



Spotlight on Students



Tahani Ahmed

Tahani is currently a doctoral student in Early Childhood Education. She studied Early Childhood Education at King's University in Saudi Arabia, where she obtained a Bachelor's degree and a scholarship to pursue a higher degree in Early Childhood Education. Her Master's degree was in Instruction and Curriculum with a focus on early childhood from Ashland, Ohio. She chose ETSU for her PhD in Early Childhood Education based on the fact that ETSU ECE PhD aligns with NAEYC standards and on her attraction and likeness for the Early Childhood Education website organization and program information. She particularly loves Johnson City because she likes a small city where family life for children and school is less challenging.

Tahani's research interest is on helping preservice teachers to be ready to manage the classroom with diverse students and to be able to understand the students' needs. She expects to graduate by May of 2021, depending on the speed of her research.

Currently, she is working on conference, presentations, and professional development. She is particularly interested in international conferences for early childhood education.

Student Resources

- **Boot Camp:** Thesis and Dissertation writing and editing support, workshops, time to write. Four weekend sessions per semester at Sherrod Library. Emily Frances Redd; REDD@mail.etsu.edu
- **Graduate Student Success:** Assistance with setting and maintaining personal and academic goals when experiencing stress. Ivy Buerkle; Sherrod Library, Room 462; 423-439-7062; gradsuccess@etsu.edu; <http://www.etsu.edu/gradstud/successservice.aspx>
- **Sherrod Library**
 - *Graduate Student Support:* <http://sherrod.etsu.edu/patron/grad>
 - Dr. Wendy Doucette, Graduate Services Librarian, doucettew@etsu.edu
 - *Workshops:* http://sherrod.etsu.edu/sites/default/files/2015_grad_workshop_dates.pdf

Dissertation Scholarships: For final semester: <http://www.etsu.edu/gradstud/gscholarships/thesisdissertationscholarship.aspx>

Admission Process

Applicants for the PhD in Early Childhood Education Program are evaluated once each year for admission in the fall semester. Application information deadline is March 15th. This deadline is flexible until enrollment is filled. The program has a number of fellowships to support full time doctoral students that are awarded on a competitive basis. Admission to the program has the same requirements as existing graduate school requirements plus additional specific requirements:

- Application form
- Application fee (\$35 USA or \$45 International)
- One official transcript from each institution attended (undergraduate and graduate)
- Personal résumé
- Personal essay including a written statement of career and ethical goals, professional experience, and area of interest for a dissertation
- Official Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores taken within the past five years. Preferred scores are 50th percentile or higher
- Four letters of recommendation
- Master's Degree in Early Childhood or a related field from a regionally accredited university
- An interview with the admissions committee

Early Childhood Education PhD Program

Fall 2019 Newsletter



Early Childhood Education Department

Vision

The vision of the early childhood program is to engage in and encourage lifelong learning and produce teachers, researchers and leaders who advocate for and create quality early childhood experiences in early care and education.

NAEYC Professional Preparation Standards

- STANDARD 1.** Promoting Child Development and Learning
- STANDARD 2.** Building Family and Community Relationships
- STANDARD 3.** Observing, Documenting, and Assessing to Support Young Children and Families
- STANDARD 4.** Using Developmentally Effective Approaches
- STANDARD 5.** Using Content Knowledge to Build Meaningful Curriculum
- STANDARD 6.** Becoming a Professional
- STANDARD 7.** Early Childhood Field Experiences

Honors & Awards



Ruth Copeland received the Reading Teacher of the Year award presented by the Literacy Association of Tennessee

Spotlight on Students



Qiuju Tian

Qiuju Tian is a doctoral student in Early Childhood Education. Qiuju is from China, where she obtained both her bachelor's and master's degree in Linguistics and Applied Linguistics (with a concentration in teaching Chinese as a foreign language) from the Beijing Language and Culture University.

