

Mona Williams Thornton, Ed.D.

Work Address: Southern Wesleyan University School of Education 907 Wesleyan Drive Central, SC 29630 (864) 644-5353 mthornton@swu.edu

Home Address: 715 Wesleyan Drive Central, SC 29630 (803) 317-5353 (cell) eceguru2@gmail.com

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

Over 40 years of experience in the fields of Early Childhood / Elementary Education and Child and Family Studies. Generated \$1 million in revenue for program creation, maintenance and continuation: Project Director, Principal Investigator and Mentor for three Federal grants. Solid experience in administration: Department Chair for fourteen years- six years for the Department of Early Childhood Education; three years for the Department of Consumer and Family Studies (NSU), six years Department of Education, Child and Family Studies. (BC) Responsible for the Program Review for NCATE for two professional organizations- NAEYC, National Association for the Education of Young Children and ACEI- Association for Childhood Education International. Served as Chair for the Department of Early Childhood through the restructuring of Teacher Education in the eighties, Coordinated the Program Review of the MAT initial certification for NCATE, which provided certification for Pre-K to 6th grade. Over 35 years of teaching at the higher education level. Worked in four-university laboratory schools, created and directed one for twenty-seven years. Also, directed an early development program for a university hospital. Most recently, Director of Teacher Education; NCATE/CAEP Coordinator and Executive Director of the Benedict College Child Development Center (BC)

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- 1978 **Doctor of Education – Early Childhood Education**
Dissertation – “A Behavioral Assessment of Racial Attitudes in White Preschool Children”
University of Massachusetts-Amherst Amherst, MA
- 1975 **Guidance and Counseling (18 hours)**
Howard University Washington, DC
- 1972 **Master of Science – Child Development**
Thesis – “Language Development in Preschool Children”
Howard University Washington, DC
- 1971 **Bachelor of Science - Child Development**
Howard University Washington, DC

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RECOGNITION

- 1982 CIC Research Institute in the Social Sciences, Indiana University

- 1986 Lyman B. Brooks Memorial Award, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity
- 1990 Fulbright-Hayes Scholar- Zimbabwe
- 1990 Governor appointee to the Virginia Council on Child Day Care and Early Childhood Programs (six years)
- 1996 Chaired the Compliance Task Force for Norfolk State University that led to reaccreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)

HIGHLIGHTS OF PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 07/14-** **Southern Wesleyan University**
Associate Dean
Professor
Coordinator, Call Me MISTER Scholars

- 03/10-6/14** Benedict College, Columbia, SC **(BC)**
Executive Director, Benedict College Child Development Center

- 07/08–6/14** Benedict College, Columbia, SC
Director, Teacher Education Program and NCATE/CAEP Coordinator
Coordinator, Call Me MISTER Scholars

- 07/08 - 1/15/14** Benedict College, Columbia, SC
Department Chair, Education, Child and Family Studies

- 8/07 – 6/14** Benedict College, Columbia, SC
Professor
 Courses taught: Child Care Administration, Health, Safety and Nutrition, Careers in Child and Family Studies, The Young Child, Methods and Materials in Early Childhood Education, Intro to Early Childhood Education and Parent Education.

- 12/05 – 8/07** Howard University Hospital, Washington, DC
Center Director
 Planned, directed, coordinated and managed the overall operation of a NAEYC accredited program serving (60) children ranging from six months to five years. Developed and monitored the annual operating budget of \$400,000. Coordinated with the HUH Child Development Center for on-going assessments by 3rd year medical students and pediatric interns. Interviewed and selected staff, conducted annual evaluations and provided professional development for (13) center staff. Secured NAEYC reaccreditation under the reinvented accreditation system (2007-20012)

- 8/96 – 12/05** Norfolk State University, Norfolk, VA **(NSU)**
Professor and Graduate Program Director
 Nationally recognized member of a high performance team who trained, evaluated and cultivated future educators for public and private academic institutions. Delivered core competencies in the following courses: The Study of Children and Families, Parent Participation in Educational Systems, Curriculum and Instruction for Preschool and

Kindergarten, Sociology of Early Childhood Education, Advanced Educational Psychology, Foundations of Education (Blackboard) and Student Teaching and Practicum.

