



Dr. Beth Ackerman  
Assistant Professor  
TE 137D 582-2709

## **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND**

- ED.D** University of Virginia, 2002  
Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership  
Postgraduate Professional License in Administration
- M.ED** Lynchburg College, 1997  
Master of Education in Special Education  
Postgraduate Professional License in Specific Learning Disability,  
Emotional Disturbance, and Mental Retardation
- B.S.** Liberty University, 1995  
Bachelors of Science in General Studies  
Professional License in Elementary Education (K-8)

## **TEACHING/ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE**

- 2007-2008** **Associate Professor**  
**Associate Dean, Graduate Studies and Distance Learning**  
**Program, School of Education**  
**Liberty University**  
Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA
- Responsible for creating and teaching undergraduate and graduate special education courses as well as maintain the course syllabus, blackboard sites, planning, and grading.
  - Responsible for overseeing the graduate education and distance learning programs.
  - Provide leadership for all adjunct and distance learning faculty.
- 2003-2007** **Assistant Professor, Director of Field Experience, Coordinator**  
**of Special Education Program, Grant Administrator**  
Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA
- Responsible for creating and teaching undergraduate and graduate special education courses as well as maintain the course syllabus, blackboard sites, planning, and grading.
  - Responsible for approving and placing all graduate and undergraduate practicums, field experiences, student teachers, and internships in the Teacher Education Department.

- Responsible for overseeing the undergraduate and graduate special education programs.
- Writing and overseeing various special education grants now totaling over \$250,000 in budgeted grant funds.

**2000 – 2003**

**Adjunct Faculty Member**

Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA

Taught the graduate and undergraduate courses - “Characteristics and Strategies for Teaching Students who are Mentally Retarded” & “Foundations of Exceptional Children”. Devised syllabus, planned activities, lectured, and administered grades.

**1997-2003**

**Principal**

Rivermont School, Centra Health, Lynchburg, Virginia

Responsible for providing ongoing supervision of all staff and students, development and implementation of school curriculum, conducting and attending all staff meetings, IEP meetings, treatment team meetings, and inservices. Responsible for all school policies and procedures.

**1995-1997**

**Special Education Teacher**

Rivermont School – Lynchburg, Centra Health

Responsible for education students with special needs. Duties include writing individual education plans, conducting meetings with parents, other team members, and community resource people, writing and implementing lesson plans for students that are emotionally disturbed, mentally handicapped, learning disabled, and other health impaired. Additional duties include planning open houses for parents, editing a monthly newsletter, and conducting staff inservices for Rivermont staff.

**1996-1998**

**Tutor and Home Bound Instructor**

Campbell County Schools, Lynchburg City School, and Lynchburg Court Services

Tutoring and home bound services for students who are emotionally disturbed and learning disabled

**1993-1995**

**Behavior Specialist and Residential Support Provider**

Mental Health Services, Lynchburg, VA

Responsible for caring for students who have behavioral disorders, learning disabilities, emotionally disabilities, and/or mentally handicaps. Duties include helping children with life skills, planning and organizing summer camps, training for different cases, and documenting cases.

## CERTIFICATIONS

- ❖ Professional Licenses currently held –
  - Virginia Department of Education, June 2011
    - Regular Education K-8
    - Mental Retardation
    - Specific Learning Disability
    - Emotional Disturbance
    - Administration and Supervision K-12
  - Association of Christian Schools International Professional License-Special Education Specialist, July 2010

## PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITIONS

- Elected as one of 12 emerging leaders for Centra Health's organization of over 2,000 employees in 2002-2003
- Recognized for service at Rivermont School – Chatham in 2002
- Recognized for service at Rivermont School – Lynchburg in 2003
- Cited in a textbook *Mental Retardation, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition* on the topic of fetal alcohol syndrome, 2003
- Research Award from PDK's Lynchburg Chapter, 2001

## SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

### Publications

- Schoffstall, J. and Ackerman, B. (2007, August). Attitudes of pre-service physical educators at faith based university towards individuals with disabilities. *Journal of Beliefs and Values*,
- Ackerman, B. (2007). *PRAISE - Effectively Guiding Student Behavior*. Association of Christian Schools International. Colorado.
- Ackerman, B. (2006, August). Learning self-determination: Lessons from the literature for work with children and youth with emotional and behavioral disabilities. *Child & Youth Care Forum*, 35, 4, 327-337.
- Ackerman, B. (2006, Fall) PRAISE for students with behavioral challenges. *Kappa Delta Pi Record*.
- Ackerman, B. (2002, September). Teaching self-determination skills. *Centra Health's News Digest*, 16, 3.
- Ackerman, B. (2001). *The effects of teaching self-determination skills to students with emotional disabilities*. Dissertation.
- Ackerman, M. (1999). *Fetal alcohol syndrome: Implications for educators*. (Available from Eric Clearinghouse on Disabilities and Gifted Education).

## **Presentations**

- Ackerman, B., & Dunn, R. (2006, November) *College for life: An On-Campus Transition Program*. Teacher Education Division of Council for Exceptional Children Annual Conference. San Diego, CA.
- Parker, K. & Ackerman, B. (2007, February). *Character Education in Literature-Based Instruction*. America's Association of Colleges for Teacher Education Annual Meeting & Exhibits, New York, NY.
- Watson, S., Parker, K. Goodwin, M. & Ackerman, B. (2007, February). *Improving Instruction for Teacher Candidates in Classroom Management and Discipline Issues*. America's Association of Colleges for Teacher Education Annual Meeting & Exhibits. New York, NY.
- Ackerman, B. (2006, November). *Dealing with the Difficult Student*. Southeast Conference for the Association of Christian Schools International. Washington, D.C.
- Ackerman, B. (2006, November). *Proactive Behavior Management*. Southeastern Conference for the Association of Christian Schools International. Washington, D.C.
- Ackerman, B. (2006, November). *Teaching for Different Modalities*. Southeast Conference for the Association of Christian Schools International. Washington, D.C.
- Ackerman, B. (2006, November). *Puzzling Classroom Behavior*. Southeast Conference for the Association of Christian Schools International. Washington, D.C.
- Ackerman, B., Dunn, R., & Parker, K. (2006, October) *College for life: An On-Campus Transition Program*. Virginia Council for Exceptional Children Annual Conference. Charlottesville, VA.
- Ackerman, B. (2006, March) *Keys to Successful Collaboration*. The Great Virginia Teach-In: A Call to Teach. Richmond, VA.
- Ackerman, B., Goodwin, M., & Johnson, K. (2005, November). *What award winning urban teachers say*. Kappa Delta Pi Convocation. Orlando, FL.
- Ackerman, B., Goodwin, M., & Johnson, K. (2005, November). *Differentiated instruction according to award winning urban teachers*. Phi Delta Kappa International Conference. New Orleans, LA.
- Parker, K. and Ackerman, B. (2004, November 10-13). *Using bibliotherapy to improve reading comprehension and socially appropriate behavior*. Presented at the Council for Exception Children Conference, Albuquerque, NM.
- Ackerman, B. (2004). *Keys to collaboration*. Virginia Council for Exceptional Children Annual Conference, Charlottesville, VA.
- Ackerman, B. (2003, November). *Teaching self-determination to students with emotional disabilities*. Presented at the International Conference for Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders. St. Louise, MI
- Ackerman, B. (2003). *Identification of children with disabilities*. Mid-Atlantic Early Childhood Conference for the Association of Christian Schools International. Greensboro, NC.

- Ackerman, B. (2003). *Proactive behavior intervention*. Mid-Atlantic Early Childhood Conference for the Association of Christian Schools International. Greensboro, NC
- Ackerman, B. (2003). *Keys to collaboration*. Mid-Atlantic Early Childhood Conference for the Association of Christian Schools International, Greensboro, NC
- Ackerman, B. (2003). *Keys to collaboration*. Presented at the State Conference for the Virginia Council for Exceptional Children Charlottesville, VA.