Her interest in the American system of Early Childhood Education brought her to pursue a PhD degree in ECE. She is interested in early STEM, and her dissertation is on the exploration of the development of STEM content and pedagogical knowledge and self-efficacy in early childhood preservice teachers as they participate in microteaching practice. She plans to graduate by the fall of 2020.

Currently, she is working on stem workshops with Dr. Alissa Lange, and she will be presenting her papers at the NAECTE conference on the topic of microteaching.



Guillermo Mendoza

Guillermo Mendoza is currently a doctoral student in Early Childhood Education. He received his bachelor's degree in Psychology, and due to his passion for children's education and his early life experiences as a Dual Language Learner, he chose to complete his Master's degree in Early Childhood Education, here at ETSU.

His research is focused on various aspects of learning for Dual Language Learners (DLLs). He is currently working on his dissertation on teachers' implicit biases when it comes to nominating Spanish gifted and talented children, focusing on teacher's impact on the nomination of Spanish gifted and talented children.

Guillermo is preparing for his upcoming presentations at the NAEYC and NAECTE annual conferences. He will be presenting on "Interventions teachers can do to help dual language learners."

Guillermo's expected graduation date is fall 2020, and when asked what he would like to add to this information, he said, "A good dissertation is a done dissertation."

Faculty Scholarly Highlights

Conferences of Interest to Students and Faculty

Appalachian Association for the Education of Young Children (AAEYC): Spring Conference. Contact Beth Huber, Little Bucs Program Coordinator.

Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI): Dr. Sharp is a member of ACEI and serves in a leadership position. ACEI website: <http://acei.org/programs-events/summit.html>

The TN ACEI site: <https://www.tacei.org/>

Association for Constructivist Teaching (ACT): October conference each year. Proposals are due late spring, early summer. Dr. Broderick is a Board Member of ACT and newsletter editor. ACT's online journal, *The Constructivist*, is now a proceedings journal that also accepts outside submissions. Carolyn Hildebrandt Carolyn.hildebrandt@uni.edu and Meir Muller meirmuller@sc.rr.com are the editors. ACT website: <http://www.constructivistassociation.org/>

Association for Teacher Educators (ATE): Dr. Sharp is a member. There is an annual meeting in the spring and an annual conference in the summer. ATE website: <http://www.ate1.org/pubs/home.cfm>

Division for Early Childhood: DEC: Contact Dr. Trivette for this conference. DEC website: <http://www.dec-sped.org/proposals>

National Association for Early Childhood Teacher Educators (NAECTE): This conference is always held in conjunction with NAEYC. Proposals come out in May each year. Contact Dr. Evanshen for more information on NAECTE. NAECTE website: <http://naecte.org/>

National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC): Proposals for both the summer Professional Development Institute and fall general conferences are usually due in mid to late January: <http://www.naeyc.org/events>

Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) <http://www.sreb.org/>

Southern Early Childhood Association (SECA): This conference is held in the spring. SECA website: <http://www.southernearlychildhood.org/>

Tennessee Association for the Education of Young Children (TAEYC): This conference is held in the fall. TAEYC website: <http://www.taeyc.org/calendar.html>

ETSU Early Childhood Conference: This conference is planned for July 13, 14, & 15, 2017. All ECED faculty are contacts for this conference. <http://www.etsu.edu/coe/child/programs/conference/default.php>



Dr. Pamela Evanshen and co-author Dr. Janet Faulk's book, *Room to Learn: Elementary Classrooms Designed for Interactive Explorations*, was released in October 2019 from Gryphon House, Inc.



Faculty Presentations and Creative Activity

Dr. Atiles

Atiles, J. (2019). *ECE students' awareness of the effects and responses children have to parental divorce*. National Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators (NAECTE) conference, Nashville, TN.

Dr. Broderick

Broderick, J. T. (2019). *Social structure of children's play: Children's perceptions of status and roles*. Branches Atelier Preschool, Los Angeles, CA.

