

Robyn L. Ridgley

Curriculum Vita

Academic Background

Ed.D. in Special Education, 2004
Area of Emphasis: Early Childhood and Personnel Preparation
University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky

M.Ed. in Special Education, 1999
Area of Emphasis: Early Childhood
Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee

B.S. in Learning and Behavior Disorders &
Early Elementary Education, 1994
Murray State University, Murray, Kentucky

Professional Experience

Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

- Assistant Director, Center for Teaching & Mentoring , University Provost's Office, January 2026-Present
- Professor in Early Childhood Education, Elementary & Special Education Department, August 2025-Present
- Associate Dean, College of Education 2022-2025
- Interim Associate Dean, College of Education 2020-2022
- Professor & Chair, Department of Elementary & Special Education 2017-2020
- Interim Chair, Department of Elementary & Special Education 2016-2017
- Interim Director, Ann Campbell Early Learning Center, June 2014-August 2015
- Associate Professor in Early Childhood Education, Elementary and Special Education Department, July 2011-2017
- Assistant Professor in Early Childhood Education, Elementary & Special Education Department, July 2010-June 2011.
- Assistant Professor in Early Childhood Education, Human Sciences Department, August 2005-June 2010.

University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky

- Visiting Assistant Professor, Dept. of Special Education & Rehabilitation Counseling, August 2004-May 2005

- Disability Program Associate: Kentucky DeafBlind Project and Project PLAY, November 2002-August 2004
- Project Coordinator: KIDS NOW Evaluation Project, August 2000–October 2002
- Practicum Supervisor for Graduate Students, Fall 2000

Susan Gray School for Children, Nashville Tennessee

- Family Services Coordinator, May 1998-July 2000
- Early Intervention Outreach Teacher, February 1997-May 1998
- Early Intervention Classroom Teacher, August 1996-February 1997

Southwest Elementary School, Murray, Kentucky

- Special Education Teacher, K-3, January 1995-July 1996

Leadership Experience and Selected Accomplishments

Assistant Director, Center for Teaching and Mentoring – 2026-Present

- Collaborated with Director and staff to determine programming for faculty and staff
- Facilitated Teaching Triangles
- Facilitated New Programs and Courses workshop series
- Led program evaluation efforts through development and distribution of satisfaction surveys
- Provided one-on-one mentoring for faculty when requested
- Developed and distributed faculty/staff needs assessment
- Participated in advisory council meetings

Associate Dean –2020-2025

- Chaired COE Strategic Planning Advisory Group
- Led and supported with curriculum initiatives (i.e., creation and revision of programs)
- Supported faculty with literacy initiatives and partnerships (i.e., TDOE annual review; SCORE/TNTP Lead in Literacy)
- Supported the Assessment and Accreditation director with writing CAEP accreditation reports, preparation for visit, and completion of visit leading to national accreditation and receipt of the 2022 Frank Murray Leadership Recognition for Continuous Improvement
- Planned and facilitated assessment committees, data days, and program coordinator support for ongoing accreditation and program improvement work
- Developed and refined systems and tools to enhance data collection and review of data
- Facilitated College recruitment team in identification and implementation of college-wide recruitment efforts

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- Led efforts to develop a COE Student Ambassador group
 - Collaborated with high school Teaching as a Profession teachers to organize visits and other partnership activities
 - Completed Title II, CAEP annual reports, University accreditation reports, and other reporting needs of the College
 - Mentored and supported Department chairs
 - Worked with College leaders to problem-solve and collaborate on needs of their units or college-wide initiatives
 - Participated in University marketing and strategic communications meetings
 - Led initiatives to develop across university teacher licensure collaborations
 - Completed state-funding proposal for a two-year Grow Your Own program (\$200,000), and when funded led the implementation, evaluation, and support of candidates
 - Facilitated application of two state-approved apprenticeship programs
 - Participated in Partnership Team meetings with primary partner districts and supported with follow-up activities
 - Organically mentored faculty
 - Supported the Dean and College with various projects and initiatives (e.g., COVID protocol implementation, leadership team meetings, hiring, marketing/website)
 - Organized and facilitated workgroups to address specific needs (e.g., admission to teacher education appeals, program improvements)
 - Collaborated with University leadership and others across campus on assessment, data collection, and strategic planning
 - Collaborated with state Department of Education personnel on program approval, development of policies and procedures, and other initiatives
 - Participated in TN Grow Your Own Center activities
 - Participated in donor and alumni events, sharing information about priorities and work of the College

Department Chair – 2016-2020

- Implemented strategies for developing annual goals and related activities for the Department that involved all faculty
- With support from an outside facilitator, developed a mission and vision for the Department
- Facilitated department-wide discussions about budget priorities and made final decisions about allocation of financial resources
- Organized new faculty recruitment interview teams, identified priorities, and supported with process

- Mentored new faculty and instituted a process for assigning and supporting faculty mentors
- Supported faculty and staff with individual needs and goals
- Recruited, hired, and provided training and ongoing support for adjunct faculty
- Completed annual evaluations for tenure-track, tenured, and adjunct faculty and staff (approximately 20 faculty, 10-20 adjuncts, and 2 staff)
- Supported programs with needs related to recruitment, program implementation or revisions, and other unique needs
- Facilitated effective collaborative relationships between college advisors, program faculty, and students
- Met with prospective and committed students and families through preview days, new student orientation, individual meetings, or other activities
- Collaborated with community college partners to implement 2+2 program and develop other partnerships
- Presented to high school groups visiting the College
- Partnered with the principal of Homer Pittard Campus School to ensure effective collaborations
- Participated in college leadership team meetings

Interim Director of the Ann Campbell Early Learning Center – 2014-2015

- Supported classroom teachers and support staff with day-to-day care and education of young children (15 months-5 years)
- Supervised and completed evaluations for approximately 12 staff
- Supported families from application through enrollment
- Worked with the advisory board to identify fundraising and support priorities and approaches
- Monitored budget and made decisions about spending priorities and needs (annual budget of approximately \$500,000)
- Wrote funding application for United Way of Rutherford & Cannon Counties grant and, when funded (\$95,000 per year), collected and analyzed data, completed required reports, and engaged in regular meetings and connection opportunities
- Met with donors and community members

