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**VITA
2013**

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Formal Education

**1988 Doctor of Philosophy
Recreation and Leisure Studies
University of Maryland
Dissertation Title: Leisure and Loneliness
Guantanamo Bay, Cuba**

**1984 Master of Science
Health and Human Services with an Emphasis
in Gerontology
University of North Florida**

**1981 Bachelor of Science
Recreation with an Emphasis in Therapy
University of Florida**

Professional Experience

**Present: Full Professor, Tenured in the
College of Education and Behavioral Science
Middle Tennessee State University
Murfreesboro, Tennessee
Promoted to Full Professor/tenured in Fall, 1998
Member of Graduate Faculty since Fall of 1995
Avatar is FlygirlDeka, 2010 to present
LERN Nationally Certified Online Instructor, June, 2006
Distinguished Online and Distance Learning Faculty of the Year
Award, 2006
Outstanding Achievement in Instructional Technology Award,
2007**

The Lana Doncaster Innovations Award by the Tennessee Board of Regents, 2008
Nationally Certified Recreational Therapist (since 1994)

- 2008-11 Member, Second Life University Committee, MTSU**
- 2005-11 NRPA Accreditation Team Member**
- 2007-08 Associate Editor of American Therapeutic Recreation Annual**
- 2006-11 Faculty Peer Advisor for Online and Hybrid course through the Office of Distance Learning and Continuing Education**
- 2009-11 Completed online training in Information Security**
- 2008-11 Completed Sexual Harassment in the Workplace online training**
- 2007-11 Completed the Human Participant Protections Education for Research online training.**
- 2006-09 Member of the Institutional Review Board, MTSU**
- 2006-11 Member, Disability Coalition on Education.**
- 2006-09 Participated in the Information Technology Camp IT**
- 2006-11 Health Care Careers Committee Member, MTSU**
- 2002-2010 Program Manager of Recreation and Leisure Services in Health and Human Performance**
- 2002-2003 Faculty Intern, Instructional Technology Division Middle Tennessee State University**
- 1995-2011 Coordinator of the Therapy Emphasis in Recreation and Leisure Services, Middle Tennessee State University**
- 1988-1995 Assistant and Associate Professor, Tenured Department of Recreation and Leisure Services Therapy Emphasis Coordinator Georgia Southern University Statesboro, Georgia**
- 1992-1995 Co-Director of "Tools for Life Adaptive Technology Center Department of Rehabilitative Services for the state of Georgia, housed at Georgia Southern University**

- 1990-1994 Contractor to the Georgia Department of Corrections**
- 1986-1994 Contractor to the United States Navy, Division of Morale, Welfare and Recreation**
- 1990 Contractor to the United States Army, Division of Community Recreation Centers, Alexandria, Virginia. Served as a workshop facilitator in Garmisch, Germany for the USAREUR Innovative Program Forum of Europe**
- 1988 Contractor to the Department of Recreation and Club Services in Keflavic, Iceland. Conducted workshops with Centers of Influence and Command Infrastructure**
- 1987-1988 Curriculum Coordinator, Florida State School for the Deaf and the Blind, St. Augustine, Florida**
- 1986-1987 Collaborative Contractor with the University of Maryland to the Department of Recreation Services in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Designed, implemented, and evaluated an outreach leisure facilitation program for young, unaccompanied enlisted personnel. Conducted base wide research on loneliness**
- 1985-1989 Summer Coordinator and Intern Supervisor of the Caribbean Camp Connection, Barbados, West Indies. Planned and implemented recreational activities for children and youth who are deaf, physically disabled, blind, and mentally retarded**
- 1985-1987 Instructor, Gallaudet University, Washington, DC**
- 1984-1987 Graduate Assistantship, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland**
- 1984-1986 Co-Director of the Leisure and Aging Management School in coordination with the University of Maryland in Oglebay, West Virginia**
- 1981-1983 Director of Recreation at the Florida State School for the Deaf and the Blind, a resident facility which houses youth ages 5-20, Saint Augustine, Florida**
- 1980-1982 Coordinator of Recreation Therapy for Therapy, Incorporated Worked with extended care facilities, Gainesville, Florida**

