

**Rachelle S. Savitz, Ph.D.**  
**Assistant Professor-Adolescent Literacy**  
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**EDUCATION**

Doctor of Philosophy-Literacy Studies May 2017  
Evaluation, Statistics and Measurement Certificate 2016  
University of Tennessee at Knoxville, Knoxville, TN

**Dissertation:** *Secondary Teachers' Perspectives on Response to Intervention: A National Study*

Committee: Dr. Richard Allington (Chair), Dr. Stergios Botzakis, Dr. Anne McGill-Franzen, Dr. Gary Skolits, Dr. Timothy Rasinski

Master of Education, Special Education May 2007  
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

Bachelor of Science, Music Education Dec. 2001  
Slippery Rock University, Slippery Rock, PA

**Current Academic Appointment**

Assistant Professor 2017 - Present  
Adolescent Literacy  
Clemson University

**Professional Employment**

Cultural Diversity Consultant 2019 - Present  
Carolina High School, Greenville County Schools

Teaching Assistant, TPTE 2014 - 2017  
College of Education, University of Tennessee at Knoxville

Middle Grades Literacy Consultant 2014 - 2015  
Knox County School District, TN

ELA Formative Assessment Lead Reviewer 2014 - 2014  
Florida Department of Education, Florida

District Reading Specialist/Literacy Coach (K-12) 2011 - 2014  
Palm Beach County School District, Florida

Diagnostic Assessment Reviewer and Lead (K-12) 2011 - 2014  
Palm Beach County School District, Florida

Professional Development Trainer 2011 - 2014  
Palm Beach County School District, FL

Elementary Reading Academy Literacy Coach 2013

Palm Beach County School District, Florida

ELA Item Bank Assessment and Instruction 2012 - 2013  
Florida Department of Education, Florida

Adjunct Reading Professor 2010 - 2012  
Barry University, Florida

Reading Teacher 2008 - 2011  
Boynton Beach High School, Palm Beach County School District

Literacy and ESOL Instructor 2007 - 2010  
Palm Beach Literacy Coalition

Reading/Music Teacher 2004 - 2008  
Waldo Elementary Community School, Prairie View Elementary,  
and Gainesville High School, Alachua County Public Schools, Florida

Music Teacher 2002 - 2004  
Penn-Trafford School District

### ***Licensure or Certifications***

State of Florida Teaching Licensure Expires June 2024  
Certification: Reading (K-12), ESOL (K-12), Music (K-12),  
English (6-12)

## **Research**

### **International/National Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles**

**\*denotes mentorship with graduate student**

- \*Savitz, R.S., Cridland-Hughes, S. & Gazioglu, M. (2021). Debate as a tool to develop disciplinary practices and student agency. *Teaching and Teacher Education, 102*.  
[doi.org/10.1016/j.tate.2021.103341](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tate.2021.103341)
- Savitz, R.S., Allen, A., Brown, C. (2021). Variations in RTI literacy implementation in grades 6-12: A national study. *Literacy Research and Instruction*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/19388071.2021.1887416>
- O'Byrne, I., Savitz, R.S., Morrison, J.D., Kane, B.D., Lilly, T., Ming, K., Aldrich, C. (2020). Literacy across the disciplines: Development and validation of an instrument to assess literacy instruction in middle and high schools' classrooms. *The Clearing House: A Journal of Educational Strategies, Issues and Ideas, 94*(2), 63-75.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/00098655.2020.1860874>
- Savitz, R.S. (2020). Situated-learning of content-area reading and writing strategies. *Journal of Faculty Development, 34*(3), 66-67.
- \*Schreuder, M., & Savitz, R.S. (2020). Exploring adolescent motivation to read with an online YA book club. *Literacy Research and Instruction, 59*(3), 260-275.  
[doi/full/10.1080/19388071.2020.1752860](https://doi.org/10.1080/19388071.2020.1752860)