Principal Investigator for State-Funded Early Intervention Service Grant – 2011-2021

- Wrote grant for funding (multiple cycles – 10 years) and developed budgets (total funding \$7,166,242; max yearly \$761,152) to serve approximately 200 children and their families through home visiting
- Supported and collaborated with program director to ensure all policies and processes of funder and University are followed

- Developed and implemented training for initial program processes and procedures (e.g., home visiting processes, assessment of children and families, staff support and supervision)
- Coordinated and facilitated initial hiring of all employees and supported with hiring thereafter
- Worked with funding agency, University, and/or staff in the program to problem solve and identify solutions to various programmatic needs
- Provided regular support and mentorship to the director

Program Coordinator – 2007-2010

- Facilitated program meetings that led to identifying priorities to be addressed and approaches for addressing
- Led review of data and completed annual reports
- Facilitated revision of program to respond to state initiative to implement full year residency model
- Completed curriculum proposals and defended proposals as needed
- Worked with community college partners to develop articulation agreements and facilitate transfer of early childhood majors
- Collaborated with the Child Development Center director and teachers to sustain and enhance field experiences
- Identified potential adjuncts to support with course implementation
- Mentored colleagues and adjuncts
- Met with prospective Early Childhood Education students

Teaching Activities

Middle Tennessee State University

- ECE 4220, Supporting the Social Emotional Learning of Young Children
- ECE 4240, Intervention Strategies for Supporting Young Children
- ECE 4230, Culturally Relevant Teaching in Early Childhood
- Supported 5 MEd in Special Education with an Elementary Endorsement Grow Your Own Candidates in their School Settings and Led Seminars (fall 2021-spring 2023)
- ALSI 7230, Formative Assessments and Improved Student Learning
- ALSI 7240, Data Analysis, Learning, & School Improvement
- EESE 1010, Overview of Education 1
- ECE 4375, Literacy in Early Childhood
- ECE 4100, Residency I
- ECE 4110, Residency II (Student Teaching)
- ECE/CDFS 2350, Human Development I

- ECE 4300/5300, Preschool Practicum
- CDFS 6500, Issues and Trends in Human Sciences (Topic: Early Childhood Education)
- ECE 4330, Primary Practicum
- CDFS 6330, Theories of Child Development and Family Relations
- ECE 4320, Assessing Young Children (formerly numbered and titled, CDFS 4320 Evaluation Strategies and Multicultural Education)
- CDFS 4350, Parenting

University of Kentucky

- FAM 411/EDS 459, Student Teaching in Early Childhood
- FAM 555, Fostering the Cognitive Development of Young Children
- EDS 620, Instructional Programming and Assessment in Early Childhood Special Education
- EDS 510, Early Childhood Special Education
- FAM 552, Administration and Supervision in Early Care and Education Programs
- FAM 554, Working with Parents
- EDS/FAM 622, The Family's Role in Early Childhood Education

University of Kentucky, Teaching Assistant

- FAM 659, Advanced Child Development, Spring 2002
- EDS 601, Applied Behavior Analysis, Fall 2001
- EDS 622, The Family's Role in Early Childhood Education, Summer 2001
- EDS 375, Introduction to the Education of Exceptional Children, Spring 2001
- Supervisor in practicum of Master's level graduate students pursuing an Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education degree, Fall 2000

University of Kentucky, Guest Lecturer

- FAM 659, Advanced Child Development
Topic: Moral and Gender Development, Fall 2002

Peer-Reviewed Journal Publications

Ridgley, R., Mangione, K., & Ridgley, M. (Manuscript under review). Using guided play to meet curricular goals.

Lim, J. S. J., & **Ridgley, R.** (2021). Reflection on practice: Pre-service teachers' reflection and intentional planning to enhance toddlers' engagement during free play. *International Journal of the Whole Child*, 6 (1), 9-25.

Ridgley, R., Snyder, P. A., & McWilliam, R. A. (2020, first published 2018).

Individualized family service plan quality and alignment of child-focused outcomes to federal outcomes and state early learning guidelines. *Topics in Early Childhood Special Education*, 39 (4). doi.org/10.1177/0271121418786434

- Ridgley, R.,** & Ridgley, M. (2014) Finding Maria's voice. *Childhood Explorer*, 1(4), 28-31. Retrieved from <http://acei.org/childhood-explorer>
- Ridgley, R.,** Snyder, P., & McWilliam, R. A. (2014) Exploring type and amount of family talk during individualized family service plan meetings. *Infants & Young Children*, 27, 345-358, DOI: 10.1097/IYC.0000000000000021.
- Hallam, R., Bargreen, K., & **Ridgley, R.** (2013). Quality in family child care settings: The relationship between provider educational experiences and global quality scores in a statewide quality rating and improvement system. *Journal of Research in Childhood Education*, 27 (4), 393-406, DOI: 10.1080/02568543.2013.822950.
- Ridgley, R.,** Snyder, P., McWilliam, R., & Davis, J. (2011). Development and initial validation of a professional development intervention to enhance the quality of individualized family service plans. *Infants & Young Children*, 24, 309-328.
- Ridgley, R.,** & Snyder, P. (2010). Quantifying what occurs during early intervention home visits. *Early Intervention Services*, 4(1), 1-27.
- Ridgley, R.,** & O'Kelley, K. (2008). Providing individually responsive home visits. *Young Exceptional Children*, 11(3), 17-26.
- Ridgley, R.,** & Hallam, R. (2006). Examining the IFSPs of rural, low-income families: Are they reflective of family concerns? *Journal of Research in Childhood Education*, 21, 149-162.
- Grisham, Brown, J. L., **Ridgley, R.,** Pretti-Frontczak, K., Litt, C., & Nielson, A. (2006). Promoting positive learning outcomes for young children in inclusive classrooms: A preliminary study of children's progress toward pre-writing standards. *Journal of Early and Intensive Behavioral Intervention*, 3(1), 171-183. Retrieved from <http://www.jeibi.com/JEIBI-3-1.pdf>
- Hallam, R. A., Buell, M. J., & **Ridgley, R.** (2003/04). Preparing early childhood educators to serve children and families living in poverty: A national survey of undergraduate programs. *Journal of Research in Childhood Education*, 18, 115-124.

