Dr. Amy Vessel, 2020 University Senate Chair Award Nominee
James R. Mays Endowed Professor & Clinical Residency & Recruitment Center Director

STATEMENT OF BELIEFS

I am extremely humbled and honored to represent Louisiana Tech's College of Education on a daily basis doing what I love most – recruiting teaching majors and walking alongside future teachers in their journey towards teacher certification. Since returning to my alma mater in 1999, I have had the opportunity to collaborate with some of our university's finest professors as well as hundreds of educators across the nation. I consider learning a life-long process continually revising courses while searching for best teaching practices.

My key professional areas of interest are children's literature and clinical experiences. In 2015, I began work with the International Literacy Association and The Children's Book Council as one of five sites in the country researching best books for children. I'm currently the co-chair of the Children's Choices Committee. This work has established the Student Resource Center library on the 2nd floor of Woodard Hall with more than 5,000 circulating books for our students, faculty, partner districts and the community. We also have a Children's Choices room with approximately 1,000 new publications on reserve for research purposes annually. This project also provided more than 14,000 new books for schools in Lincoln Parish, Monroe City, and Jackson Parish School Districts.

My current passion is conducting action research to support the national shift from traditional student teaching to a more prestigious and rigorous full-year clinical residency program. Through extensive data collection, professional clinical experience, and traveling across the country speaking on panels and conferences, we developed College of Education's TEAM (Teacher Educators and Mentors) Model as a rich, research-based framework to establish a clinical residency program at Louisiana Tech University. In the fall of 2015, the Clinical Residency & Recruitment Center was established in Woodard Hall, and to date, we have trained over 400 mentor teachers, coached 250 residents, and developed rich K-12 partnerships with 12 school districts including our own A.E. Phillips Laboratory School and the Tech Early Childhood Education Center. I believe the national recognition for our work in Woodard is directly aligned with similar passions across our campus, all striving to be our best. I feel very passionate about sharing our success stories through social media and our website.

In my 20th year as a professor at Louisiana Tech, I'm still in awe of our ever-changing profession as teacher preparation programs across the nation move from a traditional student teaching experience to a more prestigious full-year clinical residency program. In his famous book, *The Dot*, Children's author/illustrator Peter H. Reynolds reminds us to "make your mark, and see where it takes you." I can honestly say the professional challenges in the past five years have been extremely rigorous, but they have also been the most exciting in my career. The support from my university, college, and family has been overwhelming, and I truly believe that Louisiana Tech's College of Education will continue to receive state and national recognition for its visionary educators collaborating together to revolutionize best practices for teacher preparation.

TEACHING: Clinical & Education Courses Taught (2015-2020)

2015-2016				
Quarter	Course Title	Enrolled	Retention	Evaluation
Fall	LSCI 201: Introduction to Children's Literature	16	100%	4.0
	EDCI 416: Clinical Residency Program (all sections combined)	15	100%	Field-Based N/A
	EDCI 420M: Elementary Mathematics Practicum	10	100%	Field-Based N/A
	EDCI 420S/SS: Elementary Science/Social Studies Practicum	4	100%	Field-Based N/A
	EDCI 489C: Mentor Training	14	100%	Field-Based N/A
Winter	LSCI 201: Introduction to Children's Literature	30	94%	4.0
	EDCI 416: Clinical Residency Program (all sections combined)	18	100%	Field-Based N/A
	EDCI 416: Early Childhood Student Teaching	7	100%	Field-Based N/A
	EDCI 416: Elementary/Secondary Traditional Student Teaching	17	100%	Field-Based N/A

Spring	LSCI 201: Introduction to Children's Literature	30	93%	Not available
	EDCI 416: Clinical Residency Program (all sections combined)	18	100%	Field-Based N/A
	EDCI 416: Early Childhood Student Teaching	3	100%	Field-Based N/A
	EDCI 416: Elementary/Secondary Traditional Student Teaching	17	100%	Field-Based N/A

