**Curriculum Vita**

***Donna D. Simpson, Ed.D.***

Assistant Professor

University of West Georgia

Department of Counseling, Higher Education, and Speech-Language Pathology

1601 Maple Street

Carrollton, GA 30118

dsimpson@westga.edu

**EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS**

**UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA, CARROLLTON, GA**

Doctor of Education, School Improvement, 2015

**UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA (WEST GEORGIA COLLEGE), CARROLLTON, GA**

Master of Education, School Counseling, 1996

**LAGRANGE COLLEGE, LAGRANGE, GA**

Bachelor of Arts, Mathematics, Minor in Education, 1987

**CERTIFICATIONS & LICENSING**

State Licensed in School Counseling (Georgia PSC)

State Licensed in Mathematics (Georgia PSC)

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2023-Present **University of West Georgia,** Carrollton, GA

***Assistant Professor of Counselor Education***

Teach in-person, hybrid, and online graduate-level counselor education courses and assist with departmental, university, and community service.

2022-2023 **Coweta Judicial Circuit,** Carrollton, GA

***Judicial Assistant***

Co-authored and assisted with the implementation of two grants totaling $4.5 million of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to reduce the judicial felony backlog caused by the Covid-19 Pandemic; worked with a multidisciplinary team to increase efficiency in the courts by refining the jury *voir dire* process, adding technology, tracking data for statistical analysis, and creating presentations for information sharing with court personnel, county commission members, and legislators.

2019-2022 **Carroll County Board of Education,** Carrollton, GA

***Counselor Liaison for High School Counselors***

Coordinated with the Director of Secondary Education and Assessment to plan and conduct monthly high school counselor meetings; designed resources for students, parents, teachers, and counselors; gathered and presented pertinent information; drafted protocols; and mentored new counselors.

2013-2022 **Central High School,** Carrollton, GA

***Lead Counselor***

Oversaw the guidance department staff of seven; managed a caseload of 450-500 students in grades 10-12 with academic planning, managing emotions, applying interpersonal skills, and planning for postsecondary options; administered and interpreted assessments (YouScience, PSAT, ACT, SAT, AP, GA Milestones, GHSGT); planned and implemented the guidance program; participated in IEP, 504 and HHB meetings; wrote grants; and collected and interpreted data to guide decisions

2003-2013 **Bowdon High School,** Bowdon, GA

***Sole Counselor***

Managed a caseload of 500-525 students in grades 9-12 and oversaw all aspects of the guidance program, including registration, placement, scheduling, testing, FTE, test interpretation, recognition programs, remediation programs, scholarships, college admissions, dual enrollment, classroom guidance, data management, public relations, counseling, event planning, grant writing, completing reports for administration, and on-line course facilitation.

1999-2003 **Villa Rica High School**, Villa Rica, GA

***Counselor***

Managed a caseload of 520-560 students in grades 9-12; planned and administered registration, scheduling, data collection, FTE, and attendance; led classroom guidance; counseled students; and facilitated online learning.

1998-1999 **Villa Rica High School**, Villa Rica, GA and **Temple Middle School**, Temple, GA

***Counselor*** *(half-time at each site)*

Villa Rica High School - Managed a caseload of 350 ninth graders with academic planning, managing emotions, applying interpersonal skills, and planning for postsecondary options; administered and interpreted assessments (GHSGT, PSAT); Managed the SST program; and built the master schedule and coordinated the scheduling of all classes.

Temple Middle School - Managed a caseload of 280 students in grades 6-8 with academic planning, managing emotions, applying interpersonal skills, and planning for postsecondary options; and administered and interpreted assessments.

1997-1998 **Villa Rica High School**, Villa Rica, GA

***Counselor***

Managed a caseload of 350 eighth graders and taught career connections; coordinated the SST program; assisted with assessments; and assisted with scheduling courses.

1991-1997 **John Simpson, State Representative/Attorney**, Carrollton, GA

***Political Strategist, Legislative Aide, Paralegal***

Participated in strategy, management, and implementation for thirteen successful political campaigns; served as a legislative aide; and worked as a paralegal in a general practice law office, creating documents for real estate closings, preparing for trial, and managing clients.

1987-1990 **Carrollton High School**, Carrollton, GA

***Teacher and Yearbook Advisor***

Taught Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Algebra II, and Applied Mathematics II, and served as yearbook advisor.