## Current Research

College for Life: An On-Campus Transition Program. In partnership with Lynchburg City Schools, Liberty University and Central Virginia Community College, Surveys and anecdotal data are being collected to determine the success of this partnership for our LU students.

PRAISE Inservice. The effects of a behavior management inservice for teachers in a middle school are currently being evaluated utilizing surveys and school discipline data.

Disability Ministry Book in conjunction with Randy Dunn. A book to guide churches in starting ministries and accommodating instructional material for children with special needs.

## SERVICE

### Professional

#### Presentations

- Ackerman, B. (2006, October) *Special Education Law*. Guest Speaker for Graduate Course in School of Law, Liberty University.
- Ackerman, B. (2006, October) *Teaching English Second Language and IEPs*. Guest Speaker for MLAN 419, Liberty University
- Ackerman, B. (2006, August). *The Struggling Learner at LCA*. Lynchburg Christian Academy.
- Ackerman, B. (2006, August). *Ongoing Assessment: A Key to Differentiated Instruction*. Lynchburg Christian Academy.
- Ackerman, B. (2006, May). *Proactive Classroom Management for the College Student*. Liberty University. Also presented in faculty workshops in August 2005 and February 2006.
- Ackerman, B. & Goodwin, M. (2006, March). Benchmark Assignments and NCATE. Liberty University Teacher Education Retreat.
- Ackerman, B. (2004). *Behavior Management*. Presentation for Liberty University's Kappa Delta Phi.
- Ackerman, B. (2004). *Differentiated Instruction*. Presentation for Lynchburg Christian Academy.

- Ackerman, B. (2004). *Positive Staff/Student Interactions*. Presentation for Monroe Alternative School.
- Ackerman, B. (1999- 2005). *IDEA 1997*. Guest lecturer for student teachers at Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA.
- Ackerman, B. (1999- 2005). *Helping students with disabilities succeed*. Guest lecturer for student teachers at Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA.
- Ackerman, B. (1999- 2005). *Classroom techniques for managing behavior*. Guest lecturer for student teachers at Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA.
- Ackerman, B. (2004, Spring). *Proactive behavior management for the college student*. Presented twice in faculty workshops at Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA.
- Ackerman, B. (2003, Fall). *Emotional Disabilities*. Guest lecturer for Foundations of Exceptionality class, Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, VA.
- Ackerman, B. (1998-2002). *Classroom techniques for managing student Behavior*. Conducted a workshop every year for three years for Pittsylvania County's Special Education Teachers.
- Ackerman, B. (2001). *Teaching students with mental retardation*. Participated in the videotaping for the graduate course for Liberty University's External Degree Program.
- Ackerman, B. (December 2000). *Collaborating with your school*. Presented at Pittsylvania County Schools Special Education Department's Parents'/Students' Night for Students with Disabilities, Pittsylvania County, VA.
- Ackerman, B. (1999-2000). *IDEA 1997, Functional Assessments and Behavioral Intervention Plans, Behavior Management, Collaboration, And Emotional Disabilities*. Guest lecturer for Liberty University's Videotaped graduate programs.
- Ackerman, B. (1999, April) Mock IEP meeting. Participated in a videotaping of a mock individualized education plan and eligibility meeting as a special education teacher for Liberty University's External Degree Program, Lynchburg, VA.
- Ackerman, B. (1998, September). *Everything you always wanted to know About difficult students but were afraid to ask*. Organized and presented at an all day workshop for Danville City, Pittsylvania County, Henry County, and Martinsville City.
- Ackerman, B. (2002-2003) *Rivermont school-Our mission*. Presented at various school systems and organizations.
- Ackerman, B. (1999-2003) *Inclusion*. Presented at various school systems and organizations.
- Ackerman, B. (1999-2003) *Keys to collaboration*. Presented at various school systems and organizations.
- Ackerman, B. (2001-2003) *Behavior management strategies*. Inservice conducted for the Rivermont School Staff, Rivermont School, Chatham, Chase City and Lynchburg, VA.
- Ackerman, B. (1999-2003) *Customer service training*. In-service conducted for the Rivermont School Staff, Rivermont School, Lynchburg, VA.