- Savitz, R.S.** (2019). Educator beliefs about response to literacy intervention and implementation. *The National Journal of Middle Grades Reform*, 21-30.
- \***Savitz, R. S.**, Silva, A., & Dunston, P. (2019). Situated learning, the secondary-education teacher course, and the taming of the literacy education shrew. *The Clearing House: A Journal of Educational Strategies, Issues and Ideas*, 92(6), 224-234.
- \*Silva, A., & **Savitz, R. S.** (2019). Defying expectations: Representations of youth in young adult literature. *Journal of Adolescent & Adult Literacy*, 63(3), 323-331.  
[doi.org/10.1002/jaal.982](https://doi.org/10.1002/jaal.982)
- Savitz, R. S.**, Allington, R. L., & Wilkins, J. (2019). Response to intervention: A summary of the guidance state departments of education provide to schools and school districts. *The Clearing House: A Journal of Educational Strategies, Issues and Ideas*, 91(6), 243-249.  
[doi.org/10.1080/00098655.2018.1536641](https://doi.org/10.1080/00098655.2018.1536641)
- Savitz, R. S.**, & Rasinski, T. (2018) What Role Do We Expect Secondary Master Reading Teachers to Play? *The Clearing House: A Journal of Educational Strategies, Issues and Ideas*, 91(2), 72-77. [doi.org/10.1080/00098655.2017.1386002](https://doi.org/10.1080/00098655.2017.1386002)
- Groenke, S., & **Savitz, R. S.** (2016). Smarter than we give them credit for: What we can learn from middle level readers' book choices. *Voices from the Middle*, 24(2), 28-31.
- Savitz, R. S., & Wallace, K. (2016). Using the inquiry process to motivate and engage all (including struggling) readers. *The Clearing House*, 89(3), 91-96.
- Savitz, R.** (2016). Focus on Middle School: Using Inquiry-based learning to keep students engaged and learning in all content areas. *Childhood Education*, 92(4), 333-335.
- Savitz, R. S.**, & Wallace, K. (2016). Using the inquiry process to motivate and engage all (including struggling) readers. *The Clearing House*, 89(3), 91-96.
- Savitz, R.S.** (2015). Using public domain for literacy learning. *Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy*, 55(8), 518-520.

### **Regional/State Peer-Reviewed**

- \*Bentley, J. K., & **Savitz, R. S.** (2021). Taboo conversations in the classroom: Using young adult literature for critical witnessing and testimony of traumatic experiences. *Literacy Matters*, 21, 14-20.
- Kane, B.D., Morrison, J.D., Aldrich, C., **Savitz, R.S.**, Ming, K., O'Byrne, W.I., Lilly, T. (2021). Disentangling content-area and disciplinary literacy: Educators analyzing their own reading strategies as professional development. *Literacy Matters*, 21, 77-84.
- \*Gazioglu, M., & **Savitz, R.S.** (2019, August/September). Using children's literature with English language learners. *Tennessee Literacy Journal*, 1, 21-30.
- Savitz, R. S.** (2017, Fall/Winter). Secondary literacy teachers' perspectives regarding the implementation of Response to Intervention through a national survey. *Tennessee Reading Teacher*, 44.
- Savitz, R.S.** (2015-16, Fall/Winter). Motivating and engaging struggling readers. *Tennessee Reading Teacher*, 42(1).

### **Invited or Non-Reviewed Publication**

- Savitz, R.S.** (2020, May 22). *What can we do to support our students' trauma and our own during these uncertain times?* Literacy in the Disciplines. <https://literacy6-12.org/blog/>
- Savitz, R.S.** (2020). A school-wide attack on reading problems: Ways secondary teachers can support striving readers – then and now. *The Clearing House: A Journal of Educational*

- Strategies, Issues and Ideas*, 93(3), 124-133. doi/full/10.1080/00098655.2020.1743136
- Savitz, R.S.** (2019, September/October). Space for conversation: Fostering critical conversations through young adult literature. *Literacy Today*, 37(2), 14-16.
- \***Savitz, R.S.**, & D. Confere. (2019, January 2). YA is not just for young adults: How a YA class changed perspectives. <http://www.yawednesday.com/blog/ya-is-not-just-for-young-adults-anymore-how-a-ya-class-changed-perspectivesby-rachelle-s-savitz-and-donna-confere>
- \***Savitz, R. S.**, & Bentley, J. K. (2018, June 20). Safe spaces: Using YAL to open dialogue about hot button issues. *Dr. Bickmore's YA Wednesday* blog. <http://www.yawednesday.com/>
- Savitz, R.S.** (2017). *Secondary teachers' perspectives on Response to Intervention: A national study*. PhD dissertation, University of Tennessee, 2017. Retrieved from [http://trace.tennessee.edu/utk\\_graddiss/4493](http://trace.tennessee.edu/utk_graddiss/4493)