Hallam, R. A., **Ridgley, R. L.**, & Buell, M. J. (2003). Preservice preparation in home visiting: A national survey of early childhood undergraduate programs. *Journal of Early Childhood Teacher Education, 24*, 19-26.

McCormick, K. M., Jolivet, K., & **Ridgley, R.** (2003). Choice making as an intervention strategy for young children. *Young Exceptional Children, 6*(2), 3-10.

Grisham-Brown, J., Pretti-Frontczak, K., Hemmeter, M. L., & **Ridgley, R.** (2002). Teaching IEP goals and objectives in the context of classroom routines and activities. *Young Exceptional Children, 6*(1), 18-27.

Jolivet, K., Stichter, J., Siblisky, S., Scott, T. M., & **Ridgley, R.** (2002). Naturally occurring opportunities for preschool children with or without disabilities to make choices. *Education & Treatment of Children, 25*, 396-415.

Peer-Reviewed Monograph Publications

Ertel, P. K., & **Ridgley, R.** (2023). Effective trauma-informed early childhood special education leaders: Characteristics, recruitment, and support. In R. Batz, S. B. Blanchard, D. L. Rooks-Ellis, & S. M. Stegenga (Eds.), *Leadership: Leading from where you are* (DEC Recommended Practices Monograph Series No. 9) (pp. 7-24). Division for Early Childhood.

Ridgley, R. (2020). Engaging families in meaningful assessment practices when providing home visits. *DEC Recommended Practices Monograph Series No.7 Assessment: Recommended Practices for Young Children and Families*. Los Angeles, CA: Division for Early Childhood.

Peer-Reviewed Chapters

Ridgley, R., & Ertel, P. K. (2025). Conclusion. In P. K. Ertel & R. Ridgley (Eds.), *Educator reflections: The Power of our stories* (pp. 99-101). MT Open Press. <https://openpress.mtsu.edu/index.php/mtop/catalog/book/5>

Peer-Reviewed Books

Ertel, P. K., & **Ridgley, R.** (Eds.) (2025). *Educator reflections: The power of our stories*. MT Open Press. <https://openpress.mtsu.edu/index.php/mtop/catalog/book/5>

Briefs

Jolivet, K., **Ridgley, R.**, & White, A. I. (2001). Choice-making strategies: Information for families. *Center for Effective Collaborative and Practice: Briefs for Families on Evidence-Based Practices*. Retrieved from <http://cecp.air.org/familybriefs/>

McCormick, K., M., **Ridgley, R.**, Sparks, S. (2001). Parents as collaborative team members: Information for families. *Center for Effective Collaborative and Practice: Briefs for Families on Evidence-Based Practices*. Retrieved from <http://cecp.air.org/familybriefs/>

Conference Proceedings

O'Kelley, K., & **Ridgley, R.** (2006). *Insightful experiences of rural, low-income families receiving early intervention services*. In R. R. Menlove (Ed.), *ACRES 2006 Conference Proceedings. Rural roots: 1980-2006, 26th Annual National Conference* (pp. 21-29). Lexington, Kentucky

Submitted for Publication, Not Published

Ridgley, R., Oslund, E., Grisham-Brown, J., Jackson, Y., & Dunlap, A. (2019). Investigating the relationship between AEPSi and team generated child outcomes summary ratings.

Craig-Unkefer, L., & **Ridgley, R.** (2014). Strategies for home-based care providers to promote literacy and language development of young children.

Ridgley, R., & Dunlap, A. (2013). Observing and reflecting: Striving to improve early intervention visits.

Ridgley, R. (2007). Home visiting for young children with disabilities: Are service providers addressing the content of the IFSP?

Jacina, A., **Ridgley, R.**, Hemmeter, M. L., & Schuster, J. W. (2002). Parent implemented language intervention during storybook reading with young children.

Presentations

National

Ridgley, R., & Dellard, T. (2025, February). *Leveraging accreditation standards to build partnerships*. American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education Annual Meeting. Long Beach, California.

Ridgley, R., Snead, D. with contributors Oslund, E., & Elleman, A. (2024, February). *Using motivation and perception data to enhance the recruitment and retention of teacher candidates*. American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education Annual Meeting. Aurora, Colorado.

Ertel, Pamela Kramer, Lim, J., **Ridgley, R.**, & Griffin, N. (2022, July). *Reflections from the lake house: Navigating our professional journeys through our stories to recruit, prepare, and rejuvenate educators*.