**COURSES**

CEPD 6140 Basic Counseling Skills

CEPD 6180 Principles of Professional School Counseling

CEPD 7105 Counseling Across the Lifespan

CEPD 7134 Couples and Family Counseling

CEPD 7141 Professional Orientation and Ethics in Counseling

**INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE**

University of West Georgia COEDIAC Advisory Committee, 2023-present

Central High School Interact Club Sponsor, 2018-2022

Central High School International Skills Diploma Seal Committee, 2015-2022

Carroll County Schools Dynamic Team for Advisement, 2017-2022

U.S. Department of Education Research Study, 2009, 2012

Bowdon High School Math Team Sponsor, 2006-2013

Bowdon High School SACS Chair, 2004-2006

Villa Rica High School SACS Co-Chair, 1999-2001

**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

Carroll County Counselors Association, Vice-President 2001-2002, President 2002-2003

Georgia Association of Educators

American School Counselor Association

Professional Association of Georgia Educators

Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development

American School Counselor Association (ASCA)

Georgia School Counselor Association (GSCA)

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Carroll County Learning is for Today and Tomorrow (LIFT), Community Chairperson 1994-1996

Bowdon Schools Education Foundation, Founding Member, Secretary 2009-2013

Carrollton-Carroll County Education Collaborative (CCCEC)

**SCHOLARSHIP & PRESENTATIONS**

***Peer-Reviewed Publications***

* *What effects does the UWise program for entering college freshmen with intended STEM majors have on the retention rate and GPAs of participating female and male students?* ProQuest Dissertations Publishing, 2015, ISBN: 9781339446707

***Presentations***

• **Simpson, D.** Mental Health Awareness. *Carroll EMC Lunch and Learn Series,* Carrollton, GA, (November 10, 2023)

• **Simpson, D.** & Curry, R. Cross-Entity Networks. *Carrollton-Carroll County Education Collaborative (CCCEC)*, Carrollton, GA, (July 1, 2016)

• **Simpson, D.** Does Parent University Improve Student Engagement?*University of West Georgia Scholars Day* (April 18, 2013), poster presentation

**GRANTS & FUNDING**

**GEORGIA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS ARPA Grant $2,499,801.00** (2023) *Funds for resolving the felony case backlogs caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.*

**NATIONAL CENTER FOR STATE COURTS HYBRID HEARINGS IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVE Grant $20,000** (2022)

*Purchased and installed audio/video equipment (hardware and software) to conduct hybrid hearings as part of a pilot project for research purposes.*

**GEORGIA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS ARPA Grant $1,993,979** (2022) *Funds for resolving the felony case backlogs caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.*

**GEORGIA FOUNDATION FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION Grant $2,400** (2018) *Funded Job Shadowing, Mock Interviews, a Career Fair, and Industry Tours.*

**CARROLL EMC BRIGHT IDEAS Grant $5,000** (2018)

*Purchased Chromebooks for use by Hospital/Homebound Students.*

**NCAA MY FUTURE IS BRIGHTER Grant $3,500** (2015)

*Funded workshop for current and prospective student-athletes to learn how to navigate the NCAA process.*

**GEORGIA APPALACHIAN CENTER FOR HIGHER EDUCATION (GACHE) Grant $10,000** (2012)

*Funded field trips for every student at Bowdon High School to visit an institution of higher education and industry, along with participation in a Reality Store event.*

**DISSERTATION COMMITTEE MEMBER SERVICE**

***Grenetta Gunn Turner***(August 2023–December 2023)

School Counselors’ Perceptions of the Effects of School Mental Health Services on Gifted Students

**AWARDS & RECOGNITION**

* College Board Counselor Recognition (2021)
* Rick Perkins Award (2018)

**CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & SPECIALIZED TRAINING**

* Dialectical Skills Group Facilitator Training
* High Schools that Work
* Virtual High School Site Coordinator
* Georgia Virtual Site Coordinator
* Edgenuity Facilitator
* Special Education Law in Georgia Training
* Georgia Student Finance Commission High School Counselor Internship Program
* Crisis Prevention, Intervention, and Response: Suicide & Self-Injury, Risk-Assessment

& School Violence, & Managing Emotionality

* Darkness to Light Training
* Poverty Simulation Workshop