program August 2001 – current

Ohio Wesleyan University

Arrange and confirm placements in the local schools for field experience candidates and student teachers. Conduct mid-term and final conferences during both pre-student teaching and student teaching, as well as observe the candidates in their placements. Write and assemble various documents for the State Department and for national accreditation of the Middle Childhood Teacher Education Program

Courses Taught at Ohio Wesleyan University

Teaching for Equity and Social Justice – *EDUC 100.2 (new course Spring 2011)
 Psychological Foundations of Education – EDUC251
 Middle School Principles and Practices – EDUC341
 Middle School Seminar: Field Experience – EDUC349
 Middle School Methods: Mathematics – EDUC345
 High School Methods: Mathematics – EDUC365
 Pedagogy of Teaching Algebra – EDUC300.1 (Temporary Summer Course)
 Middle School Student Teaching – EDUC481, 482, 483
 Middle School Student Teaching Seminar – EDUC484

Other Professional Experience

Aerospace Software Engineer

February 1984-February 1986

Martin Marietta Corporation

Designed, coded, tested, and implemented the integration and documentation of scientific software.

Associate Aerospace Software Engineer

Hughes Aircraft Company

July 1982-February 1984

Designed, coded, tested, and implemented the integration and documentation of database software.

Designed and developed a Math Library in Assembly Language.

Scholarly Work

National TPA Middle Level Design Team

Collaborate with other middle level professionals to develop a nation-wide Teacher Performance Assessment (TPA) for student teachers in grades 5-8. As a part of the recent reforms in teacher education, the state adopted the TPA as a high-stakes capstone experience for student teachers graduating from an approved teacher education program in Ohio. As one of six individuals selected from a nation-wide pool, each individual had to have a strong knowledge of middle level pedagogy, curriculum, and assessment as well as prior leadership experience.

Upward Bound External Reviewer

Serve as the external reviewer for Ohio Wesleyan's Upward Bound Program. The purpose of the review was fourfold: (1) to determine if the Program was being implemented according to the originally designed plan, using the resources and services proposed, (2) to monitor Program compliance with the U.S. Department of Education's Annual Performance Report and the requirements of GEPA, (3) to determine if the four program objectives were being met, and (4) to provide feedback for program improvement. An analysis of the Program's effectiveness in regards to each evaluation purpose was also provided to Upward Bound.

NCATE/NMSA Program Reviewer

Review Program Reports submitted to National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education and the National Middle School Association (NCATE/NMSA). All teacher education programs seeking

national recognition for their curricular program which prepares future teachers to teach young adolescents submit their program for review to NCATE/NMSA. The review process requires that reviewers receive regular training the preparation standards, as well as curriculum development and assessment.

NCATE Coordinator

Coordinate the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) activities for the Ohio Wesleyan University's Education Department/Unit. Develop "model" accreditation reports for the Unit. Support and guide the updates of the Unit's Conceptual Framework as well as the updates of detailed narratives for the six NCATE standards. Support the collection, aggregation, and dissemination of data that demonstrates the Unit meets the NCATE Standards.

Create an electronic evidence room to support the Spring 2011 NCATE accreditation visit.

Article

White, P., Ross, D., Miller, J, Mis, R., & Henessy-Jones, K. (2009). *Ohio's middle childhood licensure study*. Manuscript under review.

This article was submitted for publication to the journal *Research in Middle Level Education Online (RMLE Online)*. *RMLE Online* is an international peer-reviewed research journal published by National Middle School Association. The journal publishes quantitative and qualitative studies, case studies, action research studies, research syntheses, integrative reviews, and interpretations of research literature. NMSA's Research Advisory Board provides guidance for the publication. The Middle Level Education Research (MLER) Special Interest Group of the American Educational Research Association (AERA) endorses *RMLE Online*. This article submission was based on the research study, "Ohio's Middle Level Licensure Study," conducted by OMLP and describe below under "Presentations."

The Ohio Middle Level Professors Association (OMLP) formed a research team to conduct a qualitative study that described the teaching practices of Ohio's (grades 4-9) middle childhood licensed teachers. The research study was a collaborative state-wide project beginning with fifteen middle-level professors from various teaching institutions across Ohio and concluding with five middle-level professors. Originally, one of the main purposes of this research was to articulate to the Ohio State Department of Education the need for the grades 4-9 licensure. However upon analysis of the interviews, the data suggested important implications for middle-level teacher educators.

Presentations

The research team from the Ohio Middle Level Professors Association presented our research entitled "Ohio's Middle Level Licensure Study" at the *National Middle School Conference* in Indianapolis on November 5, 2009. This is the premier conference for middle school stakeholders, teachers, teacher educators, administrators and researchers.

