The Graduate School
Announcement

An oral examination in defense of the dissertation for the degree
Doctor of Education, Educational Practice

Katie Rahn

Bachelors of Science, Early Childhood Education, University of Missouri, Columbia, 2004
Master’s in Education, Curriculum and Instruction, University of Missouri, Columbia, 2005

The Early Childhood Crisis in Missouri:
The Demand for Access to High Quality ECE for Low-Income Children

Date: April 4, 2016
Time: 1:00pm-2:30pm
Place: 259 Marillac Hall

Abstract
High quality early childhood education can have long-term positive effects on young children’s development. Children who participate in early childhood programs are less likely to need special education or remediation in elementary school, and are more likely to be reading at grade level in third grade. They are more likely to graduate from high school and go on to college and become successful members of their communities. This is especially true for children who are growing up in poverty. However, quality is key. To achieve these outcomes children must have access to high quality programs. Unfortunately, low-income children are also the least likely to have access to high quality early childhood education. At the heart of the issue is the lack of funding in Missouri to actually fund the necessary components of quality. The time is now to look outside of our state for innovative ideas and systems to solve this problem.

Defense of Dissertation Committee
Kathleen Sullivan-Brown, Ph.D. [Chairperson]
Carole Basile, Ed.D. [Co-Chairperson]
James Shuls, Ph.D.
Lauren Arend, Ph.D.