2016-2017				
Quarter	**Course Title**	**Enrolled**	**Retention**	**Evaluation**
Fall	LSCI 201: Introduction to Children's Literature	28	100%	Not available
	EDCI 416: Clinical Residency Program	37	100%	Field-Based N/A
	EDCI 415: Traditional Student Teaching	10	100%	Field-Based N/A
Winter	LSCI 201: Introduction to Children's Literature	36	97%	Not available
	EDCI 416: Clinical Residency Program (all sections combined)	41	100%	Field-Based N/A
	EDCI 416: Traditional Student Teaching	6	100%	Field-Based N/A
Spring	LSCI 201: Introduction to Children's Literature	21	100%	Not available
	EDCI 416: Clinical Residency Program (all sections combined)	42	100%	Field-Based N/A
	EDCI 416: Traditional Student Teaching	22	100%	Field-Based N/A

2017-2018				
Quarter	**Course Title**	**Enrolled**	**Retention**	**Evaluation**
Fall	LSCI 201: Introduction to Children's Literature	28	100%	Not available
	EDCI 489C: Mentor Training (all sections combined)	38	92%	Field-Based N/A
Winter	LSCI 201: Introduction to Children's Literature	30	90%	Not available
	EDCI 420M: Elementary Mathematics Practicum	50	98%	Field-Based N/A
Spring	LSCI 201: Introduction to Children's Literature	32	94%	Not available
	EDCI 420M: Elementary Mathematics Practicum	41	98%	Field-Based N/A

2018-2019				
Quarter	**Course Title**	**Enrolled**	**Retention**	**Evaluation**
Fall	EDCI 416: Clinical Residency Program	54	98%	Field-Based N/A
	EDCI 416: Traditional Student Teaching	10	100%	Field-Based N/A
Winter	EDCI 207: Learning and Development (online)	31	87%	Not available
	EDCI 416: Clinical Residency Program (all sections combined)	47	98%	Field-Based N/A
	EDCI 416: Traditional Student Teaching	4	100%	Field-Based N/A
Spring	EDCI 416: Clinical Residency Program (all sections combined)	47	100%	Field-Based N/A
	EDCI 416: Traditional Student Teaching	35	100%	Field-Based N/A
	EDCI 207: Learning and Development (online)	67	94%	Not available

2019-2020				
Quarter	**Course Title**	**Enrolled**	**Retention**	**Evaluation**
Fall	LSCI 201: Introduction to Children's Literature	25	100%	Not available
	EDCI 473: Secondary Practicum	9	100%	Field-Based N/A
	EDCI 416: Clinical Residency Program (all sections combined)	40	100%	Field-Based N/A
	EDCI 416: Traditional Student Teaching	6	100%	Field-Based N/A
	EDCI 569: Introduction to Mentor Teacher/Content Leader Training (online)	39	100%	Field-Based N/A
Winter	LSCI 201: Introduction to Children's Literature	39	100%	Not available
	EDCI 473: Secondary Practicum	9	100%	Field-Based N/A
	EDCI 416: Clinical Residency Program (all sections combined)	43	100%	Field-Based N/A
	EDCI 416: Traditional Student Teaching	5	100%	Field-Based N/A
	EDCI 570: Mentor Teacher Training (online)	23	100%	Field-Based N/A
Spring	LSCI 201: Introduction to Children's Literature	33		
	EDCI 473: Secondary Practicum	13		
	EDCI 416: Clinical Residency Program (all sections combined)	40		
	EDCI 416: Traditional Student Teaching	14		

NOTE: I did not have access to all course evaluations due to the quarantine. LSCI course evaluations averaged 3.9 prior to the new evaluation system. Since, no more than 2-4 students in class completed the new evaluation system, and the average rating was approximately 3.2. Other courses are field-based with professional development including guest speakers and have not been traditionally evaluated.

III. RESEARCH

CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP

- ***Clinical Data Institute, September 20, 2019.*** *Coordinated a 1-day event held at the Lincoln Parish Events Center featuring US PREP exploring research and national clinical models as well as best practices for sharing clinical data with district partners. Attended by 12 Louisiana university teacher preparation programs and district stakeholders.*

- **Clinical Research Summer Institute, July 10-11, 2018.** *Coordinated a 2-day event held in Louisiana Tech's Davison Athletic Complex featuring Kansas State University's Clinical Team to take a deeper dive in SWIVL and ZOOM technologies.*

- **National Field Experience Conference, April 5-6, 2017.** *Served as Louisiana Coordinator for 2-day event held in University Hall and Student Center on Louisiana Tech's campus with more than 75 presentations and approximately 200 educators from more than 60 universities and 20+states.*