Broderick, J. T. (2019). *Social structure of children's play: Children's perceptions of status and roles*. Fullerton College, Fullerton, CA.

Broderick, J. T., Sareh, N. & Mensah-Bonsu, P. (2019). *Social structure of children's play: Children's perceptions of status and roles*. National Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators (NAECTE) conference, Nashville, TN.

Broderick, J. T., Hong, S. (2019). *Planning for emergent curriculum that aligns with the next generation science standards using the cycle of inquiry system*. Association for Constructivist Teaching Annual Conference, Ann Arbor, MI.

Dr. Evanshen

Evanshen, P., & Faulk, J. (2019). *Room to learn: Elementary classrooms designed for interactive explorations*. Silver Spring, MD: Gryphon House.

Early Childhood PhD Program Co-Coordinators:

Dr. Broderick, broderic@etsu.edu and Dr. Evanshen, evanshep@etsu.edu

Website: <http://www.etsu.edu/coe/eced/>

Apply to the Program: <http://www.etsu.edu/gradstud/>

ETSU is an AA/EEO employer. ETSU-COE-0022-19 75

Student Presentations and Creative Activity

** Doctoral Students noted in bold font.

Presentations and grants

Boynewicz, K. (2019). APTA Academy of Pediatric Physical Therapy Grant \$9,480.00 grant for the project titled "Early intervention for the caregiver-infant dyad with neonatal abstinence syndrome: A case series."

Dunlap, R. (2019). Analyzing pre-service teachers' perspectives on creativity with young children. National Association for Early Childhood Teacher Educators. Long Beach, California.

Dunlap, R. (2019). Determining if classroom pets as part of an empathy-based treatment regimen affects public elementary school students' pro-social attitudes, specifically examining empathy. Association for Constructivist Teaching. Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Dunlap, R. (2019). A coat of many colors: Implementing the project approach and teaching young children to sew. National Association for the Education of Young Children. Nashville, Tennessee.

Evanshen, P., Edokhamhan, E., Mensah-Bonsu, P., Olubowale, O., Rubayyi, F., Alkaabi, S. (July, 2019). Early childhood leadership: Good leaders, bad leaders, how best to lead! "Speed-dating format," Annual East Tennessee State University Early Childhood Conference, Kingsport, TN.

Facun-Granadozo, R., Mendoza, G., Ahmed, T., & Tian, Q. (2019, November). *Road maps and roadblocks to English language learning: Successful DLL narratives.* A presentation at the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). Nashville, TN.

Mendoza, G. (2019). Teachers gesturing: Intervention to help dual language learners in the development of English language. National Association for the Education of Young Children. Nashville, Tennessee.

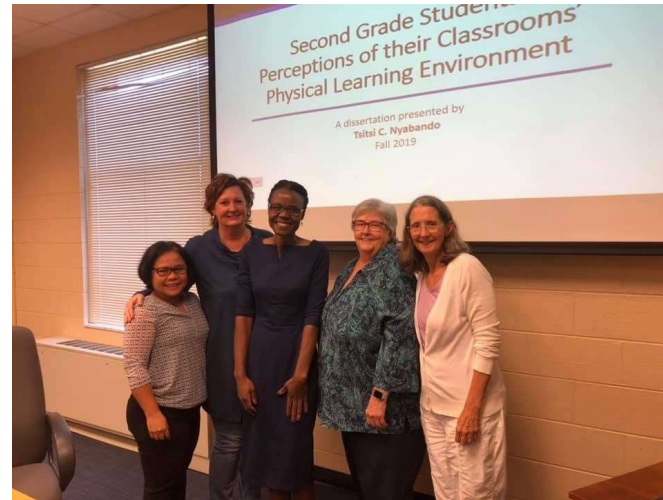
Broderick, J. T., Sareh, N. & Mensah-Bonsu, P. (2019). Social structure of children's play: Children's perceptions of status and roles. National Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators (NAECTE) conference, Nashville, TN.

