

Molly Sawyer

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Professional Vision

To utilize my unique talents as an inclusive educator, advocacy leader, and thoughtful problem solver to develop the full potential of others while serving the University and my community.

Education

Doctor of Philosophy

Educational Leadership:

Leadership, Culture, and Curriculum

Miami University – 2020

Master of Educational Leadership

University of Dayton – 2008

Bachelor of Science in Education

Ball State University – 1994

Licensure

Ohio Teacher License Grades 1-8 (current)

Ohio Principal License (current)

Professional Summary

Director of Clinical Field Placement Office and Student Teaching

Coordinator of International Student Teaching

Miami University, 2020-current

- Coordinate placements for Student Teachers and Field Students (600+ per semester)
- Communicate and develop partnerships with over 40 Host School Districts
- Supervise and evaluate 32 University Supervisors, 2 Administrative Assistants, 1 Grad Assistant
- Mentor Student Teachers through face to face seminars and virtual meetings
- Design needed protocols for health and safety, training and program management
- Analyze challenges related to Student Teacher programming
- Develop online courses using Canvas, an online learning platform
- Manage all student concerns related to field placements during one on one meetings
- Review data of program effectiveness for the Student Teaching experience
- Develop new course materials based upon needs of students and local schools
- Evaluate and implement program changes as student needs or data indicates
- Gather relevant data and write narratives for CAEP Accreditation reports
- Travel internationally to monitor Student Teachers in Luxembourg and Ireland
- Maintain flexibility to meet the needs of students and faculty in multiple countries
- Advocate for the needs of early career teachers and current educators

edTPA Assessment Coordinator

Miami University, 2019-current

- Create edTPA Assessment modules for students
- Provide guidance for Student Teacher Supervisors regarding edTPA coaching
- Supervise student submission dates and review score reports of completed portfolios
- Represent Miami University during monthly calls with Pearson and other Ohio universities
- Mentor Student Teachers when scores fall below Miami score expectation
- Develop Remediation Plan as needed for students who fail to meet passing score
- Assume responsibility for all Student Teaching courses as Instructor, beginning March 2020
- Monitor Student Teacher completion of all Licensure and Graduation requirements
- Maintain regular communication with Student Teachers as Licensure changes develop
- Connect with College Dean, Associate Deans, Department Chair, Faculty, and Advisors
- Seek Online Training opportunities with Pearson regarding Remote Learning submissions
- Monitor data reports to recommend necessary changes to student preparation

LEND Parent Coordinator and Family Faculty Member

Division of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics

Cincinnati Children's Hospital, 2017-2022

LEND is an interdisciplinary training program that prepares professionals for leadership roles in providing inclusive health and related services for individuals with neurodevelopmental disabilities.

- Mentor LEND Trainees to better understand Family Centered Care
- Problem solve meeting the complex needs of children with neurodevelopmental disabilities
- Develop advocacy skills of Family Specialist Trainees, parents of children with disabilities
- Share parent perspective of inclusion with multidisciplinary team of Faculty members
- Create multi-modal training sessions to engage prior knowledge and stretch new understanding
- Develop diversity training curriculum to engage early career medical trainees
- Cultivate relationships with Language Access Services, Interpreters, and local Spanish speaking research participants in Cincinnati
- Co-Lead Investigator for two research projects
- Primary Investigator for one research project
- Co-Author on published manuscript

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Miami University, 2016-2019

- Instruct Miami University undergraduate courses, as assigned
- Create classroom experiences that develop undergraduate student understanding of education, philosophy, democracy, and historical impact of social foundations
- Foster awareness of current social and educational climate
- Utilize personal experience as a trans-racial adoptive parent to encourage students to consider multiple perspectives relative to access to resources and educational perspectives
- Work alongside students to co-create course assessment plan
- Utilize student feedback to improve course development and teaching style
- Design immersive activities that allow students to better engage in course material

edTPA Portfolio Assessor

Pearson Educational Group, 2011-2015

- Assess and score edTPA portfolios of pre-service teachers
- Participate in regular online training and professional development through Pearson
- Evaluate portfolios and video lessons using rubric system
- Provide feedback to Pearson of edTPA assessment during project pilot in 2011