Association of Teacher Educators 2022 Summer Conference.
Nashville, Tennessee

- McLaren, E., **Ridgley, R.**, & Wheeler, S. (2021, September). *Partnering with families: Building relationships through coaching*. Conference session present virtually at DEC's 37th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs & Their Families.
- Ridgley, R.** (2021, January). *Need data? Meaningful assessment practices with families*. Conference session presented virtually at DEC's 36th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs & Their Families.
- Pence, A., & **Ridgley, R.** (2019, November). *EI service providers' beliefs and preparedness in supporting families with limited financial resources*. Poster session at 2019 NAEYC Annual Conference. Nashville, Tennessee.
- Ridgley, R.**, Grisham-Brown, J., & Dunlap, A. (2019, October). *The relationship between AEPSi and team generated child outcomes summary ratings*. Poster session at DEC's 35th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs & Their Families. Dallas, Texas.
- Ridgley, R.**, & Hitchcock, C. (2019, October). *Will they be engaged? Exploring how teacher candidates plan for child engagement*. Poster session at DEC's 35th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs & Their Families. Dallas, Texas.
- Pence, A., & **Ridgley, R.** (2019, October). *EI service providers' beliefs and preparedness in supporting families with limited financial resources*. Conference Session at DEC's 35th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs & Their Families. Dallas, Texas.
- Dunlap, A., & **Ridgley, R.** (2018, October). *Practical, pragmatic, and prudent: Utilizing technology to save programs time and money*. Poster session at DEC's 34th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs & Their Families. Orlando, Florida.
- Hitchcock, C. & **Ridgley, R.** (2018, October). *Using edTPA to strengthen child engagement and teacher candidate preparation*. Poster session at DEC's 34th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs & Their Families. Orlando, Florida.
- Pence, A., & **Ridgley, R.** (2018, October). *Experiences of families in poverty*

and early intervention services. Poster session at DEC's 34th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs & Their Families. Orland, Florida.

Ridgley, R., & Dunlap, A. (2017, October). *Exploring the differences in OSEP Early Childhood Outcomes.* Poster session at DEC's 33rd Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs & Their Families. Portland, Oregon.

Ridgley, R., & Dunlap, A. (2016, November). *We are all in this together! Supporting home visitors.* Poster session at the Sixth National Summit on Quality in Home Visiting Programs. Washington, D.C.

Ridgley, R., & Dunlap, A. (2015, October). *The relationship between family ratings of satisfaction with routines and IFSP goals.* Poster session at DEC's 31st Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs & Their Families. Atlanta, Georgia.

Dunlap, A., Rigsby, J., **Ridgley, R., & Gentry, K.** (2015, October). *Early childhood outcomes data: Information gained from a comparative pilot study.* Poster session at DEC's 31st Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs & Their Families. Atlanta, Georgia.

Ridgley, R., Craig-Unkefer, L., & Hitchcock, C. (2014, October). *Paths forward: Initial implementation of an evaluation system in teacher preparation.* Poster session at DEC's 30th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs & Their Families. St. Louis, Missouri.

Ridgley, R., Snyder, P., & McWilliam, R. A. (2013, October). *Using empirically validated strategies to examine IFSP quality.* Poster session at the DEC's 29th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs & Their Families. San Francisco, California.

Ridgley, R., & Dunlap, A. (2012, October). *Supporting the professional growth and development of early interventionists.* Conference session at the DEC's 28th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs & Their Families. Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Ridgley, R., Snyder, P., McWilliam, R. A., & Rakap, S. (2012, February). *Evaluating the type and amount of parent talk during IFSP meetings.* Poster presentation at the Conference on Research Innovations in Early Intervention, San Diego, California.

Ridgley, R. & Dunlap, A. (2011, November). *Systematically supporting the*

professional development of early interventionists. Conference session at the DEC's 27th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special needs and Their Families, National Harbor, Maryland.

McWilliam, R. A., Snyder, P. A., **Ridgley, R.**, & Davis, J. (2010, October). *How to measure the quality of IFSP process and product.* Conference session at the DEC's 26th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, Kansas City, Missouri.

Ridgley, R., McWilliam, R. A., Snyder, P., & Davis, J. (2010, April). *Improving IFSP quality by embedding professional development supports within state data systems.* Conference session at the Council for Exceptional Children's 2010 Convention and Expo, Nashville, Tennessee.

Ridgley, R., McWilliam, R. A., Snyder, P., & Davis, J. (2010, February). *Enhancing IFSP quality through learning objects on a Part C data system: Exploring relationships with parent involvement with the IFSP.* Poster presentation at the Conference on Research Innovations in Early Intervention, San Diego, California.

Ridgley, R., McWilliam, R. A., Snyder, P., & Davis, J. (2009, October). *Improving the quality of IFSPs by integrating supports within state Part C data systems.* Conference session at the DEC's 25th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Hitchcock, C., & **Ridgley, R.** (2009, October). *Encouraging literacy activities at home through community partnerships.* Poster session at the DEC's 25th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

McWilliam, R. A., Snyder, P., **Ridgley, R.**, & Davis, J. (2009, June). *Enhancing IFSP quality through learning objects on a Part C data system.* Poster presentation at the 2009 Institute of Education Sciences Conference, Washington, D.C.

Ridgley, R., Snyder, P., Davis, J., & McWilliam, R. (2008, October). *Incorporating recommended practices within quality assurance systems: Challenges and barriers.* Research roundtable at the DEC's 24th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Ridgley, R., & Evans, C. (2007, November). *Perceptions and intentions of home visitors as they support families of young children with disabilities.* National Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois.

O'Kelley, K., & **Ridgley, R.** (2007, October). *Family Literacy Night: Involving Undergraduate Students, Families, and Children At-risk*. Conference session at the DEC's 23rd Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, Niagara Falls, Ontario.

Ridgley, R., & O'Kelley, K. (2007, October). *What do home visitors say they are doing?* Poster session at the DEC's 23rd Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, Niagara Falls, Ontario.

Hawkins, S. R., Grisham-Brown, J., **Ridgley, R.**, Quire, K., & Brock, C. (2006, October). *The effects of embedded instruction on the attainment of pre-kindergarten standards*. Conference session at the DEC's 22nd Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Ridgley, R., & Hallam, R. (2006, October). *Home visiting research: Why and how do we do it?* Research Roundtable at the DEC's 22nd Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Ridgley, R. (2006, October). *Individually responsive home visits*. Conference session at the DEC's 22nd Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, Little Rock, Arkansas.

O'Kelley, K., & **Ridgley, R.** (2006, March). *Insightful experiences of rural, low-income families receiving early intervention services*. Conference session at the American Council on Rural Special Education Conference, Lexington, Kentucky.