Certifications and Honors:

The Lana Doncaster Innovations Award by TBR, 2008
Outstanding Achievement in Instructional Technology Award, 2007
Distinguished Online and Distance Learning Faculty of the Year 2006
Nationally Certified Online Instructor 2006- Present
Golden Apple Award MTSU 2000
Professional certification with the National Council of Therapeutic Recreation Specialist since 1991
Rho Phi Lambda Honorary member, since 1991
Graduated with honors, University of Florida, 1981
Life member, National Honor Society since 1981

Organizational Memberships:

2006-Present	American Therapeutic Recreation Association
1990-Present	National Parks and Recreation Association
1990-Present	National Therapeutic Recreation Association
1997-2005	Tennessee Recreational Therapy Association
1996-2006	Tennessee Recreation and Park Association
1994-2003	Child Life Council
1994-1996	International Council for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, Sport and Dance
1993-Present	American Aircraft Owners Professional Association
1993-1998	Association of Caregivers of America
1991-1998	American Alliance for Leisure Research
1989-1998	American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance
1989-1996	Georgia Recreation and Park Society

Professional Presentations

How Gen Y Learns (April, 2008). Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Continual Engagement (April, 2008). Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Harmony, Health, and Happiness (January 11, 2008). Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Persons with disAbilities in Cyberspace (January 09, 2007). Tennessee Board of Regents, Exploring New e-Learning Applications: Web 2.0 and Beyond. Nashville, Tennessee
Co-presented with Gerry Schefflemaier

Opportunities and Challenges in Cyberspace: Considering Persons with Disabilities (2007). National Parks and Recreation Congress, Indianapolis, Indiana. Co-presented with Tara Perry

An Empirical Study of the 110 Largest E-Commerce Sites Comparing Website Features to Conversion Rates (October 5, 2006). International Association for Computer Information Systems. Reno, Nevada Presented with J. Vinsonhaler, Gerry Schefflemaier, and Jean Pratt

Situational Solutions (November 18, 2006). National Honorary Professional Graduate Society in Business Education. Minneapolis, Minnesota Presented with Gerry Schefflemaier

Using Dreamweaver Tutorials to Tap Potential of Persons with Hearing Loss. Published on Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching (October 20, 2006). MERLOT online conference proceedings.

Creative Learning in Cyberspace (October 13, 2006). National Recreation and Parks Congress, Seattle, Washington

Accessibility Issues in Cyberspace (October 13, 2006). National Recreation and Parks Congress, Seattle, Washington

So You Are Considering a Career in Recreational Therapy

(October 4, 2006). Health Science Symposium in coordination with MTSU Continuing Education, Nashville, Tennessee. Co-presented with Tara Perry

***Dreamweaver Tutorial, Simplified Version* (September 23, 2006). Tennessee Business Education Association. Manchester, Tennessee, co-presented with Gerry Schefflemaier**

***Limitless Learning A Focus on disAbility* (February 17, 2006). Presented with Brenda Kerr and Kathleen Burris for the Tennessee Board of Regents Distance Education's Teaching and Learning with New Technology, Nashville, Tennessee**

***Teaching Dreamweaver in the Classroom* (July 19, 2006). Tennessee Career and Technical Education Conference on Learning Communities. Murfreesboro, Tennessee**

***Current Issues and Trends in Therapeutic Recreation* (April 20, 2006). Presented with Mary Ann Aquadro and Tara Perry Tennessee Recreation Therapy Association, Murfreesboro, Tennessee**