LEND Family Specialist Trainee

Cincinnati Children's Hospital, 2014-2015

- Develop knowledge to improve systems for children with developmental disabilities
- Explore interdisciplinary education that emphasizes the integration of services from state and local agencies and organizations, private providers, and communities
- Complete Evidence-based Method Research- Cincinnati Homelessness: Family Perspective
Collaborate with an interdisciplinary team to conduct a Group Level Assessment with caregivers who are currently residing in homeless shelters in the greater Cincinnati area. Data collected was utilized to plan future services and programming to address the social, emotional, behavioral, educational, and medical needs of children who reside in the homeless shelters
- Present research at Association of University Centers on Disability, Washington, DC

Elementary Classroom Teacher

Centerville City Schools in Centerville Ohio, 1996-2016

- Taught Grades 1, 2, and 3 – including inclusion and gifted clusters
- Co-create a student-centered learning environment with students
- Clinical Educator – hosted 15+ College Student Teachers and High School Block Students
- Differentiate teaching methods and materials to meet student needs and interests
- Provide whole group, small group, and individualized instruction based on student needs
- Maintain ongoing assessment plan and data analysis to plan age-appropriate lessons
- Instructional Mentor for Resident Educators
- Principal Designate for ten years, in three different Primary and Elementary buildings
- Implement instructional decisions based upon classroom data collection
- Assist on 13 hiring committees for teaching and administrative positions
- Nurture positive relationships with students, parents and caregivers
- Secure grant funding from multiple local and national sources for classroom projects

Student Teacher Liaison

University of Dayton, 2010

- Demonstrate commitment to Pre-Service Teachers and post-secondary education
- Develop relationships with local school districts during observation visits
- Supervise and evaluate collegiate student participation and teaching preparedness
- Coach Student Teachers on educational planning and presentation skills

Research Experience

Doctoral Dissertation

- *Generation Opioid: Teacher Perspectives of Students Affected by Opioids*
Abstract: This study explored teachers' perspectives of experiences with students affected by Opioid exposure using Bronfenbrenner's Bioecological Model, which provides a structure for considering how teachers frame their experiences of close interaction with Opioid affected students. Teacher responses during interviews are presented using a narrative format. Discussion provides a summary of teacher perspectives and poses interventions to address the universal impact of chronic childhood trauma experienced by students affected by Opioids. Interventions structured to address each layer of influence as noted by Bronfenbrenner's model provide a format to address teacher perspectives shared during interviews. This study established practices for how to meet the needs of Opioid affected students by considering how to best support their current teachers and questions how teacher preparation could evolve to best meet the needs of future educators.

Co-Primary Investigator for two research projects at Cincinnati Children's Hospital

- *Determining the Developmental, Behavioral, and Healthcare Needs of Children in Cincinnati Homeless Shelters: The Family Point of View*
- *Promotores de Salud: Perceptions about Cultural Appropriateness and usefulness of the "Autism Promotor Manual"*

Primary Investigator for research project at Cincinnati Children's Hospital

- *Exploring Cultural Competency: Perspectives on Diversity/Equity/Inclusion from Early Career Medical Professionals in the Cincinnati LEND Training Program*

Co-Author on Manuscript

- "Striving for Structure and Stability in Cincinnati's Family Homeless Shelters: A Community-Based Participatory Research Approach"

Publications

Williams-Arya, P., Vaughn, L., Nidey, N., Sawyer, M., Porter, K., Froelich, T. (2021) Striving for structure and stability in Cincinnati's family homeless shelters: A community-based participatory research approach. *Family & Community Health*.

Invited Speaker

- Guest Lecturer, Clinical Conditions in Pediatric Occupational Therapy, University of Cincinnati
- Guest Panelist, *Supporting Teacher Candidates- Virtual Environment*, Pearson Educational Group
- Guest Lecturer, *Childhood Trauma and Foster Youth*, Clinical Psychology at Miami University
- Guest Lecturer, *Parenting Drug Affected Infants*, Speech Pathology at Ball State University
- Guest Speaker, *Advocating for Children with Developmental Disabilities*, Montgomery County Children Services Foster Parent Training