Grisham-Brown, J., Pretti-Frontczak, K., **Ridgley, R.**, Hawkins, S. R., & Winchell, B. (2006, February). *The effects of a linked system on achieving pre-kindergarten standards*. Poster presentation at the 5th Biennial Conference on Research Innovations in Early Intervention, San Diego, California.

Ridgley, R. (2004, December). *Are we meeting the needs of low-income, rural families who have young children with disabilities? A look at home visits and IFSPs*. Conference session at the Division for Early Childhood International Conference, Chicago, Illinois.

Ridgley, R., Gao, X., Barr, D., Grisham-Brown, J., & Pretti-Frontczak (2004, February). *Is there a match? Examining the Quality of Embedded Learning Opportunities*. Poster presentation at the Conference on Research Innovations in Early Intervention, San Diego, California.

- Hallam, R., **Ridgley, R.**, Buell, M., & Gamel-McCormick, M. (2002, December). *The influence of poverty on children with disabilities and their families: Implications for practice*. Post-conference session at the Division for Early Childhood International Conference, San Diego, California.
- Jolivette, K., Stichter, J. P., & **Ridgley, R.** (2001, December). *Adult and child initiated opportunities to make choices in a developmental preschool*. Poster session presented at the Division for Early Childhood International Conference, Boston, Massachusetts.
- Grisham-Brown, J., & **Ridgley, R.** (2001, November). *The KIDS NOW Evaluation Project*. Presentation at the National Association for the Education of Young Children, Anaheim, California.
- Jolivette, K., Stichter, J. P., Saunier, A. Sparks, S. & **Ridgley, R.** (2001, February). *Adult and child initiated opportunities to make choices in a developmental preschool*. Poster session presented at the Midwest Symposium for Leadership in Behavior Disorders, Kansas City, Missouri.
- Ridgley, R.** (1999, December). *Using family routines in intervention*. Panel member at the Division for Early Childhood International Conference, Washington, D.C.
- State**
- Ridgley, R.** (2026, February). Faculty job-alike. Tennessee Association of Colleges for Teacher Education Spring Conference.
- Ertel, Pamela Kramer, & **Ridgley, R.** (2025, September). *Educator reflections: Striking the right chord – Stories of teaching, recruitment, and retention*. Tennessee Association of Colleges for Teacher Education Fall Conference, Franklin, Tennessee.
- Jackson, Y. M., **Ridgley, R.**, & Rust, J. (2018, April). *The relationship between early intervention service dosage and child outcome growth pattern*. Middle Tennessee Psychological Association Conference, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.
- Hitchcock, C., **Ridgley, R.**, & Lim, J. (2017, October). *Lights, camera, action: Embedding video in courses prior to Residency II*. Tennessee edTPA Conference. Murfreesboro, Tennessee.
- Ridgley, R.** (2016, April). *Supporting young children with developmental delays in the early childhood classroom*. Play Symposium, MTSU, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

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- Ridgley, R.** (2015, September). *Reflective supervision: Helping colleagues reflect & grow*. Tennessee's Early Intervention System Staff Conference. Franklin, Tennessee.
- Ridgley, R.** (2015, May). *Reflective supervision: Helping early interventionists reflect & grow*. 2015 Building Best Practices Conference (TEIS Early Intervention Resource Agency Conference), Murfreesboro, Tennessee.
- Ridgley, R., & MTSU HCBEI Staff.** (2014, March). *Early intervention in the real world: A panel discussion*. 2014 Building Best Practices Conference (TEIS Early Intervention Resource Agency Conference), Murfreesboro, Tennessee.
- Dunlap, A., & **Ridgley, R.** (2013, October). *Working with infants and toddlers: Family-centered strategies for working with children in homes and community based settings*. 2013 Tennessee CEC Fall Conference, Nashville, Tennessee.
- Ridgley, R., & Dunlap, A.** (2013, March). *Supporting the professional growth and development of early interventionists*. Building Best Practice Conference: Partnering, Coaching, Leading (TEIS Early Intervention Resource Agency Conference), Murfreesboro, Tennessee.
- Ridgley, R., & Dunlap, A.** (2013, March). *Early intervention: Parent's perspectives*. Building Best Practice Conference: Partnering, Coaching, Leading (TEIS Early Intervention Resource Agency Conference), Murfreesboro, Tennessee.
- Ridgley, R., & Hitchcock, C.** (2012, October). *Strategies for promoting and assessing emergent literacy skills of infants and toddlers*. Tennessee Association for the Education of Young Children Conference, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.
- Hitchcock, C., & **Ridgley, R.** (2011, June & July). *Emergent and early literacy learning in young children*. Tennessee's Early Intervention System's Summer Institute, Smyrna, Tennessee.
- Ridgley, R., & Hitchcock, C.** (2010, October). *Making home and school connections by engaging families*. 2010 Tennessee Association for the Education of Young Children Conference, Chattanooga, Tennessee.
- Ridgley, R.** (2010, June). *Assessment*. Pre-K Summer Institute, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.
- Ridgley, R.** (2008, October). *Engaging families in assessment activities*.

Presentation at the 2008 Tennessee Association for the Education of Young Children Conference, Franklin, Tennessee.

Ridgley, R., & Evans, C. (2007, April). *What do early intervention home visitors say they are doing?* Middle Tennessee State University Scholars Week 2007.

Ridgley, R. (2006, October). *Making the most of the time we spend with children and families: Using family activities as the basis for intervention.* Presentation at the 2006 Tennessee Association for the Education of Young Children Conference, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Ridgley, R. (2005, October). *Connecting intervention planning for children with disabilities with early childhood standards.* Presentation at the 2005 Tennessee Association for the Education of Young Children Conference, Knoxville, Tennessee.

Hallam, R., & **Ridgley, R.** (2002, October). *Supporting low-income families of children with disabilities.* Presentation at the Infant-Toddler Conference, Louisville, Kentucky.

Hemmeter, M. L., & **Ridgley, R.** (2001, June). *Challenging behaviors: What are they, what do they mean, and what can we do to prevent them?* Presentation at the Infant and Toddler Conference, Lexington, Kentucky.