### Peer Reviewed Book Chapter

- Savitz, R.S.**, & Leonard, A. (accepted). Disciplinary literacy in the performing arts. In E. Ortlieb, B. Kane, & E. Cheek (Eds.), *Unpacking disciplinary literacies: From research to practice*. Guilford Press.
- Kane, B., & **Savitz, R.S.** (in press). Disciplinary literacy and culturally sustaining pedagogies: Tensions and potential. In S. Chambers Cantrell, D. Walker-Dalhouse, & A. Lazar (Eds.), *Culturally sustaining pedagogy: Developing socially just literacy teaching practices*. Teachers College Press.
- \***Savitz, R.S.**, Roberts, L.D., Jernigan, S., Ferrari, K., & Long, R. (2021). Young adult literature as a means for developing social awareness and supporting socio-emotional learning. In J. Tussey & L. Haas (Eds.), *Supporting social and emotional development through literacy education* (pp. 453-476). IGI Global.
- \***Savitz, R.S.** & Stockwell, D. (2021). Student voice is power: Incorporating critical witness and testimony in middle school classrooms. In J. Dehart., C. Meyer., & K. Walker (Eds.), *Connecting theory and practice in middle school literacy: Critical conversations*. Routledge.
- \*McDonald, E., **Savitz, R.S.**, & Duncan, K. (2021). Real world problems: Social justice and community exploration. In K. Varner., K. Tobin., Z. Haddad., & C. Clark (Eds.), *Multicultural curriculum transformation in social studies and civic education*. Lexington.
- Fisher, D., Frey, N., & **Savitz, R.S.** (2021). Getting to the point of comprehension. In S. Parsons & M. Vaughn (Eds.), *Principles of effective literacy instruction, K-5*. Guilford.
- Botzakis, S., **Savitz, R.S.**, & Low, D. (2016). Adolescents reading graphic novels and comics: What we know from research. In K. Hinchman & D. Appleman (Eds.), *Adolescent literacy handbook of practice-based research* (pp. 310-322). Guilford.

### Books

- Fisher, D., Frey, N., & **Savitz, R.S.** (2020). *Teaching hope and resilience for students experiencing trauma: Creating safe and nurturing classrooms for learning*. Teachers College Press. ISBN: 978-0807761472
- Savitz, R.S.**, & Kane, B. (under review). *Trauma-sensitive instruction: Using culturally sustaining literacies to promote student resilience*. Teachers College Press.
- Savitz, R.S.**, Roberts, L., & DeHart, J. (Eds.) (under review). *Teaching the "taboo": Diverse and inclusive literature is the way*. Routledge.

### Peer Reviewed Book Reviews

- Savitz, R.S.** (March 30, 2020). Start with joy: Designing literacy learning for student happiness. [Invited Review of the book *Start with joy: Designing literacy learning for student happiness*, by K.E. Cunningham]. *Teachers College Record*.  
<https://www.tcrecord.org/Content.asp?ContentID=23251>
- Savitz, R.S.** (2016). Teaching the taboo: Courage and imagination in the classroom. [Review of the book *Teaching the taboo: Courage and imagination in the classroom*, by R. Ayers & W. Ayers]. *Journal of Language and Literacy Education*, 12(1).
- Savitz, R.S.** (2016, May). The activist learner: Inquiry, literacy, and service to make learning matter. [Review of the book *The activist learner: Inquiry, literacy, and service to make learning matter*, by J. Wilhelm, W. Douglas, & S. Fry]. *The English Journal*, 105(5).

### Articles Under Review

- \***Savitz, R.S.**, Roberts, L., & Stockwell, D. (revised and resubmitted). The impact of analyzing young adult literature for racial identity / social justice orientation with interdisciplinary students. *Journal of College Reading and Learning*.
- Ippolito, J., & **Savitz, R.S.** (under review). How SEL educators can support equity work in districts. *Educational Leadership*.
- \***Savitz, R.S.**, Vega, H., Gazioglu, M., Hines, S. (under review). Literacy in geography? Exploration into a geography teacher's inclusion of literacy within her own instruction. *The New Educator*.
- \*Gazioglu, M., Hines-Farmer, S., Vega, H., & **Savitz, R.S.** (revised and resubmitted). How a first-year geography teacher adapts instruction to respond to her students' learning needs. *Social Studies*.
- Garlough, D., & **Savitz, R.S.** (revise and resubmit). Critical Reflections and the Development of Racial Identity among White Teachers. *Whiteness and Education*.

### Editorship

- Savitz, R.S.**, Lowry, M., Kane, B.D. (2021). *Teachers as researchers: A diversity of methods for a diversity of voices*. Special Issue of *The Clearing House: A Journal of Educational Strategies, Issues, and Ideas*, 94(3), 91-150.
- Vines, N., & **Savitz, R.S.** (2021). *American Reading Forum Yearbook*.

### Invited Presentations (Non-Reviewed)

- Savitz, R.S.**, & Kane, B.D. (2021). But how do we do it? Ideas for incorporating disciplinary literacy and culturally sustaining pedagogies. Keynote presentation for the Palmetto State Literacy Association. October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- Savitz, R.S.**, & Kane, B.D. (2021). Culturally relevant-sustaining pedagogy and disciplinary literacy. Keynote presentation for the Ohio Adolescent Literacy Network. August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- Sableski, M. & Arnold, J.M. (2020). Difficult conversations in the classroom: Supporting students through children's literature. Presentation at the annual meeting of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). Virtual Conference. (Invited Speaker/Panelist)
- Savitz, R.S.** (2020). Building student hope and resistance with trauma-sensitive classrooms. Keynote for Washoe County School District, Reno, Nevada, August 4, 2020. (Keynote cancelled due to Covid-19)

**Savitz, R.S.** (2018). Secondary teachers' perspective on RTI: A national study. Poster Presentation at International Literacy Association Conference, Austin, TX, July 20-21, 2018.

