

## VITA

### MELANY L. RISH

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#### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D. 2003, University of South Carolina (Early Childhood)

M.Ed. 1997, University of South Carolina (Elementary Education)

B.A.I.S. 1994, University of South Carolina (Early Childhood Education)

#### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2004-present	Assistant Professor of Early Childhood Education, University of South Carolina Aiken
2002-2004	Instructor of Early Childhood Education, University of SC Aiken
1999-2002	First Grade Teacher, Richland School District One
1996-1998	Lead Teacher of three year olds, University of South Carolina Children's Center
Fall 1998	Instructor, Freshman Year Experience University of South Carolina
Spring 1996	Instructor, College of Education University of South Carolina
Fall 1995	Graduate Teaching Assistant, College of Education University of South Carolina
Spring 1995	Pre-Kindergarten Teacher, St. Michael's Child Development Center

## **COURSES TAUGHT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA AIKEN**

AEDE 544	Language Development & Communicative Skills
AEDE 544P	Practicum in Teaching Language, Communication & Critical Thinking
AEDE 435	Math & Science Experiences in ECE
AEDE 435P	Practicum in Teaching Math & Science in ECE
AEDE 436	Social Studies & Creative Arts in ECE
AEDE 436P	Practicum in Teaching Social Studies & Creative Arts in ECE
AEDE 469	Directed Teaching in Early Childhood Education
AEDE 476	Senior Seminar for Early Childhood Education
AEDE 410	Family Life in Early Childhood Education

## **COURSES TAUGHT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

EDEC 541	Integrated Early Childhood Curriculum I
EDEC 542	Integrated Early Childhood Curriculum II
EDEC 544	Language Development and Communication Skills
UNIV 101	Freshman Year Experience

## **TEACHING CERTIFICATES**

South Carolina Teaching Certificate in Early Childhood Education  
Certified ADEPT Evaluator

## **PRESENTATIONS**

State SCECA 2006 “Alternatives to the Holiday Curriculum”  
National NAEYC 2005 “Cocoon or chrysalis: That is the question.”  
State SCAEYC 2005 “Cocoon or chrysalis: That is the question.”  
National NAEYC 2003 “Keeping it Real: Using Children’s Literature to Teach Science”  
State SCAEYC 2002 “Keeping it Real: Using Children’s Literature to Teach Science”  
State SCAEYC 2000 “Writing is Exciting”  
State SCECA 1999 “Positively Influencing the Lives of Preschoolers through Children’s Literature”  
Fall 1998 SCECA Scope Newsletter, “Holiday Considerations”  
State SCECA 1998 “Children’s Literature: Is It True?”  
State SCAEYC 1998 “Holiday Alternatives” & “Children’s Literature: Is It True?”  
State SCAEYC 1997 “Alternatives to the Holiday Curriculum”

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Rish, M. (2005). Enriching play opportunities in early childhood classrooms. *Playrights An International Journal of the theory and practice of play*. Online Journal vol.27, 4, 18-19. Stockholm, Sweden: The International Play Association. (Peer Reviewed)

Rish, M. (2003). A review of "Testing while Black: Standards-based school reform and African American Learners." By Townsend, B. *Remedial and special education*, 2002, 23 (4), 222-230 in "Keeping assessment authentic in this era of high stakes testing and accountability." *Childhood Education* 2003, 333-334.

Rish, M. (2003). *Exploring first grade teachers' use of children's literature for science instruction*. Dissertation. University of South Carolina, Columbia.

### **CAREER RELATED ACTIVITIES**

Treasurer, South Carolina Association for the Education of Young Children 2006-present

Member-at-Large, South Carolina Association for the Education of Young Children, 2003-2004

President, South Carolina Early Childhood Association District VI (serving Aiken County), 2002-2004

Member, Aiken's Week of the Young Child Planning Committee, 2003

Representative for Aiken, South Carolina Association for the Education of Young Children State Board, 2002-present

Publicity Chair, South Carolina Early Childhood Association's State Board, 2000-2002

Clinical Adjunct, USC Children's Center Professional Development School partnership with University of South Carolina, 1997-1998

Representative, South Carolina's Educational Oversight Committee representing SCAEYC to review South Carolina Readiness Assessment, 2001

Chapter Liaison, South Carolina Association of the Education of Young Children, 2000-2001

Member, State Conference Planning Committee, South Carolina Early Childhood Education, 2000, 2002

Representative, Midlands Association of the Education of Young Children, representing SCECA District VII, 1998-2000

President, South Carolina Early Childhood Association District VII, 1998-2000

Member, Pre-Service Committee, Professional Development Schools Partnership, 1997-1998

Member, Week of the Young Child Celebration Planning Committee, 1997-1998

Vice-President, South Carolina Early Childhood Association District VII, 1997-1998

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Southern Early Childhood Association, 1996-present

National Association of the Education of Young Children, 1994-present