

VITA

Debra L. Janas

Contact Information:

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Education/Degrees Earned:

Kent State University	Special Education/ School Psychology	Ph.D.	1999
Cleveland State University	Education/Counseling	M.Ed.	1988
The University of Akron	Psychology	B.S.	1985

Dissertation Title and Advisors:

A Window to the Classroom: Exploring Early Childhood Special Education Teachers Beliefs and Behaviors. Co-directors of the Dissertation: Kristie Pretti-Frontczak & Gerald Mahoney

Areas of Specialization:

Special Education Assessment

Certification:

Certified School Psychologist

Professional Experience in Higher Education:

Courses Taught at Baldwin-Wallace College (Number and Title) (2002-present)

Undergraduate Courses:

EDU 103: Education of Children with Special Needs

EDU 334: Diagnosis and Remediation in Reading

EDU 330: Early Childhood Assessment

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EDU 342: Integrated Curriculum

EDU 474: Introduction to Students with Mild/Moderate Educational Needs

EDU 577: Assessment and Remediation Strategies for Students with Mild/Moderate Educational Needs

Graduate Courses:

EDU 574: Introduction to Students with Mild/Moderate Educational Needs

EDU 577: Assessment and Remediation Strategies for Students with Mild/Moderate Educational Needs

EDU 579: Practicum with Student with Mild/Moderate Educational Needs

Courses Taught at Kent State University (1998-2002)

SPED 63957: Assessment and Evaluation in Early Childhood Services

SPED 63950: Curriculum and Interventions in Early Childhood Services

SPED 63953: Practical Applications Birth to Five

SPED 63954: Practical Applications Five to Eight

SPED 63958: Intervention Methods in Early Childhood Services

SPED 43020: Assessment in Special Education

Professional Experience in K-12 Settings:

1993-1995: Baltimore City Schools, Baltimore, MD, School Psychologist.

Assigned on a full-time basis to a level 5 (self-contained) SED school. Conducted psychoeducational assessments for a range of behavioral problems and concomitant academic issues. Provided individual and group therapy to elementary aged students with behavioral problems. Designed and implemented classroom interventions. Consulted with teachers, administrators and parents. Wrote local and state level grants to support the school-wide behavioral program. Provided crisis intervention.

Special Education Teacher

Responsible for a self-contained, non-categorical special education classroom providing educational services. Participated in IEP development and implementation. Participated in grade-level intervention assistance teams.

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1986-1989: Elyria City Schools, Elyria, OH. Mental Health Technician. Provided classroom assistance in a school program for severe behavior handicapped children. Maintained child records in the classroom. Participated in the design and implementation of individual and classroom-based interventions. Assisted in provision of academic programming in the classroom. Provided crisis intervention with children as needed.

Other Related Professional Experiences:

1998-2000: Full time Non-Tenure Assistant Professor – Early Childhood Intervention;

Kent State University. Practicum Coordinator – Early Childhood Intervention Program

Provide academic advising to Master level students. Coordinate and supervise students in practicum settings throughout the area. Developed evaluation measures used to evaluate both ECI courses and student progress and track student competencies. Assist and initiate grant writing endeavors. Courses taught include:

Assessment and Evaluation in Early Childhood Services

Practical Applications Birth to Five

Practical Applications Five to Eight

Curriculum and Interventions in Early Childhood Services

Intervention Methods in Early Childhood Services

1998-1999: Instructor – Kent State University. Provided course instruction in assessment and practical applications

1995-1996: Cuyahoga County Board of Education, Maple Heights, Ohio. Intern School Psychologist. Conducted psychoeducational assessments for a range of academic and behavioral problems. Provided group counseling to elementary and middle school students. Implemented in-service presentations for teachers and staff. Consulted with teachers, administrators and parents. Participated as an active member of an intervention-based multifaceted evaluation team.