**Savitz, R.S.** (2017). Engaging Striving Readers. Story Slam at KDP, Pittsburgh, PA.

### **International/National Conference Presentations (Peer-Reviewed)**

Garlough, D. K., & **Savitz, R.S.** (2020) *Race discussions in K-5th grade classrooms*. Virtual Symposium at Literacy Research Association.

Roberts, L., **Savitz, R.S.**, Cridland-Hughes, S. (2020). *The impact of analyzing young adult literature for racial identity*. Virtual Symposium at Literacy Research Association.

McGill-Franzen, A., Ward, N., **Savitz, R.S.**, Allington, R. (2020). *Low-cost annual book fairs provide access to nooks and mitigate summer reading loss in high poverty rural Tennessee communities: Results of a longitudinal RCT study*. Virtual Symposium at Literacy Research Association.

\***Savitz, R.S.**, Vega Quesada, H., Gazioglu, M., & Hines, S.M. (Accepted - 2020). *Literacy in history? Exploration into a first-year social studies teacher's inclusion of literacy within her own instruction*. Virtual Symposium at Literacy Research Association.

**Savitz, R.S.**, Aldrich, C., O'Byrne, I., Lilly, T., Ming, K., Morrison, J.D., Kane, B. (2020 – Accepted). *“But I don't teach reading” : Supporting content area and disciplinary literacy in middle and high schools*. National Council of Teachers of English (cancelled due to Covid-19).

\*Dunston, P., **Savitz, R.S.**, Aker, L., & Hoover, H. (2019). *Responding to fictionalized differences portrayed in children's novels*. Paper Session at American Reading Forum in Sanibel, FL, December 12, 2019.

Dunston, P., & **Savitz, R.S.** (2019). Breaking bad: Recovering from research that's gone wrong. Problems Court at American Reading Forum in Sanibel, FL, December 12, 2019.

\*Schreuder, M., & **Savitz, R.S.** (2019). *Exploring adolescent motivation to read with an online YA book club*. Paper Presentation at Literacy Research Association in Tampa, FL, December 6, 2019.

**Savitz, R.S.**, & Wilder, P. (2019). *LRA disciplinary literacy study group*. Study group at Literacy Research Association in Tampa, FL.

\*Gazioglu, M., & **Savitz, R. S.** (2019). *What every ELL teacher should know about teaching the English language through children's literature*. Workshop presented at International Literacy Association conference in New Orleans, LA. Oct. 13, 2019.

Shepard, D., **Savitz, R.S.**, Hall, J.G. (2019). *We are all in this together: The importance of mental health care in closing the academic achievement gap with African-American male students*. Presentation at the Men of Color Summit, Greenville, SC: April 25, 2019.

**Savitz, R. S.**, & Dunston, P. J. (2018). BAM! Kicking Teacher Self-Efficacy Up a Notch with Professional Development. In A. W. Parson & **R. S. Savitz** (Chairs), *In-service teacher education/professional development in literacy*. Symposium presented at the annual meeting of the Literacy Research Association, Indian Wells, CA. Nov. 27-Dec.1, 2018.

**Savitz, R. S.**, & Silva, A. (2018). Changing perspectives of preservice secondary content educators regarding “struggling readers” and incorporation of literacy in classrooms. In S. A. Parsons & **R. S. Savitz** (Chairs), *How Preservice Teachers “See” Literacy*. Symposium presented at the annual meeting of the Literacy Research Association, Indian Wells, CA. Nov. 27-Dec.1, 2018.