- **National Field Experience Pre-Conference, April 4, 2017.** *Served as Louisiana Coordinator for full-day event held in the Davison Athletic Complex on Louisiana Tech's campus in Ruston, LA featuring three main workshops with more than 100 educators in attendance.*

- **Clinical Residency Conference, June 2016.** *Coordinated and presented at full-day event training more than 100 TEAM Mentors at annual clinical conference held in Louisiana Tech's University Hall in Ruston, LA.*

INVITED NATIONAL PANELIST/KEYNOTE SPEAKER

- **National Co-Teaching Conference "Co-Teaching: The Challenges of Change and the Joys of the Journey**", October 2019. Minneapolis, MN. (Keynote speaker)
- **International Literacy Association's Children's Literature Day**, **July 2018.** *Invited speaker at Authors Panel at special post-conference event. Austin, TX.*
- **National Co-Teaching Conference "Getting Buy-In and Sustaining Co-Teaching"**, October 2017. (with Teresa Heck, Ann Sebald, Kerry Goree, etc.) Minneapolis, MN. (panelist)
- **West Virginia State Department of Education Meeting**, October 2017 (with National Teacher Residency Center, etc.) Wheeling, WV. (panelist)
- **Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) Conference**, June 2017 (with Louisiana State Department of Education, Shavonda Washington) New Orleans, LA. (panelist)
- **National Field Experience Pre-Conference Residency Panel**, April 2017 (with Louisiana State Department of Education, Louisiana Tech College of Education) Ruston, LA. (panelist)
- **U.S. Bus Tour: TEAM Model Panel.** *September 2016. To the U.S. Bus Tour with Sec. of Education John King, Monroe, LA (with Dr. Don Schillinger, Brent Vidrine, Hannah Dietch, Julie Stephenson, and Sallie Humble Mentor/Resident TEAM)*(panelist)

ADDITIONAL INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- **Establishing A Strong Clinical Framework for Your Teacher Preparation Program: 2019 National Trends**, April 2019. To the National Field Experience Conference, Greeley, CO (with Teresa Heck)
- **Co-Teaching Patterns in a Full-Year Residency Program**, October 2018. *To the National Co-Teaching Conference, Minneapolis, MN (with Dawn Basinger)*
- **Monitoring Co-Teaching Success in a Full-Year Residency Program,** October 2017. *To the National Co-Teaching Conference, Minneapolis, MN*

- **The 2019 Children's Choice Book Awards**, October 2019, To the International Literacy Association Conference, New Orleans, LA (with the 2018-2019 ILA Children's Choices Awards Committee).
- **The 2018 Children's Choice Book Awards,** July 2018, *To the International Literacy Association Conference, Austin, TX (with the 2017-2018 ILA Children's Choice Awards Committee)*
- **Building A Strong Educator Workforce:** Understand and Use Educator Workforce Data, May 2018. *Invited speaker at Louisiana's Teacher Leader Summit, Louisiana Department of Education, New Orleans, LA.*
- **Building Stronger School District Partnerships for Engaging Field/Clinical Experiences**, April 2018. *To the National Field Experience Conference, Greeley, CO.*
- **Bringing Prestige to Education through Innovative Field Experiences between a College of Education and University Athletic Program,** April 2018. *To the National Field Experience Conference, Greeley, CO.*
- **The TEAM Model Clinical Styles Inventory: The Foundation of a Successful Co-Teaching Partnership,** October 2017. *To the National Co-Teaching Conference, Minneapolis, MN (with Dr. Dawn Basinger).*
- **Co-Teaching from August to May…the TEAM Model Way!,** October 2017. *To the National Co-Teaching Conference, Minneapolis, MN (with Dr. Dawn Basinger).*
- **The 2017 Children's Choice Book Awards,** July 2017, *To the International Literacy Association Conference, Orlando, FL (with the 2016-2017 ILA Children's Choice Awards Committee)*
- **What's Your Clinical Style? Mentor/Resident Matching: An Essential Component to A Successful Clinical Residency Experience**, April 2016. *To the National Field Experience Conference, Ruston, LA (with Dr. Dawn Basinger)*
- **A Fresh Perspective: What It's Really Like to Be A Senior Education Major Co-Teaching in a Full-Year Clinical Residency**, April 2016. *To the National Field Experience Conference, Ruston, LA (with Dr. Dawn Basinger, Mentor Shannon Embanato and the 16-17 clinical residents)*
- **TEAM Model Expert Panel**, April 2016. *To the National Field Experience Conference Pre-Conference, Ruston, LA (with Dr. Dawn Basinger, Mr. Mike Milstead, District Liaison Julie Stephenson, Principal Michelle Thrower, Mentor Katheryn Martin, Resident Kristen Seal, Clinical Liaison Julie Shrubb, 14-15 Completer Shavonda Washington)*

