

**JULIE DARLING SOUTHWARD, PH. D.**

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**INSTITUTION ADDRESS**

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**EDUCATION**

Ph.D.	2018	Doctor of Philosophy, Special Education Texas Woman's University, Denton, Texas
M.A.	2001	Master of Special Education Texas Woman's University, Denton, Texas
B.S.W.	1989	Bachelor of Social Work University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, Texas

**CURRENT RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Identifying strategies for improvement of retention of EC-12 special education teachers. Maintaining an effective and stable classroom environment is imperative to the academic achievement of students with disabilities. Studies show EC-12 Special Education teachers are twice as likely to leave the classroom than a general education teacher due to the stresses that accompany the position. As an engaged scholar, instructor, and mentor, I want to ensure EC-12 Special Education teachers that graduate from UNTD have the support they need to increase job satisfaction and ensure retention.

**HIGHER EDUCATION EXPERIENCE**

2021-Present	Assistant Professor, Special Education Coordinator Special Education Program <b>University of North Texas at Dallas, TX</b>
2020-2021	Visiting Assistant Professor, Special Education Coordinator Special Education Program <b>University of North Texas at Dallas, TX</b>
2019-2020	Adjunct Instructor, <b>University of North Texas at Dallas, TX</b>
2019	Adjunct Instructor, <b>Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX</b>
2015	Online Instructor, <b>Texas Woman's University, Denton, TX</b>

**PUBLIC EDUCATION EXPERIENCE**

2015-2020	Educational Diagnostician, Richardson Independent School District, Richardson, Texas
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2014-2015	Educational Diagnostician, Frisco Independent School District, Frisco, Texas
2001-2014	Educational Diagnostician, Richardson Independent School District, Richardson, Texas
1998-2001	Special Education Teacher, Junior High School, Richardson Independent School District, Richardson, Texas
1995-1998	Special Education Teacher/Department Head, Junior High School Dallas Independent School District, Dallas, Texas

#### **AWARDS/GRANTS**

- 2023      **Awarded \$10,500 by the Center for Socioeconomic Mobility through Education Grant** to fund the proposal *Bridging the University-to-Classroom Transition for Beginning Teachers* pilot program study.
- 2023      **Awarded \$1,250,000 by the Department of Education Office of Special Education Personnel Preparation of Special Education, Early Intervention, and Related Services Personnel at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribally Controlled Colleges, and Universities, and Other Minority Serving Institutions** program to fund The Bridging the University-to-Classroom Transition for Beginning Special Education Teachers (The Bridges Program).

#### **PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

- Davis, M. T., Cumming, I. K., & **Southward, J. D.** (2023). Self-determination skills: Building a foundation for student success. *Preventing School Failure: Alternative Education for Children and Youth*, 67(1), 18-26.
- Davis, M. T., & **Southward, J. D.** (2021). Summary of Performance Portfolio: Supporting Post Secondary Transition for Students with Learning Disabilities. *The Clearing House: A Journal of Educational Strategies, Issues, and Ideas*, 94(4), 188-195.
- Southward, J. D.**, & Davis, M. T. (2020). Summary of performance: bridging the transition from high school to post-secondary education for students with SLD. *Preventing School Failure: Alternative Education for Children and Youth*, 64(4), 316-325.
- Davis, M. T., & **Southward, J. D.** (2019). *Practical strategies for conducting and documenting classroom observations in SLD evaluation*. The DiaLog, 48.
- Southward, J. D.**, & Goo, M. (2019) *Evaluating the Effectiveness of Repeated Reading as an Intervention for High School Students Identified with a Specific Learning Disability*. International Journal of Special Education, 34.
- Southward, J. D.**, & Kyzar, K. (2017). *Predictors of competitive employment for students with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities*. Education and Training in Autism and Developmental Disabilities, 52(1).

