



Victoria J. Molfese Ph.D.

**Ashland/Nystrand Chair in Early
Childhood Education**

Associate Editor

Developmental Neuropsychology
Center for Research in Early Childhood
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Development

Research Activities:

Victoria J. Molfese is the Ashland/Nystrand Chair in Early Childhood Education and Professor in the Department of Teaching and Learning at the University of Louisville. She is also the Director of the Center for Research in Early Childhood. She has published journal articles, books, and book chapters in the area of cognitive development in infants, children and adults. She has received grants in support of research activities, including an NIH funded longitudinal research grant on electrophysiological and behavioral predictors of language and cognitive development in children from birth through age 13 years. Additional grant funding was received to study the development of reading and mathematical skills in preschool children, the development of personality in twin infants and their parents, and to study the impacts of sleep disturbances on the behaviors of children as well as adults. Her work has been funded by grants from National Institutes of Health, March of Dimes, U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Kellogg Foundation, and NASA. Research is currently underway on early predictors of reading and mathematic abilities in both infants and preschool children, home and school characteristics that influence learning in early childhood, the development of interventions for infants and preschool children to mitigate the development of learning disabilities, and an investigation of the influence of school-based and home-based intervention on the development of mathematical and early literacy skills of preschool children at risk due to poverty.

Grants Funded:

Role: Co-Investigator

Title: Scaling Up the Implementation of a Pre-Kindergarten Mathematics Curriculum in Public Preschool Programs

Funding Agency: U.S. Department of Education

Direct Costs Funded: \$2,000,000

Role: Co-Investigator

Title: Impact of Sleep, Microgravity and Stress on Cognition and the Brain

Funding Agency: NASA

Direct Costs Funded: \$1,980,000

Role: Co-Investigator

Title: The Impact Of The Microgravity Environment On Perception, Cognition, Sleep, and Brain Physiology

Funding Agency: NASA

Direct Costs Funded: \$1,980,000

Role: Investigator

Title: Sleep and Sleep Disorders in Children

Funding Agency: National Institutes of Health

Direct Costs Funded: \$1,800,000

Peer-reviewed Publications:

Jung, E., **Molfese, V.**, Beswick, J., Jacobi-Vessels, J., & Molnar, A. (in press). Growth of Cognitive Skills in Preschoolers: Impacts of Sleep Habits and Learning-Related Behaviors. *Early Education and Development*.

Molfese, D., **Molfese, V.**, & Beswick, J., Jacobi-Vessels, J., & Molfese, P. (in review). Dynamic Links Between Emerging Cognitive Skills and Brain Processes. Special Issue on Neurobiological and experiential dimensions of dyslexia: Multiple perspectives. *Developmental Neuropsychology*.

Jung, E., Larson, A. E., **Molfese, V. J.**, & Thompson, C. (2008). Research-based teacher candidate dispositions assessment system: Moving forward. *Journal of Education for Teaching*, 34, 155-156.

Brown, E. T., **Molfese, V.** & Molfese, P. (2008). Preschool Student Learning in Literacy and Mathematics: Impact of Teacher Experience, Qualifications, and Beliefs On An At-Risk Sample. *Journal of Education for Students Placed At Risk*, 13, 106-126.

Molfese, V., Molfese, D., Beswick, J., Jacobi-Vessels, J., Molfese, P., Molnar, A., Wagner, M., Haines, B. (2008). Event Related Potentials To Identify Language and Reading Skills. Special Issue on Language and Dyslexia. *Topics in Language Disorders*, 28, 28 – 45.



Molfese, V., Beswick, J., Molnar, A., Jacobi-Vessels, J., & Gozal, D. (2007). The Impacts of Sleep Duration, Problem Behaviors and Health Status on Letter Knowledge in Pre-Kindergarten Children. *Child Health and Education: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, 1, 41-53.

Ferguson, M., Key, A.P.F., Lehman, C., Molfese, D., Molfese V., & Peach, K., (2007). Smoking during pregnancy affects speech processing ability in newborn infants. *Environmental Health Perspectives* 115, 623-629.

Kulakowski, E., Chronister, L., **Molfese, V.**, Slocum, J.M., Studman, C., & Waugaman, P. (2007). International research infrastructure and the impact of export control regulations. *Journal of Research Administration*, 38, 231-240.

Molfese, V., Cervelin, J., & Miller, P. (2007). Voice of Experience: Demystifying the NIH Proposal Review Process. *Journal of Research Administration*, 38, 94-102.