

VITA

PETER JAY ALTER JR.

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Department of Teaching and Learning
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Education

University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

- Doctor of Philosophy, August 2006
- Specialty Areas- Learning and Behavior Disorders, Emotional/ Behavioral Disorders, Positive Behavior Support, Early Childhood Special Education
- Dissertation Title- A Comparative Analysis of Functional Assessment Methodologies and Functional Analysis For Young Children With or At Risk for Emotional or Behavioral Disorders

University of North Florida, Jacksonville, Florida

- Master of Arts in Special Education, 2002
- Graduated Summa Cum Laude

Furman University, Greenville, South Carolina

- Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, 1995
- Dean's List and Phi Eta Sigma (Academic Honors Society)

Professional Experience

Assistant Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning (August, 2006- Present)
University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky

Behavior Resource Teacher (August 2001 – June 2003)

Fleming Island Elementary, Clay County Public Schools, Florida

- Supervised a three classroom emotionally handicapped self-contained unit.
- Served as Legal Educational Agency representative for all Individual Education Plans and Functional Behavior Assessment/ Behavior Intervention Plans for students in emotionally handicapped self-contained unit.

- Implemented and supervised behavior intervention techniques for emotionally disturbed students.
- Assisted school administrators with behavioral crises, personnel issues, and guidance concerns.
- Served as liaison for school, parents, and outside agencies.

Emotionally Handicapped Self-Contained Teacher (August 1997 – June 2001)

Duval and Clay County Public Schools, Florida

- Delivered specialized instruction to students with a variety of emotional and behavioral disorders.
- Developed and maintained daily anecdotal logs, Individualized Educational Programs, Functional Behavioral Assessments, and all other appropriate documentation.

Instructor

(February 1997 – August 1997)

Jacksonville Marine Institute, Jacksonville, Florida

- Provided life skills instruction and advising at a Level Two Juvenile Justice facility.

Behaviorist

(June 1996 – February 1997)

Early Delinquency Intervention Program, Daniel Memorial, Jacksonville, Florida

- Administered psychological assessments and developed treatment plans for incoming clients.

Research Activities

Alter, P.J., Wyrick, A. & Lingo, A.S. (2007). Challenging Behaviors Identified by Researchers and Teachers: A Review of the Literature. Designed research project, data collection, manuscript preparations.

Alter, P.J., Scott, T.M. & Nelson, C.M. (2007). A Checklist for Evaluating Functional Behavior Assessments/ Behavior Intervention Plans For Emotional/Behavior Disordered Students in the Public Schools. Co-designed research project, data collection, data analysis, presentation and manuscript preparation.

Alter, P.J., Brown, E.T. & Lingo, Amy (2007). A Novel Intervention to Improve Mathematics Problem Solving for Students with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders: A Case Study. Designed research study, implemented intervention, data collection, manuscript preparation.

Frey, A., Lingo, A.S. & Alter, P.J. (2007). Positive Behavior Support in Early Childhood Classrooms in a Large Urban Setting, Co-designed research study, teacher training, data analysis, manuscript preparation.

Correa, V. & Alter, P.J. (2007). A Study of the Support Systems of Latino Parents of Young Children with Disabilities. Data organization, quantitative data analysis, preparation for presentation and publication.

Landers, E. & Alter, P.J. (2007). Evaluation of the impact of Positive Behavior Support Training on Teacher Attitudes Regarding School-wide Discipline Procedures. Co-designed research study, data analysis, manuscript preparation.

Teaching Experience

2005- Spring

Co-taught Core Classroom Management Strategies (EEX 3616)

2005- Fall

Co-taught Direct Intervention I: Applied Behavior Analysis (SPS 6410)

Teaching Assistant for Seminar in Effective Grant Writing (EEX 6936)

2006- Spring

Instructor- Assessment in Early Childhood Special Education (EEX 3226)

2006- Fall

Professor- Introduction to Learning and Behavior Disorders (EDSP 541)

Professor- Classroom and Behavior Management (EDSP 260)

2007- Spring

Professor- Classroom and Behavior Management (EDSP 260) (2 sections)

2007- Summer

Professor- Introduction to the Exceptional Child (EDSP 540)

Professor- Applied Behavior Analysis (EDSP 644)

2007 Fall

Professor- Introduction to Exceptional Child (EDSP 240)

Professor- Classroom and Behavior Management (EDSP 260)

Professor- Curriculum and Methods in Early Childhood Special Education (EDTP 433/ EDSP 533)

Supervision

2005- Spring and Fall

Supervised interns in multiple locations during final field experience practicum

-Trained in *Pathwise* lesson evaluation system

-Offered feedback for multiple observations of lessons for all age levels

-Performed formal and informal evaluations, wrote letters of recommendation, acted as liaison between intern, supervising teacher, host school and university

2007 Advised Fifteen Alternative Certification candidates through the Alternative Certification in Learning and Behavior Disorders program

Service

2004

Reviewed chapters of Interlock- A guide to preparing literature reviews of evidence-based research and practices for *The Center for Evidence-Based Practices: Young Children with Challenging Behavior*

2004-2005

President- Special Education Association of Doctoral Students (SEADS)

2004-2005

Advisory Board for Autism Endorsement Grant

2005

Student Ad Hoc Reviewer for American Educational Research Journal

Guest Reviewer for Journal of Early Intervention

Guest Reviewer for Preventing School Failure

2006

Reviewed presentation proposals for Division of Early Childhood, Council for Exceptional Children National Conference

Publications

Alter, P.J., Wyrick, A., Brown, E.T. & Lingo, A.S. (2007). A novel intervention for improving mathematics problem solving skills for students with challenging behavior: A pilot study. Manuscript accepted in *Beyond Behavior*.