## **NATIONAL PEER-REVIEWED PRESENTATIONS**

- Southward, J.D.** (2025). Supporting New Special Education Teacher Transition into the Classroom. Invited for a roundtable presentation at the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children Annual Conference (November 12, 2025: Kansas City, Missouri).
- Davis, M. T., & **Southward, J. D.** (2022). Summary of Performance Portfolio: Supporting post secondary transition for students with learning disabilities. [Paper Presentation]. Invited for a roundtable presentation at the Council for Learning Disabilities Annual Conference (October 20-21, 2022: Richmond, Virginia).
- Southward, J. D.,** & Davis, M. T. (2021). Summary of Performance: Bridging transition from high school to post-secondary education for students with SLD. Roundtable presentation at the Council for Learning Disabilities Annual Conference (October 14-15, 2021: Las Vegas, NV).
- Davis, M. T., & **Southward, J. D.** (2019). *Practical strategies for conducting and documenting classroom observations in SLD evaluation*. Roundtable presentation at the Council for Learning Disabilities Annual Conference (October 3-4, 2019: San Antonio, TX).
- Southward, J. D.,** & Goo, M. (2019). *Repeated Reading as an Intervention for High School Students Identified with a Specific Learning Disability*. Poster presentation at the Learning Disabilities Association conference (February 18-21, 2-19: Fort Worth, Texas).
- Southward, J. D.** & Pemberton, J. (2018). *Repeated Reading as an Intervention for High School Students Identified with a Specific Learning Disability*. Poster presentation at the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Federation Graduate Student Research Symposium (April 5, 2019: Denton, Texas)
- Southward, J. D.,** Pemberton, J., & Goo, M. (2016). *Evaluating the Effectiveness of Repeated Reading, with Error Correction, as an Intervention for High School Students with a Specific Learning Disability*. Poster presentation at the Council for Learning Disabilities Annual Conference (October 11-12, 2019: San Antonio, Texas).
- Southward, J.D.** & Kyzar, K. (2015). *Predictors of Competitive Employment for Students with Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities*. Poster presentation at Council of Exceptional Children (Fort Worth, Texas).

## **INVITED REVIEWER**

- 2025 Reviewer of Presentation Proposals: **Council for Exceptional Children**
- 2024 Reviewer of Presentation Proposals: **Teacher Education Division, The Council for Exceptional Children**
- 2023 Reviewer of Journal Article: **Learning Disabilities: A Contemporary Journal**, Title: *Doctoral Students with LD and/or ADHD: Decision to Disclose and/or Request Accommodations*
- 2022 Reviewer of Journal Article: **Career Development and Transition for Exceptional**

- Individuals**, Title: *How Do College Students with Disabilities Do? Law, Self-determination, Self-advocacy, and Campus Resources*
- 2022 Reviewer of Journal Article: **European Journal of Special Needs Education**, Title: *Which success factors do young adults with mild intellectual disability highlight in their school-work transition?*

### **GUEST SPEAKER/WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS**

- Southward, J.D.** (2023). Invited Guest Speaker at Hurst, Euless, Bedford (HEB) Independent School District to discuss identifying students with an Intellectual Disability and disproportion of African American male students.
- Southward, J. D.** (2021). Invited Guest Speaker for EDSE 5374. Psycho-educational Measurements and Evaluation [Dr. Mariya Davis's course]. Texas A&M University-San Antonio.

### **PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION/LICENSURE**

- Generic Special Education (K-12)  
Secondary Reading (6 -12)  
Educational Diagnostician (PK-12)  
Registered Professional Educational Diagnostician (license #1864)

### **SERVICE**

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| 2025-Present | Chair SOE Curriculum Committee   |
| 2020-Present | Dallas ISD- P-TECH/ ECHS Education Pathway Committee   |
| 2020-2025    | Chair SOE Teacher Education Committee, University of North Texas at Dallas                                     |
| 2020-2022    | Raise Your Hand Home Team, University of North Texas at Dallas   |
| 2019-2020    | Member of Multi-Tiered System of Supports Coalition, Richardson Independent School District, Richardson, Texas |
| 2016-2018    | Vice President, Texas Educational Diagnostician Association  |
| 2015-2018    | Lead Educational Diagnostician, Richardson Independent School District, Richardson, Texas                      |
| 2004-2020    | Mentor and Trainer for new Diagnosticians Richardson Independent School District, Richardson, Texas            |

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

- Texas Educational Diagnostician Association (TEDA)  
Texas Professional Educational Diagnostician (RPED)  
Council on Learning Disabilities (CLD)  
Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)