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapter
Vessel, A. & Basinger, D.(In Press). "The Teacher Educators and Mentors (TEAM) Model: A Full-Year Clinical Residency Program." In P. E. Bernhardt, T. Conway, & G. Richardson (Eds.) *Collaborative Models for Clinical Practice: Reflections from the Field*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.

Invited National Online Publications/Interviews
Vessel, A. (2020) The Framework in a University Setting – Louisiana Tech. Interview with The Danielson Group. [https://danielsongroup.org/blog/blog/2020/02/22/framework-university-setting-louisiana-tech**]**

Vessel, A. (2019) Louisiana Tech's Residents Prepare for the Future With SWIVL. Interview with SWIVL. [https://www.swivl.com/higher-education-swivl-uses/]

Vessel, A. (2017). Louisiana Tech Leads Transformation of Student Teaching with TEAM Model. *Ed Prep Matters: American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education.* [http://edprepmatters.net/2017/08/louisiana-tech-leads-transformation-of-student-teaching-with-team-model/]

Vessel, A. (2017). The TEAM Model's Dogs With A Cause: Raising the Prestige of the Education Profession One Athlete at a Time. *Ed Prep Matters: American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education.* http://edprepmatters.net/2017/08/dogs-with-a-cause-raising-the-prestige-of-the-education-profession-one-athlete-at-a-time/

Vessel, A. (2017). TEAM Model Clinical Styles Inventory: The Critical Mentor-Resident Relationship, *Ed Prep Matters: American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education.* [https://edprepmatters.net/2017/09/team-model-clinical-styles-inventory-the-critical-mentor-resident-relationship/]

SELECTED FUNDED PROJECTS

From 2015 – 2020, I've submitted 14 grant proposals with 100% success rate of funding. Since 2015, I have led our team in securing **$619,000.00** in grant funding through 12 separate Louisiana Believe and Prepare programs. Funds provided the opportunity to (1) establish the Clinical Residency & Recruitment Center, (2) provide mentor training to more than 400 educators across the I-20 corridor, (3) transition traditional student teaching to a full-year residency program, and (4) create innovative clinical coaching through SWIVL technology, and (5) support mentors and residents during the transition with a variety of needed resources.

Additionally, Lagniappe Ladies provided **$10,000** in two awards providing Praxis resources to teacher candidates across all certification programs and hundreds of children's literature for our Dogs with a Cause Program. As the Director of the CRRC, we have been honored with an additional **$4,000** in funding to provide children's literature to area schools.

IV. SERVICE

Professional
- **National Field Experience Conference** – I currently serve as Evaluation Chair, Program Review Committee, and Editorial Board. (2015-present)
- **National Association for Co-Teaching** – I am a founding board member of this association established in October 2019.
- **International Literacy Association** – I am the current Co-Chair of the Children's Choices Committee for 2019-2020 and have served on awards committees since 2012.
- **Louisiana State Department of Education** – I have represented the College of Education since 2015 as an invited speaker/panelist, site visit coordinator, on-site review committee member, etc.

Louisiana Tech University
- Louisiana Tech Honor Council
- Admissions Invited Speaker – regular speaker at Time Out for Tech, Legacy Day, Summer Orientation, and Counselor Events

College of Education
- Special Initiatives Committee
- CAEP Site Visit – Site Visit Coordinator and Standard Two Committee

Department of Curriculum, Instruction, and Leadership
- Student Organizations Sponsor – Dogs With A Cause, A+PEL
- Chair, Clinical Experiences Committee

Lincoln Parish Community
- Board Member, Fellowship of Christian Athletes
- Ruston High School (cross country, track, choir, PTA) volunteer
- Temple Baptist Church (college ministry) volunteer
- Ruston Community Theatre volunteer
- 2015 Lincoln Parish Schools volunteer of the year award nominee