Broderick, J. T., Sareh, N. & Mensah-Bonsu, P. (2019). Social structure of children's play: Children's perceptions of status and roles. Association for Constructivist Teaching Annual Conference, Ann Arbor, MI.

Lange, A. A. & Tian, D. (2019). An innovative collaboration to support pre-service candidates in early STEM. National Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators (NAECTE) conference, Nashville, TN.



Doctoral Students, Fatima Rubayyi and Ehichoya Edokhamhan, in Dr. Malkus' research course



Tsitsi Nyabando successfully defended her dissertation in fall 2019. Congratulations Dr. Nyabando!



Doctoral students, Daisy Tian, Tahani Ahmed & Guillermo Mendoza, presenting with Dr. Granadozo at NAEYC.

Faculty Presentations and Creative Activity

continued

Evanshen, P., Crowe, T., Baum, A., Parnell, W., Lake, V., Williams, R., McMurray-Schwarz, P., Taylor, L., Branscombe, A. (November, 2019). National Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators (NAECTE) Conference and Meeting: *Engaging ALL learners through quality early childhood teacher education.* National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Conference, Nashville, TN.

Nyabando, T., & Evanshen, P. (November, 2019). *Exploring 2nd grade students' perceptions of their classroom's physical learning environment.* Poster presentation at the National Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators, Nashville, TN.

O'Leary, A., **Evanshen, P.,** Loch, T., & Walker-DeVose, D. (November, 2019). *Presidential Seminar. Supporting early educators in higher education: Celebrating bright spots of progress, acknowledging the work that still needs to be done and developing a plan for ACTION.* Panel presentation at the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Conference, Nashville, TN.

Dr. Facun-Granadozo

Facun-Granadozo, R. (2019, December). *The heart of the matter: Facilitating the magic of literacy among English language learners.* A presentation at the Literacy Association of Tennessee Conference. Murfreesboro, TN.

Facun-Granadozo, R., Mendoza, G., Ahmed, T., & Tian, Q. (2019, November). *Road maps and roadblocks to English language learning: Successful DLL narratives.* A presentation at the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). Nashville, TN.

Facun-Granadozo, R. (2019, November). *Doing the dynamic dance: Three teacher candidates' residency experiences.* A paper presented at the Fall Conference of the National Association for Early Childhood Teacher Educators. Nashville, TN.

Dr. Lange

Lange, A. A. (2019). *Effects of a preschool STEM professional learning project for teachers.* Invited speaker at the 2nd International Elementary Education Congress, October 26. Muğla, Turkey. <http://utek2019.com/en/>

Lange, A.A. (2019). *Science, technology, engineering, and math explorations in the library: Lessons from the math and science story time (MASST) series.* Two-part invited webinar for librarians throughout New York State, June. New York State Libraries. <http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/earlylit/webinars.htm>

Lange, A. A. & Tian, D. (2019). *An innovative collaboration to support pre-service candidates in early STEM.* National Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators (NAECTE) conference, Nashville, TN.

Dr. Malkus

Malkus, A. & Johnson, M. (2019). *Preschool nutrition: The importance of discussing healthy eating in teacher education.* National Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators (NAECTE) conference, Nashville, TN.

Dr. Sharp

Sharp, K. & Shelton, A. (2019). *Classroom management and guidance to support all learners.* National Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators (NAECTE) conference, Nashville, TN.



Randa Dunlap, Early Childhood PhD candidate, received the People's Choice Award at 3MT presentations in Heat 3, sponsored by ETSU Graduate Studies.



Narges Sareh, pictured here on the right with Rhian Allvin, CEO of NAEYC, received the Lasting Legacy Scholarship Award from National Association of Educating Young Children (NAEYC).



Narges Sareh, Early Childhood PhD Candidate, 1st row, 2nd from the left is pictured with all recipients of the NAEYC Lasting Legacy Scholarship Award, 2019.