- Silva, A., & Savitz, R. S. (2018). Envisioning youth beyond hormones. In R. S. Savitz (Chair), *Disrupting Silence with Young Adult Literature*. Symposium presented at the annual meeting of the Literacy Research Association, Indian Wells, CA. Nov. 27-Dec.1, 2018.
- Dunston, P. J., Savitz, R. S., Bentley, J. K., Ashley, H., Borick, M., Faris, K., Kesler, L., Smith, S., & Ward, H. G. (2018). *Using Children's Literature as Windows to Our Differences and Mirrors to the Similarities in Our Human Experience*. Paper presentation at the annual meeting of the Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers, Louisville, KY, Nov. 8-11, 2018.
- Sherwood, E., & Savitz, R. S. (2018). *Girls Fighting Against Set Gender Roles in Middle-Grade Literature*. Paper presentation at the annual meeting of the Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers, Louisville, KY, Nov. 8-11, 2018.
- Savitz, R. S., Bentley, J. K., Confere, D., James, M., Silva, A., Tuthill, J. (2018). *Analysis of Young Adult Literature: Analyzing Text Complexity through Multiple Lenses*. Panel Presentation at the annual meeting of National Council of Teachers of English, Houston, TX, Nov. 15-18, 2018.
- Dunston, P. J., Butler, T., & Savitz, R. S. (2017). *Teacher Self-efficacy and English Language Learner's Attainment of Meaningful Literacies*. Roundtable at Literacy Research Association, Tampa, FL.
- Savitz, R. S. (2017). *Including Everyone – Inquiry-Based Learning*. EdTalk at Kappa Delta Pi Convocation, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Savitz, R. S. (2017). *Educators' Perceptions Regarding Response to Intervention*. Paper Session at American Reading Forum, Sanibel FL.
- Savitz, R. S., & Silva, A. (2017) *Pre-service Non-Literacy Teachers' Perceptions Change Regarding Working with Struggling Readers and Literacy*. Paper Session at American Reading Forum, Sanibel, FL.
- Savitz, R. S., & Allington, R. L. (2016). *State's Department of Education Response to Intervention Frameworks*. Paper Session Presentation at the Literacy Research Association Annual Convention, Nashville, TN.
- Botzakis, S., Savitz, R., & Low, D. (2016). *Adolescents Reading Graphic Novels and Comics: What We Know from Research*. Paper Session Presentation at the Literacy Research Association Annual Convention, Nashville, TN.
- Savitz, R. S. (2016). *Teacher's Perspectives: Response to Intervention (RTI) Across the United States*. Advancing Literacy Presentation at American Reading Forum Conference, Sanibel, FL.
- Savitz, R. S. (2016). *First Year Implementation of Response to Intervention in a Middle School*. Paper Session Presentation at American Reading Forum, Sanibel, FL.
- Botzakis, S., & Savitz, R. (2015). *Graphic Novels in a Non-Traditional AP Classroom*. Paper Session Presentation at the Literacy Research Association Annual Convention, Carlsbad, CA.
- Groenke, S., Savitz, R., & Wallace, K. (2015). *Forwarding New Notions of Adolescence/ts Among Prospective English Teachers*. Paper Session Presentation at NCTE Conference, Minneapolis, MN.

### Peer-Reviewed Regional, State and Local Presentations (Selected Presentations)

- Roberts, L., & **Savitz, R.S.** (2021). Using young adult literature to support social-emotional learning with students. Workshop at the Trauma Informed Educational Symposium. Virtual. October 11th, 2021 .
- Kane, B.D., **Savitz, R.S.**, Morrison, J.D., Aldrich, C., Lilly, T., Compton-Lilly, C. (2020). *Understanding Teachers' Needs with Respect to Literacy in the Disciplines*. Workshop presented at South Carolina Association of Middle Level Educators in Myrtle Beach, SC. February 28, 2020.
- Morrison, J.D., **Savitz, R.S.**, Kane, B.D., Aldrich, C., O'Byrne, I., Lilly, T., Ming, K. (2020). *Supporting Content Area and Disciplinary Literacy in South Carolina Middle and High Schools*. Symposium presented at South Carolina Educators for the Practical Use of Research in Columbia, SC. February 28, 2020.
- Savitz, R.S.**, Kane, B.D., Morrison, J.D., Aldrich, C., O'Byrne, I., Lilly, T., Ming, K. (2020). *LiD 6-12: A New South Carolina Organization Dedicated to Content Area and Disciplinary Literacy*. Workshop presented at South Carolina Council of Teachers of English in Myrtle Beach, SC. January 31, 2020.
- Eicher, L., & **Savitz, R. S.** (2019). Using Models and Multiple Representations to Promote Science Literacy for All Students. Paper presentation at Journal of Language and Literacy Education Conference, Athens, Georgia.
- Gazioglu, M., & **Savitz, R. S.** (2019). *Using Children's Literature to Teach English Language Learners*. Roundtable at Journal of Language and Literacy Education Conference, Athens, Georgia.
- Carpenter, K., & **Savitz, R. S.** (2019). *Teamwork Makes the Dream Work: Young Adult Literature Circles on Secondary Classrooms*. Roundtable at Journal of Language and Literacy Education Conference, Athens, Georgia.
- Hoover, H., & **Savitz, R. S.** (2019). *Different Strokes for Different Folks: Digitally Differentiating Instruction for Learners with Difficulties*. Roundtable at Journal of Language and Literacy Education Conference, Athens, Georgia.
- Savitz, R. S.**, & Silva, A. (2017). *Keeping Students Engaged and Excited: Using the Steps of Inquiry-Based Instruction in Your Classroom*. Presentation at the Blue Ridge Literacy Conference, Johnson City, TN.
- Savitz, R.**, & Wallace, K. (2015). *Using inquiry in the ELA and literacy classroom to engage struggling readers*. Presentation at Tennessee Reading Association Conference, Murfreesboro, TN.
- Savitz, R.** (2015). *Motivating Struggling Readers*. Presentation at the Tennessee Council of Teachers of English Conference, Nashville, TN.
- Savitz, R.** (2015). *Implementing Two Close Reading Strategies in the Classroom*. Presentation at the Fall Smokey Mountain Reading Council Conference, Knoxville, TN.
- Savitz, R.** (2015). *Lunch and Learn Session at the ELA Block Party*. Facilitate and lead a discussion regarding Vygotsky and Piaget structures in education, West High School, Knoxville, TN.
- Savitz, R.** (2014). *Motivating Struggling Readers*. Presentation at the Tennessee Reading Association. Murfreesboro, TN.
- Savitz, R.** (2014). *Close Reading Across the Content Areas*. Featured Speaker Institute Presentation at the Florida Reading Association. Orlando, FL.
- Savitz, R.** (2014). *Secondary Close Reading Strategies*. Presentation to all content areas at Pigeon Forge High School, Pigeon Forge, TN.