Ohio Middle Level Professors Association (OMLP) research team presented our research entitled "Ohio's Middle Level Licensure Study" at the *National Symposium on Middle-Level*

Teacher Preparation in Las Vegas, Nevada on April 25, 2009. This symposium is for higher education faculty who prepare preservice teachers to work in middle schools. The focus of the symposium is research that supports best practice for preparing middle-level teachers.

Conduct Tutor Trainings for the Upward Bound Program – Summer 2008, Summer 2009. In addition, developed and presented a Tutor Training program for OWU’s Academic Skills Center. These trainings draw on my understanding of tutoring as well as pedagogy of teaching.

Presented a Universal Design Training for the Education Department Faculty - December 4, 2008. Dr. Lydia Block and I provided an overview of the universal design principles as well as concrete examples of these principles within the college classroom. Additionally, we facilitated the sharing of ideas about how to incorporate universal design principles into one’s course. The universal design principles are extremely practical and relevant for PreK-12 teacher as well; thus, we discussed modeling these practices in our methods courses.

Presented a session entitled “Peer Tutoring – A Tool for Closing the Achievement Gap!” at the 11th Urban Conference on Middle Level Initiatives in Pittsburgh, PA on March 8, 2002. This session examined the research supporting peer tutoring programs, focusing on the reported benefits of peer tutoring. The session also provided educators with practical suggestions for implementing tutoring programs within their schools. This presentation drew on my research and professional interest in peer tutoring programs.

Database Developer

Using the expertise that I gained as a software engineer and my knowledge of teacher education, I developed the Education Database. The database has then been designed to produce reports that indicate individual student’s performance levels, aggregated licensure specific (early childhood, middle childhood, adolescent-young adult, multi-age) performance levels, and aggregated data about the overall Education Unit’s performance level.

Reviewer

Reviewer for the *Ohio Middle School Journal*. The *Ohio Middle School Journal* (OMSJ) is published to meet the ongoing professional needs of teacher educators, teachers and principals who are actively involved middle level education on a daily basis in Ohio's educational institutions. The journal is peer-reviewed and is published up to three times each year.

Served as a Reviewer for the textbook “Teaching in the Middle School” by Manning and Bucher for Merrill/Prentice Hall. Supplied the authors with relevant, up-to-date information about effective middle school practices.

Work with School Districts

Serve as a Trained Praxis III Assessor for the State of Ohio. Observe first year teachers to assess their knowledge and skills in the following domains: Planning – ability to plan relevant, challenging, and developmentally appropriate lessons; Environment – ability to create an encouraging and appropriate classroom environment; Teaching – ability to make content comprehensible to all

learners; and Professionalism – ability to work with families and colleagues as well as reflective on the effectiveness of one’s teaching.

Professional Activities

Memberships

American Educational Research Association
 National Council Teachers of Mathematics
 National Middle School Association
 National Association of Multicultural Education
 Ohio Middle Level Professors Association
 Kappa Delta Pi
 Ohio Wesleyan University – President’s Commission on Racial and Cultural Diversity
 Ohio Wesleyan University – Academic Policy Committee
 Ohio Wesleyan University and Junior League of Columbus (OWjL) Advisory Board

Leadership

Education Unit Chair	Current
NCATE Coordinator – Education Unit	2009-Current
Co-Chair – President’s Commission on Racial and Cultural Diversity	2006 -Current
Past-President – Ohio Middle Level Professors Association	2009-2011
Treasurer – Ohio Middle Level Professors Association	2011-current
Chapter Counselor, Kappa Delta Pi.	Fall 2002-Spring 2009
Faculty Advisor - Habitat for Humanity Spring Break Mission Trips	Spring 2010, 2008, 2006, 2005, 2003, 2001

Awards/Honors

Awarded - <i>Teaching and Learning Pedagogical Travel Grants</i>	Fall 2010, Fall 2008, Fall 2006, Spring 2006, Fall 2003, Spring 2003, Spring 2002, Spring 2001
Selected – To be a member of the <i>Diversity Working Group</i> Which attend the GLCA Diversity Summit in Toledo	Spring 2008
Selected - To become a member of the <i>OWU Pass It Group</i> which focuses on training us to help other faculty create more welcoming spaces for all students by rethinking professional practices to develop curricula and programs that are inclusive for all learners.	Fall 2007
Awarded – <i>TEW Presidential Grant</i> for Pedagogical Travel to Beijing, China to study Teacher Education	Spring 2005

Honors – Participated in the First Annual Lilly Grant
Faculty Retreat for the Theological
Discernment of Vocation

Summer 2004

Licensure Areas

Texas: Lifetime. Endorsed for Secondary Mathematics (Grades 6-12)

Colorado: Type A. Endorsed for Secondary Mathematics

Florida: Adult Education - Endorsed for Mathematics and Computer Science