Ridgley, R. (2001, March). *Public policy and its impact on teacher education in special education.* Presentation at the Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children Conference, Louisville, Kentucky.

Ridgley, R., Duncan, A., Pendergrass, S., & Wyatt, M. (2000, March). *Integrating teaching strategies into the child care environment.* Presentation at the Third Annual Inclusion Conference: Beyond Access, Memphis, Tennessee.

Ridgley, R., & Koenigsberger, K. (1999, February). *Involving parents in the lives of young children with disabilities.* Presentation at the Tennessee Joint Disability Conference on Children with Disabilities, Nashville, Tennessee.

Rogers, F., & **Ridgley, R.** (1998, August). *Art and sensory activities for young children.* Presentation at the Early Childhood Conference, Brentwood, Tennessee.

Workshops

Ridgley, R., & Ridgley, M. (2017, July 10-12) *Early literacy foundations for*

"Reading to be Ready". MTSU Summer Pre-K Seminar, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Lim, J., & **Ridgley, R.** (2013, May). Promoting emergent literacy skills. St. Rose Preschool, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Ridgley, R. & Lim, J. (2013, April). Supporting children's social emotional development: The pyramid model. St. Rose Preschool, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Ridgley, R. (2011, February). *Working with children in child care settings*. MTSU Home & Community-Based Early Intervention Program, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Ridgley, R. (2010, November). *Measuring child and family outcomes*. MTSU Home & Community-Based Early Intervention Program, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Ridgley, R. (2010, October). *Providing support to families through the MTSU Home & Community-Based Early Intervention Program*. MTSU Home & Community-Based Early Intervention Program, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Ridgley, R. (2010, October). *Supporting pre-service teachers using online modules*. ShareFair 2010, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Ridgley, R. (2010, June). *Assessment*. MTSU PreK Summer Institute, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Ridgley, R. (2009, January). *Orientation to the Routines-Based Interview*. Project HELP, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Ridgley, R. (2006, October). *Gathering and sharing information about children*. First United Methodist Preschool, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Ridgley, R., Christle, C. A., Jolivette, K., & Igo, A. (2001, March). *Using PowerPoint presentations as a means to deliver content for a service learning project*. University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky.

Christle, C. A., **Ridgley, R.**, Jolivette, K., & Igo, A. (2001, March). *How to create web pages as a part of a service learning project*. University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky.

Ridgley, R., Christle, C. A., & Hasselbring, T. (2000, November). *How to create*

web syllabi using Netscape Composer. University of Kentucky,
Lexington, Kentucky.

Funded Grants

External

Instruction

Grow Your Own Scholarships for Teacher Apprentices (co-principal investigator), by TN Grow Your Own Center 7/1/24 – 8/31/25 (\$252,000, pending TDOE allocation).

Grow Your Own Grant with Murfreesboro City Schools to Recruit and Develop Highly Effective Educators (principal investigator), by Tennessee's Department of Education 8/1/21 – 8/31/23 (\$200,000).

Research

TEIDS Plus-Integrating Quality Assurance and Data-Based Decision-Making to Enhance IFSP Quality, Implementation, and Child and Family Outcomes. Submitted November 16, 2006 to the Institute of Education Sciences (Sub-contract with Vanderbilt University/Siskin Children's Institute for \$185,926.00; Total Grant \$1,570,488)

Service

MTSU Home and Community-Based Early Intervention Program (principal investigator), by Tennessee's Early Intervention System of the Department of Developmental & Intellectual Disabilities 7/1/20-6/30/21 (\$761,152) — Service only.

MTSU Home and Community-Based Early Intervention Program (principal investigator), by Tennessee's Early Intervention System of the Department of Education Funded 7/1/2019-6/30/20 (\$747,312) —Service only.

M'TSU Home and Community-Based Early Intervention Program (principal investigator), by Tennessee's Early Intervention System of the Department of Education. Funded 7/1/2016-6/30/2019 (\$2,241,936)—Service only.

Ann Campbell Early Learning Center (application co-writer and submitter). United Way of Rutherford & Canon Counties, Community Partner. Funded 7/1/2016-6/30/2019 (\$95,000/year).

Ann Campbell Early Learning Center (application writer and submitter). United Way of Rutherford & Canon Counties, Community Partner. Funded 7/1/2015-6/30/2015 (\$95,000).

MTSU Home and Community-Based Early Intervention Program (principal investigator), by Tennessee's Early Intervention System of the Department of Education. Funded 7/1/2015-6/30/2016 (\$747,312)—Service only.

MTSU Home and Community-Based Early Intervention Program (principal investigator), by Tennessee's Early Intervention System of the Department of Education. Funded 7/1/2014-6/30/2015 (\$747,169)—Service only.

MTSU Home and Community-Based Early Intervention Program (principal investigator), by Tennessee's Early Intervention System of the Department of Education. Funded 7/1/2013-6/30/2014 (\$668,509)—Service only.

MTSU Home and Community-Based Early Intervention Program (principal investigator), by Tennessee's Early Intervention System of the Department of Education. Funded 7/1/2012-6/30/2013 (\$697,032)—Service only.

MTSU Home and Community-Based Early Intervention Program (principal investigator), by Tennessee's Early Intervention System of the Department of Education. Funded 7/1/2011-6/30/2012 (\$556,000)—Service only.

MTSU Home and Community-Based Early Intervention Program (faculty advisor). Funded 8/1/2010-6/30/2011, by Tennessee's Early Intervention System of the Department of Education (\$644,000). Service and Research project entitled, Exploring the use of home visiting practices used by early interventionists.

Internal – Middle Tennessee State University

Research

Faculty Research and Creative Activity Grant: Exploring the Relationship Between a Job-Embedded Professional Development System and the Beliefs and Practices Used by Early Intervention Professionals. Funded for August 2012-May 2013. (\$4200.00).