**Savitz, R.** (2013). *The Comprehension Instructional Sequence*. Institute presentation at the Florida Reading Association. Orlando, FL.

**Savitz, R.** (2013). *Using the Comprehension Instructional Sequence in ELA*. Presentation at the Florida Council of Teachers of English. Melbourne, FL.

### **Invited Non-Refereed Regional, State and Local Presentations**

**Savitz, R. S.,** Confere, D., Silva, A., & Schreder, M. (2019). Literacy in Middle and High School Disciplines: Some Facts and Strategies. Invited two part presentation at the Blue Ridge Literacy Conference, Johnson City, TN.

**Savitz, R. S.** (2018). Incorporating literature circles in all classrooms. Presentation at Wren High School, Anderson, SC.

**Savitz, R. S.** (2017). Young adult literature: Exciting, purposeful, and complex. Invited presentation at the Blue Ridge Literacy Conference, Johnson City, TN.

**Savitz, R. S.** (2017). Discipline specific and general literacy skills and strategies for all. Invited session at the Tennessee Southeast Regional Literacy Conference, Cleveland, TN.

### **External Grants**

**Savitz, R.S., & Dobbs, C.** (2021). Using young adult literature is beneficial, right? What are classroom and school-level supports and barriers to using inclusive YA in secondary classrooms? Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers (External). Submitted, \$2,850.

**Savitz, R.S.** (2021). Empowering agentive teachers by nurturing the development of critical consciousness and changing habits of mind. Spencer Large Grant (External). Submitted, \$317,141.

**Savitz, R.S. (PI),** Kane, B.D, Campbell, J., Thomason, A. Strengthening critical consciousness and building an equitable curriculum. Spencer Research-Practice Partnerships (External). Submitted, \$395,944.

Literacy in Disciplines Grades 6-12: **Savitz, R. S.,** Kane, B., Morrison, J.D., Aldrich, C., O'Byrne, I., Compton-Lilly, C., & Lilly, T. LiD 6-12: Supporting content-area and disciplinary literacy in South Carolina middle and high schools. South Carolina Middle Grades Initiative (External). Funded, November 2020. \$25,050.

Kane, B.D. (PI), **Savitz, R.S.** (Co-PI), O'Byrne, I. (Co-PI), Morrison, J.D. (Co-PI), Designing Opportunities for Teachers' Professional Learning in Virtual Spaces. *Research Grants on Education: COVID-19 Related Special Grant Cycle* (External). Not funded, \$49,997.

\***Savitz, R.S.** (PI) Need title and amount. *Research Grants on Education: COVID-19 Related Special Grant Cycle* (External). Not funded, \$42,882.

Literacy in Disciplines Grades 6-12: **Savitz, R. S.,** Kane, B., Morrison, J.D., Aldrich, C., O'Byrne, I., Compton-Lilly, C., & Lilly, T. LiD 6-12: Supporting content-area and disciplinary literacy in South Carolina middle and high schools. *South Carolina Middle Grades Initiative* (External). Funded, August 2019. \$19,200.

Holmes, B., Williams, G., **Savitz, R. S.** (Co-PI), and Wilkins, J (Co-PI). Middle and high school literacy collaborative formation of leadership teams. *SC Middle Grades Initiative* (External). Funded, August 2018. \$8,000.