- Ackerman, B. (1999-2003) *Curriculum planning*. In-service conducted for the Rivermont School Staff, Rivermont School, Chatham, Chase City and Lynchburg, VA.
- Ackerman, B. (1997-2003) *Lesson planning*. In-service conducted for the Rivermont School Staff, Rivermont School, Chatham, Chase City, Lynchburg, and Hampton, VA.
- Ackerman, B. (1997-2003) *Student assessment procedures*. In-service conducted for the Rivermont School Staff, Rivermont School, Chatham, Chase City, Lynchburg, and Hampton, VA.
- Ackerman, B. (1997-2003) *Team teaching*. In-service conducted for the Rivermont School Staff, Rivermont School, Chase City, Chatham, Lynchburg, VA.

### **Committee or Task Force Service, University**

- Chair of Graduate Committee on Academic and Admissions Standards, 2006-2007
- School of Education Graduate Committee, 2003 – current
- School of Education Teacher Licensure Committee, 2003 – current
- Wrote, collaborated, administered, and assessed special education grants totaling \$257,964 for Liberty University, 2003-2005
  - RACCE - 2003 Rising to Answer the Call for Competent Educators - \$41,791,
  - SSET (Support for Special Education Teachers – 2003) - \$50,000
  - SSET II 2004 – \$50,000
  - RACCE II 2004 - \$24,000
  - SSET III 2005 – \$45,640
  - SSET III continuation 2006 - \$11,561
  - SSET IV – \$34,972
- Assisted in the creation of Special Education Minor, Spring 2006
- Assisted in the creation of Special Education Major with dual licensure in special education and elementary education, Spring 2006
- College for a Weekend “Become a Teacher” session 2005 – current
- Alumni weekend hosted the school of education booth 2005-current
- Graduate Education Committee at Liberty University, 2004 – current
- Graduate Education Election Committee at Liberty University, 2004-2005
- Chair of dissertation entitled “The effects of life skills instruction on the personal-social skills scores of rural high school students with mental retardation”, Fall 2005-current
- Chair of dissertation entitled “Equality of high school completion programs (GED and High School Diploma)”, Spring 2006-current
- Liberty University’s Assessment Committee, 2003-2004
- Reader for multiple dissertation committees, 2003- current
- Chair for Undergraduate Honors Student Thesis, 2003
- Chair of Dissertation entitled “Perceptions of Students who take Adapted Physical Education”, 2003 – 2006

- Chair of Dissertation entitled “Continuous Quality Improvement: A Two Year Analysis of One School’s Achievement During an Implementation Plan”, 2004-2006.
- Creating and designing a special education graduate brochure, 2004
- Faculty Advisor for Student Chapter for Council for Exceptional Children, 2004 – current
- Partnership with New Vistas School, 2004
- Partnership with Lynchburg City Schools for students who are mentally retarded, 2005
- Partnership with Lynchburg Christian Academy’s Special Education program, 2005- current
- School of Education Portfolio Development task force, 2005
- School of Education Field Experience task force, 2005
- School of Education Student Teaching and Internship task force, 2005
- Graduate Education Election Committee Chair, 2005-2006

#### **Committees and Boards, Non-University**

- Proposal Reviewer for Council for Exceptional Children National conference in April 2006 and April 2007
- Proposal Reviewer for Teacher Education Division of Council for Exceptional Children National conference in November 2005 and November 2007
- Exhibitor Coordinator for Virginia’s Council for Exceptional Children’s State Conference
- Chair of Virginia Department of Education Program Review Team for University of Mary and Washington in 2005
- Participated on a NCATE accreditation team for Old Dominion University in 2004
- Faculty Advisor and Founder of Liberty University’s student chapter of Council for Exceptional Children, 2005-Present
- Membership Chair of Lynchburg’s Phi Delta Kappa 2006-present
- President of Lynchburg’s Phi Delta Kappa, 2005-2006
- Vice-President of Lynchburg’s Phi Delta Kappa, 2004-2005
- Membership Chair of Virginia’s Council for Exceptional Children 2006-present
- Secretary of Virginia’s Council for Exceptional Children, 2001-2006
- Co-Chair of Central Virginia’s Coalition of Private Providers Association, 2001-2003
- Vice-President and President of Virginia’s Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders, 1991-2001
- Chair of Rivermont Schools’ Assessment Committee 1998-2001
- President and Vice President of Piedmont Area Reading Council, 1996-1998