1992-1994: North Baltimore Center, Baltimore, MD. Mental Health Therapist. Provided individual, group and family therapy with children and families experiencing a range of behavioral and personal issues. Maintained ongoing treatment plans and progress evaluation. After leaving full-time employment, maintained connection with center by designing and implementing a summer program for young children with socio-emotional difficulties.

1989-1992: Lorain County Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, Elyria, OH. Intake Assessment Therapist. Conducted both psychological and substance abuse related assessments. Coordinated intake services with the Adult Probation Department. Participated in therapeutic teams designing and evaluation individual and group client services.

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Program Coordinator. Coordinated a federal grant designed to provide prevention and intervention services to homeless and runaway youth. Designed and implemented program content. Recruited and collaborated with community organizations and agencies.

1988-1989: Lorain County Children's Services, Elyria, OH. Social Worker. Provided protective services for children referred to abuse or neglect. Conducted home visits with families to provide both evaluative and supportive services. Coordinated services to families in need of assistance. Provided crisis intervention and coordinated foster care placement when necessary.

Publications:

Long, LK, Janas, DL, Kay, L. & August, C. (2009, Spring). Introducing online learning at a small college through a faculty learning community. *Online Journal of Distance Learning Administration*. Vol. 12, Issue 1.

Mahoney, G., Wheeden, C., & Janas, D. (1996). "INDAP: individualizing developmentally appropriate practices for young children with special needs." Available: Tallmadge, OH: Family Child Learning Center.

Pretti-Frontczak, K., Giallourakis, A., Janas, D., & Hayes, A. (2002). "Using a family-guided approach to preparing early intervention and early childhood special education personnel." *Teacher Education and Special Education*, 25(3), 291-297.

Assessments:

Wheeden, C., & Janas, D. (1997). "The classroom environment rating scale. Available: Tallmadge, OH: Family Child Learning Center.

Presentations:

Janas, D., Franz, LC. (2009 April). *HQT as a Minor*. Presentation at the Preparing Highly Qualified Special Education Teachers: Licensure Model Development Summit. Columbus, OH.

Janas, D. (2009, February). *Differentiated Instruction*. Presentation at the Reading First Regional Meeting. South, Columbus, OH.

Janas, D. (2009, February). *Differentiated Instruction*. Presentation at the Reading First Regional Meeting. North, Sandusky, OH.

Janas, D., Franz, LC. (2007, July). *Preservice Teachers' Use of Assessment in the Classroom: From Our Classroom To Theirs, Do Our Candidates Take The Message With Them?* Presentation at the 2007 Summer Conference for the Association of Teacher Educators, Milwaukee, WI.

Janas, D. (2006, May). *Using Case-Based Problem Solving in a Teacher Licensure Program*. Presentation at the 2006 Conference on Faculty-Student Partnerships in Teaching and Learning at SUNY-Geneseo in New York.

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Janas, D. (2002, April). *Using WebQuests in special education personnel preparation*. Poster presented at the Third Annual Technology in Urban Education Summit, Cleveland, OH.

Janas, D. (2002, March). *Using WebQuests in special education personnel preparation*. Paper presented at the Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education International Conference, Albuquerque, NM.

Janas, D. (2000, April). *A window to the classroom: exploring, early childhood special education teachers' beliefs and practices*. Poster presented at the Biannual Conference on Research Innovations in Early Intervention, San Diego, California.

Pretti-Frontczak, K., Tankersley, M., & Janas, D. (2000, March). *Evaluating the effectiveness of a model interdisciplinary early childhood intervention training program*. Poster presented at the State Superintendents Task Force Conference, Columbus, Ohio.

Janas, D. (2000, October). *Activity-based intervention*. Presentation at Barberton Head Start, Barberton, OH.

Presentations (Continued)

Janas, D. (1999, November). *Activity-based intervention*. Presentation at the Annual Inclusion Conference, Dover, DE.

Janas, D., & Pretti-Frontczak, K. (1999, April). *A window to the classroom: Examining ECSE preschool teachers' beliefs and practices*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Wheeden, C.A. & Janas, D. (1999, March). *Playing, learning, and growing through DAP*. Presentation at the Ohio Christian Education Association Conference, Akron, OH.