**Savitz, R. S.** (PI), Dunston, P. (Co-PI), Cridland-Hughes, S., Deaton, C., Khan, N., Martin, L. From striving to thriving: Increasing academic achievement and teacher self-efficacy

using a schoolwide middle school reading intervention. *Lyle Spencer Research Grant* (External). Not Funded. Submitted October 2017. \$745,000

McGill-Franzen, A., & Allington, R. L. RCT of Annual Summer Book Fairs for high-poverty elementary schools. *The Laura and John Arnold Foundation* and *Annie E. Casey Foundation* (External). 2016-2021. Funded. \$250,000. **Graduate Research Assistant Savitz, R. S.** (PI) Bringing authors to life. *Dollar General Youth Literacy Grant* (External). Funded, 2010. \$5,000

### **Internal Grant**

**Savitz, R.S.**, (PI) Debating history: Incorporating disciplinary literacy and argumentation. *Associate Dean of Research Seed Grant* (Internal). Funded, October 2019, \$18, 712.

**Savitz, R. S.**, & Howell, E. Debate in History as a Channel for Subversive Teaching. *Clemson University Seed Grant* (Internal). Unfunded, 2018. \$9,977.

**Savitz, R. S.** (Co-PI) & Dunston, P. (Co-PI) Vocabulary intervention: Comparative study between and across grade levels. *Associate Dean Research Seed Grant* (Internal). Funded, January 2018. \$6,947.

**Savitz, R. S.** (PI) Building Classroom Libraries. *License for Learning Grant-Palm Beach County School District*. (Internal). Funded, 2010. \$1,000

**Savitz, R. S.** (PI) Building Classroom Libraries, *License for Learning Grant-Palm Beach County School District*. (Internal). Funded, 2009. \$500

### **Evaluation Project**

Savitz, R. S. (PI) & Skolits, G. Response to intervention: First year implementation at NWMS. EDPY 534 Program Evaluation II. University of Tennessee. (May 2016).

### **Honors & Awards**

Recipient of Clemson 2020 GSG Outstanding Graduate Student Advocate Award. (April 2020).

Recipient of Jerry Johns Promising Research Award through the Association of Literacy and Education Researchers. This award is given to a junior ALER member to recognize research that addresses significant questions for reading/literacy and extends understanding of its development, assessment, and/or instruction. (September 2019)

Faculty Fellowship to Israel Awardee. This is a competitive academic fellowship that links scholars from diverse disciplines with Israeli counterparts at major institutions for initiating exchanges and collaborations. (May 2019)

Recipient of Gary Moorman Early Career Literacy Scholar Award through the American Reading Forum. This award is given to a junior American Reading Forum member in the early stages of his/her career (generally defined as the first five years). (December 2018)

Finalist for Timothy and Cynthia Shanahan Outstanding Dissertation Award through the International Literacy Association. This award is given annually for a dissertation completed in reading or literacy. Studies are assessed through approach, scholarly qualification of findings, and significance in the field. (July 2018)

University of Tennessee Chancellor's Fellowship. University of Tennessee Graduate School (2014-2017)

Graduate Research Assistantship. University of Tennessee. (2014-2017)

SARIF Summer Research Assistantship Award. University of Tennessee Office of Research & Engagement. (2016)

American Reading Forum Graduate Scholarship. American Reading Forum. (2016)  
Elected to FDOE ELA CCSS State Review Committee Panel. (2013)  
Superintendent-Chosen Exemplary Teacher to appear in district-wide Vodcast on Differentiated Instruction. Palm Beach County School District. (2011)  
Florida Secondary Reading Teacher of the Year through the Secondary Reading Council of Florida. (2008)

Teaching & Advising

**Teaching**

***Department of Education & Human Development,  
Clemson University***

Summer 2017-Present

EDLT 9300: Critical Issues in Literacy, Language, and Culture  
EDLT 9300: Case Study Methodology  
EDLT 8190 Coaching for Literacy Education  
EDLT 8110 Advanced Children's and YA Literature  
EDLT 8120 Assessment Strategies in Reading and Writing  
EDLT 8150 Guided Reading and Writing  
EDLT 8370 Disciplinary Literacy for Middle and High School Teachers  
ED 9030 Introductory Doctoral Seminar I  
EDLT 9300 Literacy, Language and Culture Independent Doctoral Study  
EDLT 8250 Cultural Diversity  
EDLT 8270 Content Area Reading and Writing for Middle and Secondary Teachers  
EDLT 9290 College-Level Teaching in Literacy, Language and Culture  
EDLT 9310 Disrupting Social Constructs with Young Adult Literature  
ED 3110 Creative Inquiry  
EDLT 9800 Internship in Curriculum and Instruction  
EDLT 8170 Content Area Reading and Writing  
EDLT 4980 Secondary Content Area Reading and Writing  
EDLT 8100 Foundations of Reading and Writing  
HON 2210 Young Adult Literature  
EDLT 9300: Independent Study: University and High School Partnerships Through Online Book Discussions  
EDLT 9300: Independent Study: Writing and Research  
EDLT 9300: Independent Study: Culturally Sustaining Pedagogy and Action Research in a Middle School Classroom  
EDLT 9300: Independent Study: Case Study Research  
EDLT 9290: College Level Internship After Shadowing Experience: A. Silva