Leadership in Action – Service to Community

- Faculty Liaison to Living Learning Community: Education, Family and Society
- Miami University & Greater Cincinnati Partnership Council member
- Co-Lead for revitalized Miami University/Oxford Community/Talawanda Schools Collaborative
- Coordinator of Salvation Army Angel Tree donations from Student Teacher Cohort
- College of Education Dean's Success Team member, Miami University
- College of Education Petitions Committee Member, Miami University
- Howe Writing Fellow, Miami University
- Board Member, Miami University-Miami Child Development Center
- Contributor to Ohio State project, The Impact of the Opioid Crisis on Young Children: An Online Training Module for Childcare Professionals
- Selected by Georgetown University to attend the Leadership Institute for Cultural Diversity and Cultural and Linguistic Competence in Santa Fe, NM
- Awarded Roz Parrish Leadership & Service Award by LEND-Cincinnati Children's Hospital
- Principal Designate for Centerville: Weller Elementary, Cline Elementary, Primary Village South
- Selected member of Centerville K-1 Leadership Committee to develop programming
- Selected as Teacher Representative, Vision and Mission Committee for Centerville City Schools
- Volunteer at Brigid's Path, special care nursery for Opioid affected infants in Dayton, Ohio

Presentations: National

2024 Hawaii International Education Conference, Presentation

Generation Opioid: Teacher Perspectives of Students affected by Opioids

2021 AMCHP National Conference Poster Presentation, Virtual

Building Family Professional Partnerships through Feedback from Family Advocates

2019 AUCD National Conference Poster Presentation, Washington DC

Promotores de Salud: Perceptions about Cultural Appropriateness and Usefulness of the "Autism Promotor Manual"

2018 AERA Conference Roundtable Discussion, New York NY

Navigating the Ride: Exploring Educational Outcomes for Youth in Foster Care

2018 Maternal and Child Health Bureau Making Lifelong Connections, Tampa FL

Peer Introduction of Cincinnati "SOAR"- Starting Our Adventure Right

2017 AUCD National Conference Poster Presentation, Washington DC

Determining the Developmental, Behavioral, and Healthcare Needs of Children in Cincinnati Homeless Shelters: The Family Point of View

2017 Maternal and Child Health Bureau Making Lifelong Connections, Seattle WA

Cincinnati Homelessness Study: The Family Perspective

Presentations: Local and State

2019 Ohio River Valley Opioid Research Council Annual Conference, Athens OH
Snapshots of Prenatal Opioid Exposure: Life as a Mother, Teacher, Researcher

2018 Miamisburg City Schools Teacher Inservice Day, Miamisburg OH
Teaching Outside of the Box

Cincinnati Children's Hospital, LEND Presentations to Trainees:

Cultural Competency: Who am I in the work?

Cultural Competency: When Icebergs Collide

The Journey: Providing Family-Centered Medical Care for Foster Families

Family Centered Care Principles

ADHD: First Hand Perspectives from a Mother and Son

Centerville Schools Staff Development Presentations to Educators:

Understanding the Culture of Foster Care

School Age Foster Youth in the Classroom

The Effects of Fostering on the Family

Meeting the Needs of Under-Resourced Learners

Invisible Kids: Book Study

Tips for Organizing Guided Reading

Academic Volunteer Training

Incorporating Math Buddies & Family Math Night

Take Home Learning Bags: Using Children's Literature to Encourage Learning at Home

Grant Funding

Miami University, College of Education, Health & Society Mentorship Grant

Miami University, Technology Grant for GoReact implementation

ING Unsung Heroes, The Meadow Project at Primary Village South and Cline Elementary

McDonald's MAC Grant, Developing a Classroom Economy at Weller Elementary

Centerville Business Grant, Exploring Careers through Play at Primary Village South

Centerville Education Foundation, Hands-On Letter Play at Cline Elementary

Centerville Education Foundation, Math Buddies and Family Math Night at Cline Elementary

Centerville Education Foundation, Take Home Learning Bags at Cline Elementary

Miami University- Oxford, Courses Taught

EDL 204 Undergraduate

Miami University

Socio-Cultural Foundations of Education

TCE 419P Undergraduate

Miami University

Primary Education Student Teaching- Clinical Field Experience

TCE 419M Undergraduate

Miami University

Middle Childhood Student Teaching- Clinical Field Experience

TCE 419A Undergraduate

Miami University

Adolescent Young Adult Student Teaching- Clinical Field Experience

TCE 519A Graduate

Miami University

Adolescent Young Adult Student Teaching- Clinical Field Experience

EDP 419 Undergraduate

Miami University

Special Education Student Teaching- Clinical Field Experience

EDP 605 Graduate

Miami University

Special Education Student Teaching- Clinical Field Experience

TCE 419I Undergraduate

Miami University

International Student Teaching- Clinical Field Experience

EDP 477 Undergraduate

Miami University

Independent Study

Understanding Teaching Methods

EDP 677 Graduate

Miami University

Independent Study

Research Inquiry: Perspectives on International Teaching