## **Community**

- CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) volunteer, 2005-2006
- Sunday School Teacher for three olds at Grace Evangelical Free Church (1998-2005)
- Foster parent for children with special needs (1998-2003)
- Board of L'Arche home, a spiritual home for adults with special needs (2004-2006)
- Partnership with Wheel Power, Bicycles for children and adults with disabilities (2005-2006)
- Partnership and volunteer with Thomas Road Baptist Church's ikids, a program for children with special needs (2006 – current)

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- Live Classroom Presenter Training 101, October 2006
- Association of Teacher Education-Virginia/Virginia's Association of Colleges of Teacher Education, Sweet Briar College, VA, October, 2006
- Live Text Demonstration, Liberty University, September, 2006
- Teaching Content to All Training, Learning Strategies, Virginia Department of Education, Blacksburg, VA 2006.
- Cisco Communicator Home Office Training, Summer 2006
- Association of Teacher Education-Virginia/Virginia's Association of Colleges of Teacher Education, Sweet Briar College, VA, October, 2005
- Point Cast Training, August 2006
- ACEI NCATE Training, August 2006
- Teaching Content to All Training, Content Enhancement Routines, Virginia Department of Education, Roanoke, VA 2005.
- Child Abuse Awareness Training. Completed on-line in June 2006.
- Disability Access Training, McLean Bible Church, Washington D.C., 2006
- NCATE Special Education Training. Baltimore, MD, 2005
- Virginia's Principals and Educational Leaders, Fredericksburg, VA, October 21-22, 2004
- Association of Teacher Education-Virginia/Virginia's Association of Colleges of Teacher Education, Sweet Briar College, VA, October 7-8, 2004
- Phi Delta Kappa Meetings, Lynchburg College, 2004-current
- Association for Christian Schools International, Washington, D.C., Nov 24-25, 2003
- Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders Annual Conference, St. Louis, Missouri, 2003
- NCATE/state training, Norfolk, Virginia, 2004
- Virginia Council of Exceptional Children annual conference, Charlottesville, Virginia, 2003

- Association of Teacher Education-Virginia/Virginia's Association of Colleges of Teacher Education. (Fall and Spring), Longwood College, 2003
- The Great Virginia Teach-In, Richmond, Virginia, 2004
- Teachers of Promise Institute, Harrisonburg, Virginia, 2003
- Attended various faculty workshops including topics on the Christian world view, Creating Rubrics, Assessment 101, Creation and the Christian World View, Research Design Overview, Power Point Beyond Bullets in 2003 - 2004
- Piedmont Area Reading Council Workshop, Lynchburg, Virginia, 2004
- Virginia's Principals and Leaders fall workshop, Richmond Virginia, 2004
- Phi Delta Kappa Meetings, Lynchburg College, 2002 - current
- Various Virginia Department of Education meetings, Richmond, Virginia, 2003- current
- Attended various faculty workshops including topics on Blackboard 1 and 3, Assignment Manager, Improving Your Bb Course Structure, Security Awareness, Faculty Portfolio Development, Web Manager 2, 2004-2005

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

- Kappa Delta Phi
- Phi Delta Kappa
- Council for Exceptional Children
- Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders
- Division on Career Development and Transition
- Council for Administrators of Special Education
- Teacher Education Division of CEC
- Small Special Education Program Caucus
- Virginia's Reading Association
- Virginia's Principals and Educational Leaders
- Virginia's Colleges of Teacher Education