Alter, P.J. Conroy, M.A., Mancil, G.R. & Haydon, T. (2007). A comparison of functional behavior assessment methodologies with young children: Descriptive methods and functional analysis. Manuscript accepted in *Journal of Behavior Education*.

Mancil, G.R., Conroy, M.A., Alter, P.J. & Nakao, T. (2006) Functional Communication Training in the natural environment: A pilot investigation with a young child with autism spectrum disorder. *Education and Treatment of Children*, 29, 615-634.

Boyd, B.A. Conroy, M Mancil, G.R., Nakeo, T. & Alter, P.J. (2006). Effects of circumscribed interests on the social behaviors of children with autism. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, Manuscript in press.

Boyd, B.A., Alter, P.J., Conroy, M.A. (2004). Using their interests: A different strategy for improving the social skills of young children with Autism. *Beyond Behavior*. 14, 3-9

Dunlap, G., Clarke, S., Conroy, M.A. & Alter, P.J. (2005). A descriptive analysis of positive behavior support research with young children with challenging behavior. Manuscript accepted by *Topics in Early Childhood Special Education*.

Mancil, G.R., Scott, T.M., & Alter, P.J. (2006). Indirect Functional Behavior Assessment Methods: A Need for Validation. Manuscript in preparation.

Tardaguila-Harth, J., Alter, P.J., & Correa, V.I. (2006). An Analysis of Supports of Latino Parents of Children with Disabilities. Manuscript in preparation.

Presentations

National//State

Conroy, M.A., Fullerton, E., Beaunae, C., & Alter, P.J. (April 2004). Environmental Arrangements and Visual Supports To Prevent Problem Behavior. Presented at the Addressing Challenging Behavior- National Training Institute on Effective Practices Supporting Young Children's Social/ Emotional Development, Clearwater Beach, Florida.

Conroy, M.A., Fullerton, E., Beaunae, C., & Alter, P.J. (April 2004). Training Paraprofessionals To Intervene on Challenging Behavior. Presented at the Addressing Challenging Behavior- National Training Institute on Effective Practices Supporting Young Children's Social/ Emotional Development, Clearwater Beach, Florida.

Conroy, M.A., Fullerton, E., Beaunae, C., & Alter, P.J. (April 2004). Environmental Arrangements and Visual Supports To Prevent Problem Behavior. Presented at the National Conference of the Council for Exceptional Children, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Alter, P.J., Conroy, M.A., Boyd, B.A. (October 2004). Including Children with Autism: Strategies to Promote Their Social Interactions with Typical Peers. Presented at the Florida Council for Exceptional Children. Jacksonville, Florida.

Boyd, B.A., Conroy, M.A., & Alter, P.J. (November 2004). Using the Restricted Interests of Young Children with Autism to Increase Their Social Behavior with Peers. Presented at Teacher Educators for Children with Behavior Disorders. Tempe, Arizona.

Boyd, B.A., Alter, P.J. & Conroy, M.A. (December 2004). Functional Assessment and Intervention of Social Skills for Young Children with Autism. Presented at Division for Early Childhood at the Council for Exceptional Children. Chicago, Illinois.

Alter, P.J. & Scott, T.M. (January 2005). Existing Functional Behavior Assessments/ Behavior Intervention Plans for Emotional/Behavior Disordered Students in a Florida Public School System. Presented at A Symposium for Doctoral Student Research at the University of Oregon. Eugene, Oregon.

Alter, P.J. & Scott, T.M. (February 2005). A Review of Functional Behavior Assessments/ Behavior Intervention Plans for Emotional/Behavior Disordered Students in a Florida Public School System. Midwest Symposium for Leadership in Behavior Disorders. Kansas, City, Missouri.

Alter, P.J. & Conroy, M.A. (May 2005). Environmental Arrangements and Visual Supports To Prevent Problem Behavior. Presented at the Addressing Challenging Behavior- National Training Institute on Effective Practices Supporting Young Children's Social/ Emotional Development, Clearwater Beach, Florida.

Conroy, M.A., & Alter, P.J. (May 2005). Training Paraprofessionals To Intervene on Challenging Behavior. Presented at the Addressing Challenging Behavior- National Training Institute on Effective Practices Supporting Young Children's Social/ Emotional Development, Clearwater Beach, Florida.

Tardaguila-Harth, J., & Alter, P.J. (October 2005). Mapping the Sources of Support of Hispanic Families of Children with Disabilities. Presented at the Division for Early Childhood at the Council for Exceptional Children. Portland, Oregon.