- 8/93 – 7/96 Norfolk State University, Norfolk, VA
Department Head
Consumer Services and Family Studies: Coordinated program in Child and Family Studies, Hospitality Management and Fashion Design and Merchandizing. Secured a three-year grant to provide computer-generated designs and patterns for Fashion Design area. Managed eight tenured faculty members along with adjunct faculty and administrative support staff.
- 3/87 – 7/93 Norfolk State University, Norfolk, VA
Department Head and Graduate Program Director
Department of Early Childhood Education: Managed a staff of fifteen including adjunct faculty and administrative support staff. Increased enrollment in undergraduate and graduate programs by 30% within a five-year period. Created a Performance Video Assessment Program that was recognized by the State of Virginia. Increased the number of males certified in Early Childhood Education significantly.
- 8/79 – 12/05 Norfolk State University, Norfolk, VA
Child Development Laboratory Director and Assistant Professor
Conceptualized and implemented a full day state licensed early child development center, which celebrated its 25th year of operation. Increased grants and state funded revenue streams 30%.

PROJECT DIRECTION, GRANTS, PUBLICATIONS AND MANAGEMENT

- 2011=2012 **Project Director,** "International Institute for Teacher Enhancement" – created for Teachers and Administrators from Accra, Ghana (April 6- May 6, 2011)
- 2009 -- 2012 **Member,** SACS Leadership Team – Benedict College
- 2009- present **National Program Reviewer** for the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
- 2009- **Off-site Reviewer** for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)
- 2008 - - 2014 **NCATE Coordinator/Director of Teacher Education- Benedict College**
- 2008- 2014 **Title III Project Director,** "Enhancing/Sustaining Teacher Education" Benedict College
- 2007 - 2014 **Chair**
NCATE Steering Committee – School of Education
Benedict College

- 2006 – 2007 **Chair**
NAEYC Accreditation Task Force
Howard University Hospital
- 2002 - 2005 **Graduate Coordinator and Mentor**
Early Childhood Special Education Grant
U.S. Department of Education (NSU)
- 2001 – 2005 **Project Director**
U.S. Department of Education
CCAMPIS-Child Care Access Means Parents in School - \$285,720 (NSU)
- 1998 – 2002 **Principal Investigator**
Department of Health and Human Services, Head Start Bureau
Developing a University Head Start Partnership to Train Teachers, Teacher Aides and Parents (90YH0014/01) \$500,000 (NSU)
- 1995 – 1999 **Consulting Editor**
National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Journal – “Young Children” and NAEYC Books
- 1994 – 1996 **Project Director**
Title III Grant
Hospitality Management/Fashion Design and Merchandising Programs
- 1991 – 1994 **Consultant**
Advisors Project for Four-Year-Old Programs
Virginia State Department of Education
- 1992 **Thornton, Mona Williams.** “Early Childhood Teacher Education at Black Colleges”
Encyclopedia of Early Childhood Education. Garland Publishing: New York, 1992
- 1987 – 1989 **Project Director**, Metropolitan/College Schools Partners Program – Norfolk State University and Park Elementary School, Chesapeake, Va.
- 1983 – 1987 **Program Coordinator**
School of Social Sciences Colloquium

TEACHING/LECTURING

- 2014- **Southern Wesleyan University-** Central, SC
Professor
- 2007-2014 **Benedict College** – Columbia, SC
Professor
Department of Education, Child and Family Studies
- 1979 – 2005 **Norfolk State University** – Norfolk, VA

Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, **Professor**
Departments of Early Childhood/Elementary Education and Consumer Services and
Family Studies

