

Cindy L. Clemson

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Education:

Ed.D. in Educational Leadership; August 2015,
Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY

- Concentration: Organizational Leadership
- 4.0 cumulative GPA
- Selected 'Outstanding Doctoral Student' in concentration

M.A. in Education; August 1991
Murray State University, Murray, KY

- Concentration: Special Education
- 4.0 cumulative GPA

B.S. in Education; May 1987
State University of New York, Buffalo State, Buffalo, NY

- Dual Certification in Special Education and Elementary Education

A.S degree; May 1977
Mount Aloysius College, Cresson, PA

- Certification: Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant

Career Experience:

Assistant Professor; Department of Special Education; August 2015 to present; Murray State University, Murray, KY.

- Tenure-track position responsible for teaching four classes of undergraduate and graduate special education courses each semester. Additional responsibilities include: service on various university and departmental committees, research, and teaching at regional campuses.

Associate Director; Student Disability Services/Coordinator; Services for Students with Learning Disabilities; August 1993 to June 2015, Murray State University; Murray, KY

- Responsible for coordinating accommodations and providing support services for over 600 students with documented disabilities. Collaborate with faculty and staff to ensure students receive equal access to the university and its programs. Supervise a staff of 3 full-time employees; assist in supervision of 5 graduate assistants and over 60 undergraduate tutors. Responsible for a budget of over \$250,000. Graduation rate of over 60% for students who use the services of the office.

Adjunct Instructor – Murray State University, Murray, KY

- Department of Special Education; 1994 to 2007. Taught 1-2 sections of SED 300 (Educating Students with Disabilities) per semester.
- Department of Youth and Nonprofit Leadership; fall 2013 to present. Taught 1 section of YNL 290 (Current Trends and Issues in Youth and Human Services) per semester.

Special Education Teacher; August 1988 to June 1993, Murray City Schools, Murray, KY

- Responsible for identifying and teaching students with various disabilities at both the elementary and high school levels. First special education teacher to work in collaboration with regular high school teachers to educate students with disabilities in an inclusive teaching environment. Initiated and ran the first parent resource center for the school system.

Pre-School Teacher; August 1987 to May 1988, Murray Head Start, Murray, KY

- Responsible for teaching two classes of pre-school children. One class included three children with multiple disabilities. Supervised three full-time teaching assistants.

Executive Director; February 1981 to July 1982, Work Activities Training Center for the Handicapped (WATCH), Murray, KY

- Developed a vocational training program for clients with significant mental and physical disabilities over the age of 21 who had aged out of the school system. Initiated the first job training for the clients and secured their first work contracts. Responsible for all areas of program from supervision of all staff to coordination of day-to-day operations to leading fund-raising activities.

Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant; September 1979 to February 1981, West Kentucky Mental Health/Mental Retardation Board, Inc., Paducah, KY

- Implemented activities therapy for clients of the Mayfield Mental Health Center. Part of a team (physical therapist and speech therapist) to receive the first grant in Kentucky to work with babies born with disabilities. Received national training for this program.

Activities Director; June 1977 to June 1979, Centre Crest Nursing Home, Bellefonte, PA

- Responsible for providing activities therapy for residents of a 225-bed county run skilled nursing facility. Part of the management team for the nursing home. Supervised four full-time certified recreational therapists. Coordinated a very large volunteer program of over 100 volunteers.

Professional Certifications:

- Myers-Briggs Type Indicator Certified Practitioner

Professional Organizations:

- Council for Exceptional Children
- Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children
- Association for Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD)
- NACADA – National Academic Advising Association
- KACADA – Kentucky Academic Advising Association

Professional Presentations:

