

Curriculum Vitae
Donna Wilson
Teacher Educator
Educational Psychologist
Nationally Certified School Psychologist and Former Teacher

With her background as an educational/school psychologist and former university chair of education and classroom teacher, Donna Wilson's work in teacher education draws on decades of cognitive studies in education and psychology and is informed by more recent developments in the field of neuroeducation. Her diverse professional experience provides the foundation for a practical approach to effective instruction developed in collaboration with more than 100,000 teachers, teacher leaders, and administrators.

Donna serves as academic team leader and president of the Center for Innovative Education and Prevention, BrainSMART, and 21st Century Skills. She is codeveloper of the M.S. and Ed.S. degree programs and the Ed.D. minor focused on Brain-Based Teaching and Leading with Nova Southeastern University. Over the last 15 years, Donna has personally presented to more than 100,000 educators who teach more than 1 million students. She has served as an educational consultant in many of the largest states and districts in the United States, as well as in many suburban and rural areas. She has also presented in a number of other countries. Donna is most interested in helping K-12 classroom educators strengthen student learning by aligning instruction with current research from the fields of education, learning, psychology, and educational neuroscience; in teacher leadership and collaboration; in policymaking based on current research; in systems for educational change and innovation; in education of students with learning challenges; in school/university partnerships for change; and in parent/school and community partnerships for change.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2012–Present Adjunct Professor, Abraham S. Fischler School of Education, Nova Southeastern University

2009–Present Cofounder, President, 21st Century Skills, LLC

2008–Present Cofounder, Team Leader Academic Affairs, and President, Center for Innovative Education and Prevention

1998–Present Cofounder, Team Leader Academic Affairs, and President, BrainSMART

1996–1998 Associate Professor and Chairperson Education Department, University of Detroit Mercy

1994–1996 Tenure-Track Faculty, University of Georgia Systems

1977–1994 Full-Time Teacher, School Psychologist, and Diagnostician

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Wilson, D. L. (1995, Fall). Some thoughts on achieving equity in education. *The Reporter*, 14.

Wilson, D. L. (1996). The school psychologist as co-teacher: An example using the COGNET program as a means of teaching thinking skills. *Journal of Cognitive Education*, 5, 171–183.

- Wilson, D. L. (1996, February). The school psychologist as co-teacher and staff developer: A shift in thinking. *NASP Communique*, 33–34.
- Wilson, D. L. (2011). *The importance of educational leadership and policy: In support of effective instruction*. Retrieved from ERIC database. (ED523494)
- Wilson, D. L. (2012). Training the mind's eye: 'Brain movies' support comprehension and recall. *The Reading Teacher*. doi: 10.1002.TRTR01091
- Wilson, D. L. (2012). Teaching children to become the boss of their brains: Modeling metacognition. *L_ _rn*. Baltimore, MD: Learning Resource Network, Johns Hopkins University. Retrieved from <http://lrn.maecharles.com/topics/attention/kids-can-be-the-boss-of-their-brains>
- Wilson, D. L. (2013, December 13). Angel Teachers: Educators who care about troubled teens [Book review]. *Teachers College Record*. Retrieved from <http://www.tcrecord.org/Content.asp?ContentId=17363>
- Wilson, D. L., & Bellanca, J. (1998). *Mediated learning in and out of the classroom training manual*. Arlington Heights, IL: SkyLight.
- Wilson, D. L., & Church, S. (1993). Norman public schools three-year study of at-risk students. *Research for Better Schools Teaching Thinking and Problem Solving*, 15(1), 6–8.
- Wilson, D. L., & Conyers, M. A. (2009). *BrainSMART health wise* (2nd ed.). Orlando, FL: BrainSMART.
- Wilson, D. L., & Conyers, M. A. (2009, February 1). BrainSMART thinking skills: Developing self directed learners for success in college, career, and life. Retrieved from the BrainSMART website: <http://www.brainsmart.org>
- Wilson, D. L., & Conyers, M. A. (2009). *Wiring the brain to read: Beginning reading preK–grade 3*. Orlando, FL: BrainSMART.
- Wilson, D. L., & Conyers, M. A. (2010). *Administrator's workbook for increasing student achievement: BrainSMART strategies for leading and teaching*. Orlando, FL: BrainSMART.
- Wilson, D. L., & Conyers, M. A. (2010). *Courageous learners: Increasing student achievement in diverse learning communities* (3rd ed.). Orlando, FL: BrainSMART.
- Wilson, D. L., & Conyers, M. A. (2010). *Wiring the brain to read: Brain-based differentiated reading instruction*. Orlando, FL: BrainSMART.
- Wilson, D. L., & Conyers, M. A. (2010). *Wiring the brain to read: Higher-order thinking for reading*. Orlando, FL: BrainSMART.
- Wilson, D. L., & Conyers, M. A. (2011). *BrainSMART 60 strategies for increasing student achievement* (4th ed.). Orlando, FL: BrainSMART.
- Wilson, D. L., & Conyers, M. A. (2011). *Thinking for results: Strategies for increasing student achievement by as much as 30 percent* (4th ed.). Orlando, FL: BrainSMART.

- Wilson, D. L., & Conyers, M. A. (2013). *Five big ideas for effective teaching: Connecting mind, brain, and education research to classroom practice*. New York, NY: Teachers College Press.
- Wilson, D. L. & Conyers, M. A. (2013). *Flourishing in the first five years: Connecting implications from mind, brain, and education research to the development of young children*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Education.
- Wilson, D. L., & Conyers, M. A. (2013, December). Understanding and mastering complexity: The five new cognitive complexities that teachers confront. *Information Age Education Newsletter*, 127. Retrieved from <http://i-a-e.org/newsletters/IAE-Newsletter-2013-127.html>
- Wilson, D. L., & Conyers, M. A. (In press). *Positively smarter: Using educational neuroscience to improve productivity and well-being*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley. (Under contract for 2015 launch.)
- Wilson, D. L., & Greenberg, K. (2000). The COGNET education model. In A. Costa (Ed.), *Teaching for intelligence II*. Arlington Heights, IL: SkyLight.
- Wilson, D. L., Heverly, L., & Conyers, M. A. (2011). *BrainSMART early start: Building the brain power of young children* (2nd ed.). Orlando, FL: BrainSMART.

