

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY™

School of Education and Human Services



ACCOLADES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Grant Proposed by Tomoko Wakabayashi Among Highest Rated Applicants

A grant proposal co-authored by Dr. Tomoko Wakabayashi, associate professor in HDCS, is among the 15th highest-rated of 385 applicants, the U.S. Department of Education announced on November 9th. The five-year project titled, "Supporting Preschool and Kindergarten Students' Self-Regulation through HighScope Curriculum Enhancements: Plan-Do Review and Conflict Resolution" will be awarded over \$3 million through the Invest in Innovation (i3) Development grant.



HighScope Educational Research Foundation, an early childhood curriculum, training, assessment, and research organization headquartered in Ypsilanti, Michigan, where Dr. Wakabayashi served as Director of Research until August, will be the primary grantee. The project will be conducted in partnership with Detroit Public Schools Community District and its impact will be evaluated by researchers at Michigan State University. Dr. Wakabayashi will serve as Co-Principal Investigator, and Dr. Julie Ricks-Doneen of HDCS will serve as advisor along with two internationally renowned self-regulation experts, Dr. Walter Gilliam of Yale University and Dr. Fred Morrison of the University of Michigan.

Congratulations to Tomoko!

S. Rebecca Leigh Presents at National Council of Teachers and Publishes Chapter

S. Rebecca Leigh, associate professor in the department of Reading and Language Arts presented at National Council of Teachers of English, which was held in Atlanta, GA. She reported on a three-month study in which 36 pre/in-service teachers were invited to create and write poems from four Idea Bundles (Verdugo, 2015) in response to four picture book read alouds that address themes of abandonment, homelessness, togetherness, and renewal. Bundles included a variety of visual/print media such as photographs, art, sheet music, newsprint, and magazines. The purpose of the study was to investigate how different visual and verbal media support students in their efforts to write creatively and descriptively and for students to



consider the pedagogical implications as they prepare to teach K-8 writing.

Recently, Rebecca's chapter titled, "First grade children discover the power of expression by creating descriptive drawings" was published in *Reclaiming Early Childhood Literacies: Narratives of Hope, Power, and Vision*, which is one of three books in the reclaiming series (e.g., *Reclaiming Reading: Teachers, Students, and Researchers Regaining Spaces for Thinking and Action*; and *Reclaiming Writing: Composing Spaces for Identities, Relationships, and Actions*) that focuses on reawakening the literacy pathways through which children grow as meaning-makers. In her chapter, Leigh asserts that weekly drawing instruction through the [Drawing Children into Reading](#) program provides children meaningful opportunities to explore powerful verbal expression where descriptive drawings lend a particular vibrancy to their ideas.

Congratulations to Rebecca!

Paul Weinberg has Article Accepted at J-PEER

Paul Weinberg, assistant professor in the department of Teacher Development and Educational Studies recently had an article accepted at the *Journal of Pre-College Engineering Education Research (J-PEER)*. The article is entitled "Mathematical Description and Mechanistic Reasoning: A Pathway towards STEM Integration."



Because reasoning about mechanism is critical to disciplined inquiry in STEM domains, this study focuses on ways to support the development of this form of reasoning in K-12 STEM education.

This study attends to children's mechanistic reasoning and how this reasoning is constituted through mathematical description.

Congratulations to Paul!

IN THE NEWS

Research Support Committee Introduces 2016-18 Fellows

The 2016-18 research fellows each contribute important research areas to the school and their fields. During the next two years, they will focus their scholarship on building capacity for external grants.



Anica Bowe (TDES) will focus her grant efforts on environmental science for sustainability in developing countries in the Caribbean. In addition, she is interested in teacher professional development in developing countries within the context of professional learning communities.

Cynthia Carver (EL) will focus her grant efforts as Co-PI on the recent collaboration with the Saudi Government to provide residency experiences for teachers. She will be investigating the experience of the educators as they learn about the U.S. educational systems and the translation of teacher leadership from a cross-cultural perspective.

Darlene Groomes (HDCS) will focus her grant efforts on the strategic development and quality improvement of services provided through vocational rehabilitation counseling agencies, which serve individuals with disabilities who seek employment opportunities and independence in daily living.

Lisa Hawley (CNS) will focus her grant efforts on the impact of SES variables within counseling processes and outcomes. Emphasis is placed on the differences among various SES levels and variables such as clinical issues, demographics, health care coverage and personality traits.

Paul Morsink (RLA) will focus his efforts on investigating K-12 teachers' conceptions of "critical reading," with attention to the specific learning goals teachers see as appropriate and achievable for their students, at the grade level they teach, in terms of developing particular critical reading skills, strategies, and dispositions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Pivot Training - Learn How to Search Grant Databases - December 6, 2016

The Research Support Committee will sponsor a PIVOT training for interested faculty and staff on how to search grant databases on December 6 from 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in 360 Pawley Hall. PIVOT is a database for connecting researchers and funding opportunities (both governmental and corporations). Other databases will also be discussed.



Alex Delavan, director of sponsored programs from the Office of Research Administration will be presenting the training.

Space is limited. Please RSVP to [Lisa Hawley](#) by December 3.

Winter Door Decorating Contest - December 2016

SEHS will be hosting a door decorating contest in December 2016. The theme of the contest is WINTER and is open to all faculty and staff in Pawley Hall.

Contest winners will be voted for and announced at this year's Holiday Potluck Luncheon. For information on the luncheon, see below.



Holiday Potluck - December 14, 2016

SEHS will be hosting a holiday potluck on Wednesday, December 14, 2016 from noon-1 p.m. in 302 Pawley Hall. If you plan on attending the luncheon, please [sign up for a dish to pass](#) and as always, be sure to wear the ugliest sweater you can find!



CELEBRATIONS



If you do not wish to have your birthday included, contact James Silvestri at jmsilves@oakland.edu

ABOUT THE SEHS BULLETIN

The SEHS Bulletin is a place where faculty and staff can share news and celebrate the wonderful things happening in SEHS. The bulletin is the perfect place to share information about your publications and awards, special projects and committee news, as well as announce events.

All are welcome to send items for inclusion. If you choose to do so, please ensure that your photos are print ready, that you include all related links, and that you have permission to publish any photos being submitted. Please put "SEHS Bulletin" in the subject line and email your information to: jmsilves@oakland.edu.

If you have questions about the bulletin, email James Silvestri at jmsilves@oakland.edu.