- **Universal Design in Advising: Strategies for Increasing Motivation in Student with Disabilities:** April 2016, NACADA Region 3 2016 Mid-South Regional Conference.
- **Promoting Academic Confidence and Success through Academic/Student Affairs Collaboration in First Year Experiences:** April 2016, NACADA Region 3 2016 Mid-South Regional Conference. Selected as a pre-conference workshop. Co-presenters: Peggy Whaley, Barbara Cobb, and Ben Stinnett.
- **Skills to Pay the Bills Workshop:** March 2016. West Kentucky Educational Cooperative Transition Conference for students with disabilities in western Kentucky.
- **Promoting Academic Confidence and Success through Academic/Student Affairs Collaboration in First Year Experiences:** March 2016, Kentucky Council for Post-Secondary Education (CPE) Student Success Summit, Poster Presentation. Co-presenters: Peggy Whaley and Ben Stinnett.
- **College Reality: A New Supported Higher Education Program (SHEP):** November 2015, Kentucky Exceptional Children's Conference. Co-presenters: Deedra Brown and Pam Matlock.
- **Promoting Academic Confidence and Success through Academic/Student Affairs Collaboration in First Year Experiences:** September 2015, KACADA State Conference. Co-presenters: Peggy Whaley, Barbara Cobb and Ben Stinnett.
- **A New FYE Model: Advancing Student Success through Student Affairs/Academic Affairs Innovation and Collaboration:** October 2014, NACADA National Conference. Co-presenters: Peggy Whaley and Barbara Cobb.
- **College Reality: A New Supported Higher Education Program (SHEP), A Murray State University Initiative:** November 2013, Kentucky Exceptional Children's State Conference. Co-presenter: Pam Matlock.
- **Project PASS,** March 2013, Kentucky Council for Post-Secondary Education (CPE) Student Success Summit. Poster Presentation.
- **Finding Our Passion: Empowering Students with Disabilities to Create Their Own Success:** October 2012 NACADA National Conference. Voted an exemplar presentation by the conference committee.
- **Practical Strategies for Teaching University Students with Asperger Syndrome and other Autism Spectrum Disorders:** September 2008. Presentation to MSU faculty and staff.

Professional Awards:

- April 2009 – Jim Baurer Outstanding Staff Service Award. Presented annually by the MSU Student Government Association to one outstanding staff member. Nominated and voted on by the students at MSU.
- April 2008 – Distinguished Service Award. Presented annually by the MSU Office of African-American Student Services and Ethnic Programs.
- August 2005 – Murray State University Staff Excellence Award. Presented annually by the MSU Staff Congress to two professional staff members.
- March 2002 – International Women’s Day Award. Presented by the MSU Baha’i Student Association.
- March 2001 – Outstanding Staff Member Award. Presented annually to a MSU staff member by the MSU Adult Student Organization.

University Leadership Experience:

- President’s Commission on Diversity and Inclusion: August 2015 to present. Completed two radio interviews on WKMS with Dr. Peggy Pittman-Munke regarding the 25th anniversary of the ADA and the 40th anniversary of IDEA.
- Member steering committee for SACS- COC re-accreditation, August 2011 to February 2014. One of two Student Affairs professionals selected for the steering committee. First time in MSU history that the university received no formal recommendations for further improvements during the accreditation visit.
- QEP Committee; April 2013 to September 2013. Part of 5-member committee who wrote and presented the topic voted for the current QEP: Bring Learning to Life.

Grants Awarded:

- Strategic Initiative Grant: \$12,000 from the Murray State University Strategic Initiative Funds for fall 2016 to pay 15 Student Success Seminar teachers to work with 15 100T professors. Co-author: Peggy Whaley.
- Comprehensive Transition and Post-Secondary Program (CTP) for Students with Intellectual Disabilities; April 2013. First CTP program awarded funding by the United States Department of Education in the state of Kentucky. One of eight programs in the nation for students with intellectual disabilities to attend college classes.

Volunteer Experience:

- Soup for the Soul; Soup kitchen volunteer; August, 2105 to present,
- Murray, KY 42071.
- Four Rivers Behavioral Health Board of Directors; February 2014 to present, Paducah, KY.

- St. Leo's Catholic Church Assistance Team; 2008 to 2013, Murray, KY; Provide financial assistance to residents of Calloway County who need such help.
- St. Leo's Catholic Church Capital Campaign Team; 2007 to present, Murray, KY Selected to be part of a 6-member team who raised over 2 million dollars for renovation of church.
- Jackson Purchase Dance Company Board of Directors; 2010-2011, Murray, KY.
- Site-Base Council, Murray Middle School, Murray, KY; 1996-1998. Elected as parent representative for middle school site-base council.
- St. Leo Catholic Church Sunday School Teacher; 1987 to 2000. Murray, KY
- Murray High School Booster Club; 1998-2004, Murray, KY. Held several executive positions including secretary and kick-off chairman.
- Murray City Schools Volunteer Chess Teacher and Program Assistant; 1990-1998, Murray, KY.
- Murray Calloway County Soccer Association; 1988-1995, Murray, KY. Registrar for association.