

THE STELEGRAM

University of Central Florida's School of Teacher Education

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DR. DONITA GRISSOM SELECTED BY U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR PRESTIGIOUS ENGLISH LANGUAGE SPECIALIST PROJECT



The U.S. Department of State announced the selection of Dr. Donita Grissom of Florida for a short term English Language Specialist virtual project at Georgetown University.

The keynote presentation will be focusing on the Power of Hope for teachers and students in Vietnam and a three hour workshop will

cover Scaffolding Activities to Enhance Proficiency Levels.

Dr. Grissom is part of a select group, as her project is one of approximately 200 that the English Language Specialist Program supports each year.

Dr. Grissom is also a professional educational consultant, coach, and curriculum developer, training teachers in methods of teaching English to speakers of other languages nationally and interna-

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tionally. Her goal is to help the classroom teacher provide ELs with the tools they need to learn the language necessary to connect to K-12 curriculum, with as much ease and with as little extra time as possible. Additionally, Dr. Grissom specializes in helping people, especially teachers and their students, raise their hope levels through teaching components of Snyder's Hope Theory. Research has shown that students with high hope levels perform a letter grade higher than those with low hope levels. Also, people with high hope have been shown to perform better at work and are happier people. Dr. Grissom engages her audiences in learning about hope and how to raise hope levels.

The English Language Specialist Program is the premier opportunity for leaders in the field of teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL) to enact meaningful and sustainable changes in the way that English is taught abroad, and is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) with funding provided by the U.S. government. In 2021, the English Language Specialist Program celebrates its 30th anniversary. Since 1991, over 800 English Language Specialists – representing the best of America's educators from all 50 States – have encouraged critical thought and erudition, celebrated their cultural diversity, and showcased their profes-

sional and civic engagement strategies to millions of educators and students to millions of educators and students through in-country, virtual, or mixed projects.

During their projects, English Language Specialists may conduct intensive teacher training, advise ministries of education or participate in high-level educational consultations, and offer plenary presentations at regional, national or international TESOL conferences. These projects are challenging and those selected represent the best of the U.S. TESOL community. In return, the program provides professional development opportunities to help participants experience different cultures and build skills that can greatly enhance their TESOL careers at home.

English Language Specialists are counted among the more than 50,000 individuals participating in U.S. Department of State exchange programs each year. The Specialist Program is administered by the Center for Intercultural Education and Development at Georgetown University.

For further information about the English Language Specialist Program or the U.S. Department of State, please visit elprograms.org/specialist, contact us by telephone at [202-632-6452](tel:202-632-6452), or e-mail ECA-Press@state.gov.

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MACY PUBLISHES WITH EARLY CHILDHOOD GRADUATE



UCF STE Early Childhood Development Education graduate, Ms. Toni-Ann Rusiana, and Dr. Marisa Macy along with others recently published a study together. They

did an early childhood research project on a kindergarten readiness assessment with preschoolers and their families, teachers at Montessori programs in Florida. [https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10643-021-01237-7?](https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10643-021-01237-7?wt_mc=socialmedia.facebook.1.SEM.ArticleAuthorOnlineFirst&fbclid=IwAR2kS1xfBBqGZlnE5HOD4uxqa1NBLqbBg07PTa7kY1TOPYC2YAXBzr_SaUU)

[wt_mc=socialmedia.facebook.1.SEM.ArticleAuthorOnlineFirst&fbclid=IwAR2kS1xfBBqGZlnE5HOD4uxqa1NBLqbBg07PTa7kY1TOPYC2YAXBzr_SaUU](https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10643-021-01237-7?wt_mc=socialmedia.facebook.1.SEM.ArticleAuthorOnlineFirst&fbclid=IwAR2kS1xfBBqGZlnE5HOD4uxqa1NBLqbBg07PTa7kY1TOPYC2YAXBzr_SaUU)

NEARPOD LICENSE INTEREST

The university is considering purchasing a site license for faculty to utilize Nearpod in their courses

to increase engagement and allow for seamless integration with Canvas regarding the many formative assessments included in the platform. Some faculty use the tool for interactive homework opportunities, while others use it for face to face, M or completely web-based instruction. If you have any questions or would like to express interest in acquiring a license for Nearpod, please watch the Zoom recording below and reach out to ilab@ucf.edu.

https://ucf.zoom.us/rec/share/FVTsV7Nw9_KbHTMqJnPfyvCbu6R7WV7Sn2isXRk9ARE0sIAes2owYwS-FZnDrZBM.v7RtkjkiLH15AI92

Passcode: 6&K4RR*S

IT'S TIME TO SUBMIT OFFICE HOURS

Please document Fall 2021 office hours in a timely manner using the link below:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/10wNJA1mZekQq6tKy_1imyxERRlp8L9-M-FpqjnWp40g/edit#gid=0

HOW TO BOOK A CONFERENCE ROOM IN THE EDUCATION COMPLEX

A new procedure to book a conference room in the Education Complex for a one-time meeting has been created by the College of Community Innovation and Education Schedulers. Instructions can be found on [Teams](#) or at the link below.

Basically, you go to the calendar, find the room you are looking for, and schedule the room if there isn't a prior reservation. Much easier than trying to figure out who is responsible and trying to get in touch with them.

This is only for the following rooms: ED 115K, ED 122K, ED 201, ED 206L, ED 208, ED 223L, ED 308J, ED 315R or ED 322F.

To reserve ED 305 or 306, you'll still need to contact the Dean's office at CCIEDean@ucf.edu. To reserve a room in the Teaching Academy or MIRC, please use the following Qualtrics form: https://ucf.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dnUx6FTcQp9qa6V.

Directions: <https://bit.ly/3BaaGTF>

Please note that if you need to create a recurring meeting or schedule a room for a small class, continue to work with your scheduler. ([Anjelle Allen](#) for STE).

REVISED OFFICE/REMOTE STAFFING CHART



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Anjelle	Remote	Office	Office	Remote	Office
Eric	Remote	Office	Remote	Office	Office
Maria	Office	Remote	Office	Office	Remote
Damien	Office	Office	Remote	Office	Remote

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS



NEW EVENT ADDED

July 2021	
August 2021	
August 19	 CCIE Fall Faculty and Staff Meeting; 10:00-11:00 am; MIRC (F2F); Zoom link to follow (remote)
August 20	Team STE Start of the Fall Meeting; 1:00-3:00 pm; Education Complex Gym
Sept 2021	
September 2	UCF Football: Boise State; 7:00 pm
September 2	 Early Campus Closure due to Football Game: Campus closes at 2 pm
September 11	UCF Football: Bethune Cookman; 6:30 pm
October 2021	
October 9	UCF Football: East Carolina; TBD
October 22	UCF Football: Memphis; TBD
October 22	 Early Campus Closure due to Football Game: Campus closes at 2 pm
November 2021	
November 6	UCF Football: Tulane; TBD
November 20	UCF Football: UCONN; TBD
November 26	UCF Football: South Florida; TBD

See something missing from the calendar or want to share an upcoming event with STE Faculty?

Email STE@ucf.edu!