***Theory and Practice in Teacher Education,  
University of Tennessee at Knoxville***

2015 - 2017

UTK REED 540 Teaching the Struggling Adolescent Reader  
UTK REED 605 Organization and Administration of Reading Programs  
UTK REED 602 Seminar in Reading (Doctoral Level)  
UTK TPTE 517 Trends and Issues in Education

**College of Arts and Sciences**

2010 - 2011

**Barry University**

Barry EDU 567 Foundations of Reading Instruction  
Barry EDU 590 Reading Intervention Practicum  
Barry EDU 535 Teaching Language Arts

**Advising**

**Doctoral Committee Member**

- E. Sherwood, Theory and Practice in Teacher Education, College of Education, Health and Human Sciences, University of Tennessee. Graduated 2019.
- A. Silva, Education and Human Development, College of Education, Clemson University. Status: Graduated 2021
- M. Clark, Educational and Organizational Leadership Development, College of Education, Clemson University. Status: Comps Passed.
- M. Gazioglu, Education and Human Development, College of Education, Clemson University. 2020-2021 (Committee Member and Co-Chair)

**Doctoral Committee Chair and Major Advisor**

- D. Confere, Education and Human Development, College of Education, Clemson University. Status: Working on Prospectus
- E. McDonald, Education and Human Development, College of Education, Clemson University. Status: Comprehensive Exam

Service

**Service to Field of Scholarship**

Journal of Disability Policy Studies Editorial Board	2021 - Present
AERA Division C-Section 1B Conference Proposal Reviewer	2021 - Present
American Reading Forum Yearbook Editor	2020 - Present
Consulting Editor, The Clearing House	2019 - Present
Journal Reviewer, Teacher Educator	2019 - 2020
Guest Editor, Literacy Research: Theory, Method, and Practice	2018 - 2020
Conference Proposal Reviewer, ALER	2017 - Present
Conference Proposal Reviewer, LRA	2016 - Present
Journal Review Board, Literacy Research and Instruction	2017 - Present
Yearbook Reviewer, American Reading Forum	2017 - Present
Yearbook Reviewer, Literacy Research: Theory, Method, and Practice	2016 - 2020
<i>LitBit: Literacy Research for the Teacher on the Go</i> 2016, Episode 7, The RTI Episode	2016
Journal Reviewer, Journal of Language and Literacy Education	2016 - 2017

**Service to Profession**

American Reading Forum Conference Co-Chair	2020
President, Literacy in the Disciplines, 6-12	2019 - Present
SC ReadtoSucceed State Task Force	2019 - 2020

Executive Board Member, American Reading Forum	2018 - Present
Grant Reviewer, Elva Knight and Nila Barton Grant, ILA	2018 - Present
Executive Board Member, ReadUp: Young Adult Literature Festival Greenville, SC.	2017 - 2020
Secondary Literacy Lead, SC Content-Area Reading and Writing Initiative	2017 - 2019
President, Secondary Reading Council of Florida	2011- 2014
Publicity Chair, Florida Reading Association	2011- 2014
Executive Board Member, Secondary Reading Council of Florida	2009 - 2011
University of Tennessee Graduate School Recruiter SAEOPP-McNair Scholarship Conference, Atlanta	2016
Graduate School of Education Student Recruitment Committee Doctoral Student Representative University of Tennessee	2016 - 2017
Literacy Lead Consultant, SC Content-Area Reading and	2017 - Present
<b><i>Service to Clemson</i></b>	
Clemson Graduate Advisory Committee	2021 - Present
CoE Culturally Sustaining Pedagogy PLC	2020 - Present
CoE Diversity and Inclusive Excellent Taskforce	2020 - Present
CoE Community and Diversity Committee	2020 - Present
Faculty Learning Community Facilitator (Digital Tools)	2019 - Present
Clemson Community Collaborative	2019 - Present
EHD Elections Chair	2018 - Present
Search Committee Member, Assistant Clinical Literacy Position	2018
Strategic Planning Committee Member	2017
TPR Edit Taskforce	2018
Marketing and Recruitment, Secondary Strand, MEd in Literacy	2017 - Present
<b><i>Service Honors and Awards</i></b>	
Kappa Delta Pi: International Honor Society in Education	2015 - Present
Florida Reading Association Member Appreciation Award	2014
<b><i>Professional Affiliations</i></b>	
Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers	2017 - Present
American Reading Forum	2016 - Present
Kappa Delta Pi	2016 - Present
International Literacy Association Membership	2015 - Present
National Council of Teachers of English Membership	2014 - Present
Literacy Research Association Membership	2014 - Present
American Education Research Association Membership	2014 - Present
Tennessee Reading Association Membership	2014 - 2017
Secondary Reading Council of Florida Members	2006 - 2014
Florida Reading Association Membership	2006 - 2014