RESEARCH Conducted by Others Related to Graduate Degree Programs

- Germuth, A. A. (2012a). *Empowering teacher leaders: The impact of graduate programs connecting mind, brain, and education research to teacher leadership*. Orlando, FL: BrainSMART.
- Germuth, A. A. (2012b). *Helping all learners reach their potential: What teachers say about graduate programs that integrate the implications of mind, brain, and education research*. Orlando, FL: BrainSMART.
- Harman, A. E., & Germuth, A. A. (2012). *Bridging the gap: The impact of graduate degree programs connecting mind, brain, and education research to teaching and learning*. Orlando, FL: BrainSMART.

SELECTED UPCOMING/RECENT PRESENTATIONS

- Second Annual Roundtable for State Early Childhood Specialists, “Excellence for Every Child: Improving the Quality of Teaching Birth through Grade Three” The Depot, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 2014
- ASCD Annual Conference, “@EveryLearner: Someday Is Now,” Presentation “Flourishing in the First Five Years: Plasticity, Nutrition, and Movement,” Los Angeles, California, 2014
- Learning Forward Annual Conference, Presentation “Toward Joyful Implementation of Common Core State Standards,” Dallas, Texas, 2013

International Association of Cognitive Education and Psychology, XIVth Biennial International Conference, Paper Presentation “Connecting Five Big Ideas from Cognitive, Brain, and Education Research to Teacher Education” (with Marcus Conyers), Leiden, The Netherlands, 2013

American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, “Education and Poverty: Theory, Research, Policy and Praxis,” Paper Presentation “Exploring the Impact of a Graduate Degree Program Connecting the Implications of Mind, Brain, and Education Research to Teaching and Learning,” San Francisco, California, 2013

Sixteenth Roundtable of the International Network on School, Family, and Community Partnerships, Paper Presentation “Improving Students’ Health and Cognitive Skills: An Examination of the Impact of Education, Mind, and Brain Research on Teachers’ Interactions with Parents,” Vancouver, British Columbia, 2012

American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education Annual “Imagine the Impact: Providing a Learning Journey for All” Meeting, Paper Presentation (with Mary Buday) “Strengthening Teacher Effectiveness with Implications from Neuroeducation: A Qualitative Study of K-12 Teachers Focusing on Higher Needs Students,” Chicago, Illinois, 2012

Nova Southeastern University Conference on Global Leadership, Learning, & Research, Invited Presentation “Putting Education, Mind, and Brain Research Into Practice,” Orlando, Florida, 2012

International Educational Organization, “The Brain in Education” Third Annual International Education Symposium, Invited Presentation “BrainSMART Strategies for Boosting Learning,” Dubai and Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, 2011

International Association for Cognitive Education and Psychology, Paper Presentation “Preliminary Results from a Qualitative Study of Teachers: Using an Education, Mind, and Brain Framework for Enhancing Instruction in K-12 Classrooms,” Boston, Massachusetts, 2011

Nova Southeastern University Conference on Global Leadership, Learning, & Research, Invited Presentation “Potential, Plasticity, and the Power to Get Better at Almost Anything,” Orlando, Florida, 2011

National Association of Elementary School Principals Annual Convention, Invited Three-Day Workshop for Principals and Teacher Leaders, “BrainSMART Leading for Learning in Culturally Diverse Environments: Putting Cognitive Research into Practice,” Minneapolis, Minnesota, 2011

National Association of Elementary School Principals Annual Convention, Invited Extended Learning Presentation, “BrainSMART Leading for Learning: Keys to Increasing Student Achievement,” Tampa, Florida, 2011

National Association of Elementary School Principals Annual Convention, Invited Focus Group Session for Mentor Coaches Using BrainSMART Methodology, Tampa, Florida, 2011

Nova Southeastern University Conference on Global Leadership, Learning, & Research,
Invited Presentation “Introduction to BrainSMART: Putting Research into Practice So
All Students May Learn,” Orlando, Florida, 2010

National Association of Elementary School Principals Summer Leadership Institute,
Invited Three-Day Featured Workshop, “BrainSMART Leading for Learning in
Culturally Diverse Environments: Putting Cognitive Research into Practice,” San Diego,
California, 2010

National Association of Elementary School Principals Annual Convention, “Invited
Preconference Session: BrainSMART Administrator’s Guide to Increasing Student
Learning” and “Leading for Reading,” Houston, Texas, 2010

ACADEMICS

Postdoctoral Studies with Professor Reuven Feuerstein’s International Center for the
Enhancement of Learning Potential (ICELP), Israel
PhD, University of Oklahoma, Educational Psychology
Certification, Central State University, School Psychology
MEd, University of Oklahoma, Guidance and Counseling
BS, University of Oklahoma, Elementary Education

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

ASCD

American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education
American Educational Research Association (Divisions C and K & Various SIGs)
AERA Learning Environments Program Chair 2014-2016)
International Association for Cognitive Education and Psychology
International Mind Brain and Education Society
International Neuropsychological Society
International Reading Association
National Association of School Psychologists
New York Academy of Sciences
Society for Social Neuroscience

REFERENCES

Dr. Tara Saltzman
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