Faculty Research and Creative Activity Grant: Investigating the Process of Home Visiting in Early Intervention. Funded for August 2006-May 2007. (\$7414.00).

Instructional

Instructional Technologies Development Fellowship: Creating Innovative Modules to Support Pre-Service Teachers: Module II, Supporting Diverse Children. Summer 2010 (\$3500.00).

Service

Public Service Grant: Creating Environments Conducive to Learning: A Community Based Approach (co-principal investigator). 10/11/2005. (\$2500.00).

Grants Submitted

External

Research

Data-based Feedback to Parents in Early Intervention Home Visits (investigator). Submitted July 26, 2007, to the Institute of Education Sciences (Sub-contract with Vanderbilt University for \$71,833). Not funded.

Service

Child Care Resource & Referral Agency for Davidson County (co-principal investigator). Submitted May 22, 2009, to Signal Centers, Inc. (\$558,692). Not funded.

Internal – Middle Tennessee State University**Service**

Public Service Grant: Supporting Emerging Readers Using Informational Texts. 9/13/13. (\$1350.00) Not funded.

Doctoral Dissertation Committees

Desiree Vannatta (Graduated, December 2019): *Self Regulated Learning Model Used as a Framework for Learning and Work in an English III Classroom Setting*

Regan Aymett (Graduated, May 2018): *The Effect of Performance Feedback on Oral Reading Fluency.*

Fran Hamilton (Graduated, December 2016): *Factors that influence kindergarten teachers' decisions of when to engage the natural curiosities of students.* Ed.D. in Assessment, Learning, & School Improvement.

Penny Thompson (Graduated, May 2015): *Scaffolding emergent literacy skills in pre-kindergarten through writing instruction.* Ph.D. in Literacy Studies.

Masters Thesis Chair of Committee

Yoshiko Jackson (Graduated: December 2017): *The Relationships Between Early Intervention Service Dosage and Child Outcome Growth Patterns*

Angela Phay (Graduated: May 2012): *The Effect of Guilt on Mothers' Satisfaction Concerning Maternal Employment.*

Cynthia Harris (Graduated: December 2010): *The Relationship of Elderly Nursing Home Residents' Self-esteem and Depression with the Level of Participation in an On-site Intergenerational Pre-school Program.*

Joy Odjegba (Graduated: Summer 2009): *Factors Affecting the Academic Achievement (GPA) of Second Semester Freshmen Students.*

Masters Thesis Committees

Brian Raftery (Graduated: May 2016): *Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP): An Examination of Pre-service Teachers.*

Tracey DeLong (Graduated: Spring 2012). *Child Life Intervention for Children of Critically Ill Family Members*

Antranette Stringer (Graduated: Summer 2010): *Intimate Partner Violence:*

- The Effects of Social Support on Mental Health*
 Brelinda Johnson (Graduated: Summer 2009): *The Effect of Parental Involvement on Academic Success in Higher Learning Institutions.*
- J. Cristin Jordan (Graduated: Fall 2008): *The Effects of Sexual Aggression on Self-Esteem: Do Constructs Make a Difference?*
- Jennifer Hansen (Graduated: Summer, 2007): *Family Centered Service: Parental Perceptions on the Focus of Early Intervention Home Visiting Practices*
- Natalie Hughes (Graduated: Summer, 2007): *Perceived Parenting Changes Since the September 11, 2001 Attacks and Subsequent Terrorist Activities*
- Rebecca Seul (Graduated: Spring 2007): *The Role of Multi-tiered Mentoring in Service-Learning in Higher Education.*

Honors College Thesis Committees

- Lauren Grizzard (Graduated: Spring 2019): *Implementation of Classroom Pedagogies into a Children's Church Environment Through Volunteer Training.*

Consultations

- Childcare Instrument Development Project, University of Tennessee College of Social Work, Office of Research and Public Service (2007-2008).
 Provided training and technical assistance related to use of the Caregiver Interaction Scale pilot and full child care study.
- PUSH Child Development Center, Frankfort, Kentucky (2004, March/April).
 Conducted performance evaluations for teachers and teaching assistants of inclusive toddler and preschool classrooms.
- PUSH Child Development Center, Frankfort, Kentucky (2001, May).
 Conducted performance evaluations for teachers and teaching assistants of inclusive toddler and preschool classrooms.

Service Activities

National

- Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation, Site Visitor, Summer 2022-Present
- Conference Proposal Reviewer, American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education, 2025, 2026
- Conference Proposal Reviewer, National Association of the Education of Young Children, 2020
- Conference Proposal Reviewer, International Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2023
- Division for Early Childhood Review & Selection Committee, 2014
- Division for Early Childhood Topic Group Member for Revision of the DEC Recommended Practices, 2013
- Guest Reviewer, *Journal of Childhood Education*, 2013-14

Editorial Board Member, *Topics in Early Childhood Special Education*, 2010-Present
Guest Reviewer, *Topics in Early Childhood Special Education*, May 2010
Guest Reviewer, *Journal of Early Intervention*, 2008-2009, 2012, 2021, 2022
Governmental Relations Committee, International Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children, 2005-2010
Conference Proposal Reviewer, International Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children, 2004
Occasional Guest Reviewer, *Young Exceptional Children*, 1999-2003, 2011