Wheeden, A., Pretti-Frontczak, K., & Janas, D. (1998, April). *Interactions and events in early childhood special education programs: An examination of their impact on young children with special needs*. Poster presented at the Conference on Research Innovations in Early Intervention, Charleston, South Carolina.

Pretti-Frontczak, K., Wheeden, A., & Janas, D. (1998, December). *Interactions and events in early childhood special education classrooms: an examination of their impact on young children with special needs*. Paper presentation at the International Division of Early Childhood Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois.

Janas, D. & Wheeden, C.A. (1998, September). *Individualizing developmentally appropriate practices for preschool children with special needs*. Presentation to Geauga County Parent Group, Chesterland, OH.

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- Janas, D. (1998, October). *Individualizing developmentally appropriate practices for young children with special needs*. Presentation at the Kent State University Early Childhood Conference, Kent, OH.
- Janas, D. & Wheeden, C.A. (1998, September). *Addressing the behavioral and developmental needs of children prenatally exposed to drugs and alcohol*. Presentation to Head Start staff, Akron, OH.
- Janas, D. (1997, December). *Young children with challenging behaviors: implications of environmental instabilities*. Presentation to Cleveland City School Psychologists, Cleveland, OH.
- Wheeden, C.A. & Janas, D. (1997, November). *Individualizing developmentally appropriate practices for preschool children with special needs*. Presentation to Head Start Staff, Cuyahoga Falls, OH.
- Janas, D. & Wheeden, C.A. (1997, August). *How to make the preschoolers' transition into kindergarten smooth and developmentally appropriate*. Presentation at Bedford City Schools, Bedford, OH.
- Wheeden, C.A. & Janas, D. (1997, March). "Individualizing developmentally appropriate practices for preschool children with special needs." Presentation to Youngstown City Schools, Youngstown, OH.
- Janas, D. & Wheeden, C. A. (1997, January). "Individualizing developmentally appropriate practices for preschool children with special needs." Presentation at Wooster City Schools, Wooster, OH.
- Goodman, J., Mahoney, G., Wheeden, C.A., & Janas, D. (1996, October). "When slow is fast enough." Presentation at the Ohio Early Childhood Education and School-Age Child Care Conference, Columbus, OH.
- Janas, D. (1996, March). "Early identification and intervention with anti-social personality disorder." Paper Presentation at the National Association of School Psychologist's Spring Conference, Atlanta, Georgia.

Grant Coordination/Research Experience:

1999-present: Project Coordinator, Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Training Program. Kristie Pretti-Frontczak and Nancy Barbour, Co-principal Investigators. Coordinated recruitment of students, placement of students in training sites, provided orientation and ongoing supervision for students, evaluation of all project activities, collaborated with principal investigators regarding ongoing budget issues and the writing of continuation reports.

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1996-1999: Project Coordinator, INDAP: Individualizing Developmentally Appropriate Practices for Young Children with Special Needs. Gerald Mahoney, Principal Investigator, Family Child Learning Center, Tallmadge, Ohio. Assisted in recruitment of research sites. Provided ongoing training and technical assistance. Provided assessments for participating children for purposes of data collection. Collaborated in the development of a training manual and observation scale used in training and data collection. Participated in data collection, analysis and dissemination of results.

1996-1997: Project Coordinator, CIM Project: Collaborative Intervention Model. Philip Safford, Principal Investigator, Family Child Learning Center, Tallmadge, Ohio. Coordinated training sites with Cleveland City Schools. Provided training to faculty and staff on working with children with behavioral challenges. Provided weekly technical assistance. Participated in intervention assistance teams. Collected and analyzed documentation and data.

Honors and Awards:

Graduate Student Senate – Achievement in Writing Award

2000 Provost's Fellow – Summer Teaching Institute

College and Graduate School of Education Annual Outstanding Dissertation Award

Professional Memberships:

Council for Exceptional Children