***Who Moved My Cheese?* (April 20, 2006). Tennessee Recreation Therapy Association, Murfreesboro, Tennessee**

***Who Moved My Cheese?* (July, 2003). Florida Association of Homes for the Aging, Boca Raton, Florida**

***Technology to Find Resources @ Unbelievable.yes* (July, 2003). Florida Association of Homes for the Aging, Boca Raton, Florida**

***Laughing, Learning and Leisure: The Case for using Humor in Life* (July, 2003). Florida Association of Homes for the Aging, Boca Raton, Florida**

***Bridging the Gap: Technology today and in the future,* (February, 2003). Tennessee Board of Regents Technology Conference, Nashville, Tennessee**

***Essential Synergy* (December 17, 2002). MTSU Information Technology Staff Workshop, Murfreesboro, Tennessee**

***Fun, Fur and Feathers* May, 2002. Aurora University Aurora, Illinois**

HORSEPLAY – Therapeutic Riding (May, 2002). Aurora University, Aurora, Illinois

The Interconnected Classroom (March, 2002). Southeast Technology Conference. Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Recreational Therapy in the Millennium (May 20, 2000). Tennessee Recreational Therapy Association, Franklin, Tennessee

Aging Across the Continuum (October 20, 1999). Gerontological Institute for the National Recreation and Parks Annual Congress, Nashville, Tennessee

Workshop on Team Building (September, 1999). Department of Occupational Therapy, Belmont University, Nashville, Tennessee

Visitors with Disabilities to Our State Parks (February 11 and 25, 1998). Tennessee Department of National Resources, Henry Horton State Park, Tennessee

Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Recreational Therapy: Working Together to Insure Success (September, 1997). American Therapeutic Recreation Association Annual Convention, Nashville, Tennessee

When You Talk About Inclusion, Include ME (September, 1997). American Therapeutic Recreation Association Annual Convention, Nashville, Tennessee

Computer Applications in Rehabilitation Settings (November, 1996) Tennessee Recreation and Parks 45th Annual Convention, Nashville, Tennessee

Beyond the Paralympics – What Did We Learn? (November, 1996). Tennessee Recreation and Parks 45th Annual Convention, Nashville, Tennessee Co-presented with Scott Shelar

Leisure Across the Lifespan (November, 1996). Vanderbilt Stallworth in coordination with Belmont University, Nashville, Tennessee

RTAP Passenger Assistance Training for Persons with Disabilities (November, 1996). Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Professional Public Service

- 2007-2009 Faculty Peer Reviewer for development of online courses**
- 2007-2009 Second Life University Committee Member**
- 2007-2008 Associate Editor, Annual in Therapeutic Recreation**
- 2006-2009 Institutional Review Board Committee Member**
- 2007-2008 Faculty Advisor to the Middle Tennessee Massage Therapy Student Organization**
- 2002-2003 120 Hour Committee Departmental Representative for HPERS**
- 2001-2002 Chair Search Committee, Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Safety in the College of Education and Behavioral Science**
- 2002-2004 Board of Directors, Pinewood Retreat, Savannah, Georgia**
- 2000-2004 Volunteer, Special Kids, Inc. Murfreesboro, Tennessee**
- 2002-2004 Volunteer Consultant, Epilepsy Foundation - Traumatic Injury**
- 2001-2002 Member, Vocational Training Center Board of Directors**
- 2000-2002 Member, Faculty Welfare Committee A, Middle Tennessee State University**
- 2000-2002 Member, Service Learning Task Force, Middle Tennessee State University**
- 1999-2000 Member, Health and Human Services, Master Plan Development Committee, Middle Tennessee State University**
- 1999 Volunteer, NRPA Annual Congress**
- 1997-1999 Consultant, Psychotherapeutic Consultants of America**
- 1998 Reviewer for text, "Recreation for Persons with Disabilities" by Smith, Kennedy and Austin, Sagamore Publishers**