Boyd, B. Conroy, M., & Alter, P.J. (October 2005). Effects of Restricted Interests on the Social Behaviors of Children with Autism. Presented at the Division for Early Childhood at the Council for Exceptional Children. Portland, Oregon.

Correa, V.I., Alter, P.J., & Jones, H. (November 2005). Assessing an Early Childhood Preparation Program's Influence on Pre-service Teachers' Beliefs. Presented at the Teacher Education Division at the Council for Exceptional Children. Portland, Maine.

Mancil, R., Alter, P.J., Vanderbilt, A., & Conroy, M.A. (November 2005) Using Evidence-Based Practices to Increase the Social Skills of Children with Autistic-Spectrum Disorder. Presented at Teacher Educators of Children with Behavior Disorders. Tempe, Arizona.

Alter, P.J., Scott, T.M., & Lampi, A. (March 2006) Functional Behavior Assessment: Useful Assessment Tool or Useless Compliance Tool? Presented at the Third Annual Positive Behavior Support Conference. Reno, Nevada.

Correa, V.I. & Alter, P.J. (July 2006) Using Ecomaps to Explore the Sources of Social Support of Hispanic Fathers of Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities. Presented at 10th World Congress of the World Association for Infant Mental Health. Paris, France.

Wyrick, A. J. & Alter, P.J. (2007). *A Novel Intervention for Improving Math Problem Solving Skills for Students with Challenging Behaviors*. Kentucky Teacher Quality Summit, Louisville, KY

Alter, P.J., Scott, T.M., Lingo, A.S. & Fenty, N.S. (2007) *School-Wide Systems of Positive Behavior Support*. Annual Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children Convention.

National or International (Held in USA)

4th International Conference on Positive Behavior Support

Alter, P.J. (2007). *Improving Functional Behavior Assessments: Comparing Descriptive Assessment Methodologies with Functional Analysis*. Boston, MA

Alter, P.J., Lingo, A.S. & Frey, A. (2007). *Program-wide PBS in Early Childhood Settings: Implementation and Measurement Outcomes*. Boston, MA

2007 Council for Exceptional Children Annual Convention and Exposition

Alter, P.J., Kemmerer, L. & Mancil, G.R. (2007). *Improving Functional Behavior Assessments: Comparing Descriptive Assessment Methodologies with Functional Analysis*. Louisville, KY

Alter, P.J., Lingo, A.S. & Frey, A. (2007). *Program-wide PBS in Early Childhood Settings: Implementation and Measurement Outcomes*. Louisville, KY

Alter, P.J. & Lingo, A. S. (2007). *Program-wide PBS in Early Childhood Settings: Implementation and Measurement Outcomes* 7th Biennial International Conference on Children with Behavioral Disorders by the Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders. Dallas Texas

Alter, P.J. & Nelson, C. M. (2007). *Investigating the Relationship between Teacher Job Satisfaction and the Topography of Challenging Behavior* Teacher Educators of Children with behavior Disorders. Tempe AZ

Non-refereed Presented
International

Alter, P.J. (2007). *Effective Behaviour Support: A System of Proactive Interventions and Social Skills Instruction For Children With Behavioural Disorders* 2nd Biennial Conference on Education and Behavior Management- Kingston, Jamaica

Alter, P.J. (2007). *The Functional Assessment and Intervention Team Process*. Biennial Conference on Education and Behavior Management- Kingston, Jamaica

Alter, P.J. (2007) *School-wide Systems of Positive Behavior Support: Team Implementation*. Superior Greenstone District School Board, Marathon, ON, Canada.

Alter, P.J. (2007). *School-wide Systems of Positive Behavior Support: Team Implementation*. Northern Schools Resource Alliance, Thunder Bay, Canada

Alter, P.J. (2007). *School-wide Systems of Positive Behavior Support: Team Implementation*. Thunder Bay Catholic Schools, Thunder Bay, Canada.

National

Alter, P.J. (2007). *Managing Challenging Behavior Using Positive Behavior Support*. Mayerson Academy. Cincinnati, Ohio.

Alter, P.J. (2007) *Helping Teachers and Families Help Children with Challenging Behavior*. Center for Community Futures. San Francisco, CA

State

Alter, P.J. (2007). *The Functional Assessment and Intervention Team Process*. Bullitt County, KY.

Alter, P.J. *Managing the Behavior of Children with Autism*. Jefferson County, KY

Professional Affiliations

National/International

- Council for Exceptional Children

Division of Early Childhood
Teacher Education Division

- Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders
- International Association of Special Education

Scholarships and Awards

- Carl Fenichel Memorial Research Award 2006
 - National award from the Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders division of the Council for Exceptional Children for the outstanding dissertation in the area of emotional or behavioral disorders.
 - Included monetary support for dissertation research and travel to the national CEC conference for award presentation.
- Alumni Fellowship, *University of Florida*
 - Fellowship representing the highest graduate student award providing a full four years of support through a nationally competitive stipend and full tuition waiver.
- Partners in Doctoral Preparation: A Unified Leadership Program in Early Childhood Special Education and School Psychology, *University of Florida*
 - A federally funded 2-year program providing full-tuition, stipend, and graduate assistantship.