- 1977 – 1978 **University of Connecticut** – Storrs, CT
Lecturer, Department of Human Development and Family Relations
Supervisor of Student Teaching Practicum
- 1975 – 1977 **University of Massachusetts** – Amherst, MA
Supervisor of Student Interns
Department of Early Childhood Education
- 1973 – 1975 **Howard University** – Washington, DC
Head Teacher/Instructor
University Laboratory School
- 1974 & 1975 **Howard University** – Washington, DC (Summers)
Director of Multi-Cultural Preschool Program
- 1972 – 1973 **Bethune Infant Education Center** – Washington, DC
Assistant Director
- 1972 **Capital Area Child Day Care Association** – Washington, DC
Preschool Teacher

SELECTED NATIONAL PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCES

- 2011 National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) “Connecting the dots: Preparing candidates who are aware and knowledgeable about the effects of gang members on young children.” Orlando, Florida
- 2010 National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Video Analysis, a key assessment in an Early Childhood Teacher Education Program” Anaheim, Ca.
- 2008 National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) “An exploration of three key assessments in an NCATE-NAEYC accredited program” Dallas, TX
- 1996 National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) “Using children’s literature with Howard Gardner’s theoretical framework...” Dallas, TX
- 1995 National Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Meeting “Performance Assessment Video Program for Pre-Service Teachers” Washington, DC
- 1994 National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Annual Meeting “Diversity in Early Childhood Programs” Atlanta, GA
- 1993 National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) “A Model for Supporting At-Risk Preschool Children and Their Families in Urban Elementary Schools” Anaheim, CA

- 1992 National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) “Stress in Young Children”, New Orleans, LA
- 1991 National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) “Child Care in Zimbabwe” Denver, CO
- 1989 Virginia State Department of Education – Kindergarten Conference “Culture Across the Curriculum” Richmond, VA
- 1989 National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Annual Meeting “Cultural Awareness in Teacher Education Programs” Atlanta, GA
- 1987 National Black YMCA Conference – “Black Children in Child Care,” Norfolk, VA
- 1985 National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) “Early Childhood Education...A Rich Past, An Innovative Present...A Challenging Future” New Orleans, LA
- 1981 National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Annual Meeting. “They Tried to Tell Us We’re Too Young” Romances During the Preschool Years” Detroit, MI
- 1980 National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Annual Meeting – “A Behavioral Assessment of Racial Attitudes in Preschool Children” San Francisco, CA

COMMUNITY BASED ACTIVITIES

- 2009-2014 **Board Member**, South Carolina Association for the Education of Young Children
- 2008-2014 **Advisory Board Member**, Midlands Tech College / Early Childhood Program
- 2008-2012 **Board Member**, South Carolina Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
- 2005- 2007 **Chair**, Howard University Hospital Early Development Center Advisory Board
- 2006 – 2007 **Chair**, Trike-A-Thon for St. Jude Hospital @ Howard University Hospital
- 2003 - 2006 **President**, Chesapeake/Virginia Beach Chapter of the Links, Inc.
- 1999 – 2002 **Board Member**, “Kids Voting in Virginia”
- 1996 – 2002 **Board Member**, “Kids for Wish Kids”
- Coordinator**, Make-A-Wish Foundation of Eastern Virginia
- 1995 – 1998 **Member**, School Planning Council, Rosemont Forest Elementary, Virginia Beach, VA.
- 1994 – 1998 **Board Member**, Places and Programs for Children, Inc.-Hampton Roads

- 1991 – 1994 **Board Member**, Hunton YMCA – Norfolk, VA
- 1990 – 1993 **Member**, Early Childhood Task Force- Norfolk Public Schools, Norfolk, VA
Chair, Conceptual Framework Committee for Berkley Campostella Early Childhood Center
- 1987 – 1988 **Chair**, Norfolk United Methodist Child Care Board, Norfolk, VA
- 1985 – 1991 **Board of Directors**, Tidewater Child Care Association