Oral Defense Announcement
University of Missouri – St. Louis Graduate School

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

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M.A. in Special Education, May 2012, Fontbonne University-St. Louis
B.S. in Early Childhood Education, December 2007, Fontbonne University-St. Louis

The Impact of a Culturally Responsive Approach in Science Education on Kindergarten Students

Date: May 10, 2023
Time: 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Place: Sigma-Aldrich Room in the TLC

Abstract
Classrooms today are more ethnically and linguistically diverse. Unfortunately, students of color demonstrate a history of marginalized educational inequities (Williamson et al., 2007). These marginalized educational inequities untimely impact academic achievement across all content areas especially literacy, math, and science. The mixed methods study investigated the effect of culturally responsive instruction in a Kindergarten science classroom. 20 Kindergarten students were divided into two groups. Participants in the control group experienced a 5E science model without a culturally responsive approach. Participants in the experimental group experienced the 5E science model with the addition of a culturally responsive approach. The implications of the research can inform the implementation of science education in an early childhood setting.

Defense of Dissertation Committee
Helene Sherman, Ed.D. – Chairperson
Charles Granger, Ph.D. - Committee Faculty Member
Keith Miller, Ph.D. - Committee Faculty Member