Local/State

Tennessee Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, President, 2026-2028
Tennessee Department of Education Educator Preparation Providers State Review Team, 2025
Homer Pittard Campus School BizTown Interviews for 4th and 5th graders 2024, 2025, 2026
Tennessee Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, President-Elect, 2024-2026
Bi-Annual Conference Proposal Reviewer, Tennessee Association of Colleges for Teacher Education 2024-2025, 2025-2026
Tennessee Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, Survey Taskforce, Fall 2022
Nashville State Community College Education Advisory Board, 2021-2023
Tennessee Department of Education, Education & Training Advisory Council, 2020-26
Tennessee Department of Education, Educator Preparation Working Group, 2020-22
Grow Your Own Initiatives, January 2020-present. Worked with groups from Murfreesboro City Schools, Williamson and Maury Counties, and Warren County, respectively, to support efforts to develop teacher preparation programs for individuals currently working in districts. The teams included district, TN DOE, community college, and MTSU personnel.
Hobgood Elementary School, 1st grade Weekly Volunteer, Jan-March 2020
Siegel Middle School, Pathway Fair Guest Speaker, December 3, 2019
United Way of Rutherford & Cannon Counties, PreK/K Advisory Group, 2019
Project Transformation Summer Reading at Woodbury United Methodist Church, July 2018
Hobgood Elementary School, Weekly Volunteer, 2016-2019
United Way of Rutherford & Cannon Counties, Community Youth Initiatives Council, 2015-2018
Murfreesboro City Schools PreK Advisory Council, 2015-2018
First United Methodist Church Preschool Board Chairperson, 2014-16
Tennessee's Interagency Coordinating Council Chair, 2013-2014
Tennessee's Interagency Coordinating Council Member, 2010-2014

Search Committee, Tennessee Department of Education Director of the Office of Early Childhood Special Education, April 2011
Siegel Elementary School, Weekly Volunteer, 2008-2014
Middle Tennessee State University, Early Childhood Education Liaison for Discovery Center at Murfree Springs Grant, 2008-2009.
Advisory Board Member, Project HELP, 2007-2014
CAN Coordinator for Kentucky Division for Early Childhood, 2003-2004
CAN Coordinator for Kentucky Division for Early Childhood, 2000-2002
Volunteer Review Team Member for United Way of Nashville, 1998-2000

Internal-Middle Tennessee State University

Elementary Faculty Search Committee, 2025-2026
MTSU University Council for Sponsored Scholarship, 2025-2026
MTSU Strategic Plan 2035 Implementation, Priority 2 Co-Chair, 2024-Present
MTSU Strategic Planning 2035, Student Success Chair 2023-2024
Faculty Learning Community on Assessment Co-Facilitator 2023-2024
MTSU Assessment Coordinator Committee, 2022-2025
Dean of the College of Liberal Arts Search Committee, 2021-2022
MTSU Title IX Advisor, 2020-Present
AASCU/APLU Student Support Services College of Education Representative, September 2020
President's COVID-19 Operational Task Force, Administration & Operations Subcommittee, May 2020
University Planning Committee, 2018-2020
Member of the Network for Educator Preparation Partnership with, College of Education, Rutherford County Schools, and Tennessee Department of Education 2017-20
College of Education HUB Committee, 2017-18
Student Appeals Committee, 2015-17
Faculty Support to the Ann Campbell Early Learning Center, 2015-16
Department Promotion & Tenure Committee Chair, 2015-16
Early Childhood Education Preschool Teacher Search Committee Member, 2015
Grade Appeals Committee, 2014-16
Academic Scheduling Committee, 2014-16
Assessment, Learning, & School Improvement, Ed.D. Program Faculty, 2014-2016
Assessment, Learning, & School Improvement Faculty Search Committee, 2013-14 & 2015-16
Early Childhood Education CDC Director Search Committee Chair, 2013
College of Education Promotion and Tenure Committee, 2012-13
Department Promotion and Tenure Committee, Elementary & Special Education, 2012-14
Career Achievement Award Committee, 2012-2014
University Relations Committee, 2012-2014
Early Childhood Education Preschool Teacher Search Committee Member,

2012

College Curriculum Committee, College of Education, 2011-2014
Early Childhood Education Faculty Search Committee Chair, 2011-12
University Curriculum Committee, 2010-2011
Early Childhood Education Program Coordinator, 2010-2014
Planning Committee, PreK Summer Institute, June 2010
Cross Categorical Committee, Elementary & Special Education and Human Sciences Department, 2010-11
Early Childhood Faculty Search Committee, Human Sciences Department, 2008-2009
Reliability & Validity Committee, College of Education & Behavioral Sciences, 2008-2009.
Academic Appeals Subcommittee, College of Education & Behavioral Sciences, 2007-2009.
Early Childhood Faculty Search Committee, Human Sciences Department, 2007-2008
NCATE Follow-up Committee, College of Education & Behavioral Sciences, 2006-2007
Grade Appeals Committee, College of Education & Behavioral Sciences, 2006-2008
Research Committee, College of Education & Behavioral Sciences, 2005-2008
Scholarship Committee, College of Education & Behavioral Sciences, 2005-2007
Curriculum Committee, Human Sciences Department, 2005-2008, 2009-2010
Scholarship Committee, Human Sciences Department, 2005-2010

Internal-University of Kentucky

Search Committee Member for faculty in Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education program in the Department of Special Education & Rehabilitation Counseling, UK, Summer 2001-Spring 2002

Internal-Vanderbilt University

Vanderbilt University Community Giving Campaign Co-coordinator for the Kennedy Center, 1998

Professional Memberships

Council for Exceptional Children, 1997-Present

- Division for Early Childhood, 1997-Present
- Teacher Education Division, 2000-2018

National Association for the Education of Young Children 1997-Present
International Society on Early Intervention 2016-Present
American Educational Research Association, Division H, 2015-2017
International Literacy Association, 2013-2015

American Council on Rural Special Education 2003-2007
Southern Association for Early Childhood Association 1997-2017
Tennessee Association for the Education of Young Children 2005-2017
Tennessee Alliance for Early Education 2006-Present
Tennessee Alliance for Equity in Education

Honors and Awards

Appointed by the Governor to Tennessee's Interagency Coordinating Council,
2010
Visiting Distinguished Faculty Award, University of Kentucky Graduate
School, Spring 2004
Ed Blackhurst Graduate Research Funding Award, Department of Special
Education & Rehabilitation Counseling at the University of Kentucky,
Fall 2003
Graduate School Student Support Fund Recipient, University of Kentucky,
Spring and Fall 2003