- 1997** Co-Chair of the Program Planning Committee for the Annual American Therapeutic Recreation Association, *Embrace the Vision and the Challenge*
- 1997** Committee Member for the 1997 Peg Connolly Scholarship
- 1996-1997** Faculty Representative to the Student Health, Physical Education and Recreation Club, Middle Tennessee State University
- 1996-1997** Faculty Sponsor to the Sigma Delta Sigma Student Club for Students with Disability at Middle Tennessee State University
- 1995-1997** Member, Graduate and Undergraduate Curriculum Committees, Middle Tennessee State University
- 1996-1997** Coordinator of the Therapy, Management and Outdoor Emphases in the Department of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Safety, Middle Tennessee State University
- 1995-1997** Volunteer, Alvin C. York Veteran's Administration Medical Center, Department of Recreational Therapy
- 1993-1994** Editor of the Therapeutic Recreation Section of the Georgia Recreation and Parks Association Quarterly Publication
- 1993-1994** Secretary, Diversity Council, Georgia Southern University
- 1993-1994** Member, Academics Abroad Committee, Georgia Southern University
- 1993-1994** Personnel Preparation Task Force, Recreational Therapy Representative, Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services, Georgia Southern University
- 1992-1993** Member, Dean Search Committee, College of Health and Professional Services, Georgia Southern University
- 1992-1996** Member of the 1996 Paralympic Speakers' Bureau
- 1988-1996** Volunteer for the Pecan Manor Skilled Nursing Home
- 1990-1996** Volunteer, Georgia Department of Corrections

Professional Publications

Douglas, S. and Shelar, V. (2008) *Emotional Empathy: A Comparative Analysis Between Pre-Professional Therapy and Business Students in McNair Research Review, Volume VI, pp 97-107.*

Perry, T.L., Ivy, M.I., Conner, A., & Shelar, D. (2008) *Student attitudes toward persons with disabilities: Considerations for future service delivery. Journal of Hospitality, Leisure, Sports, and Tourism Education, 7 (2), 4-14.*

Cunningham, P., Shelar, V., & Perry, T.L. (2007, June). *Tangled in the Web. Parks & Recreation Magazine.*

Vining, S., Shelar, V., Scheffelmaier, G. and Perry, T. (2007). *Aging and Boredom. Submitted for Review to ATRA Annuals.* revisions in progress or consideration for submission to a different journal.

Grants

***First Annual African-American Youth Film Festival* Submitted to the Public Service Committee and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 2006. Funding with the University denied, funding through NAACP approved.**

***Effects of Aquatic Therapy on Neuromuscular Disorders* Submitted to the Faculty Research and Creative Activity Committee, 2005. Funded for \$8,116.30. Matched funded (2006) in the amount of \$2000.**

***Camp Pegasus, Therapeutic Riding Program* Submitted to Middle Tennessee State Foundation, 2003. Total request for \$47,000 (including matching funds). Not funded.**

***A Focus on Persons with Disabilities* MTSU Public Service Grant. November, 1999. Funded for \$1,500**

***National Youth Sports Program* Submitted in September, 1996. Funding of \$47,000 (not funded).**

The Leisure Link Funded by the Faculty Service Committee in coordination with the Georgia Department of Corrections for \$2,000, Summer, 1995.

Warm Springs Summer Arts Camp funded by the Faculty Service Committee in coordination with the Warm Springs Arts Coalition for \$2,106.75, Summer, 1995

Experiential University Exposure for High Risk Middle School Students co-authored with Roberts, L, faculty service grant, Georgia Southern University, funded for \$2,200.00, March, 1993

Tools for Life Adaptive Technology Demonstration Center co-authored with Wallace, J., funded through the Georgia Department of Rehabilitative Services for \$157,000, September, 1992, refunded in September, 1993 for additional \$200,000

References

Ms. Mary Foreman
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Ms. Barbara Gray
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Dr. Tara Perry
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Jennings A. Jones College of Business
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Georgia Department for Rehabilitation
P.O. Box 347
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Additional References Provided Immediately Upon Request.