

# **THOMAS PETERSON Ed.D.**

August 2023

University of West Georgia  
[tpeters@westga.edu](mailto:tpeters@westga.edu)

151 Education Annex

Carrollton, GA 30118  
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## **EDUCATION**

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Ed.D. University of North Carolina, Greensboro, 1991  
M.Ed. Loma Linda University, La Sierra, CA. 1972  
B.A. Loma Linda University, La Sierra, CA. 1969

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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*Associate Professor, Department of Educational Technology and Foundations, University of West Georgia, Carrollton GA, 1991 - present.*

- Teach Foundation Courses (undergraduate & graduate sections),

*Principal, Tri-City Academy, High Point, NC, 1983- 1991.*

- Administrative duties along with teaching History, Biology, and Physical Education.

*Teacher, Takoma Academy, Takoma Park, MD, 1975 - 1982.*

- Teaching responsibilities included Art, Aviation, Graphic Design, and the intramural program.

*Teacher, Andrews Elementary School, Takoma, Park, MD, 1972 - 1975.*

- Teaching responsibilities included Health and Physical Education for elementary and middle grades.

*Teacher, Rubidoux High School, Riverside, CA, 1971 - 1972.*

- Teaching responsibilities included Art.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Peer-Reviewed Publications**

Peterson, T. (March 2023). *Finding Service in Education*. 21-23. Health & Home: Philippine Publishing House. [Link to Article](#)

**Peterson, T. Clemente, R.** (November 2022). *Failing while making all “A’s”*. Vol. 22 No. 15. Journal of Higher Education Theory and Practice. [Link to Article](#)

**Peterson, T.** (August 2020). *Igniting hope in youth from high-risk settings*. 30-38 Journal of Organizational Psychology, Vol 20 No 3. [Link to Article](#)

**Peterson, T.** (2020). *Buber’s spiritual classroom*. 147-160. United We Stand: The Role of Spirituality in Engaging and Healing Communities. Information Age Publishing Inc. Charlotte, NC. [Link to Book](#)

**Peterson, T.** (2020). *Meeting: A conduit for vulnerability and hope*. 161-166. United We Stand: The Role of Spirituality in Engaging and Healing Communities. Information Age Publishing Inc. Charlotte, NC. [Link to Book](#)

**Peterson T.** (January 2018). *Igniting hope in at risk youth: A collaborative undertaking*. P 72-85. E Book Chapter in: International Conversations of Teacher Educators: Collaborations in Education. [Link to E-Book](#)

**Peterson, T., Hart T.** (Winter 2001). *The sensitiveness of the soul*. Educational Horizons, Vol. 79, No. 2, Phi Delta Kappa International. [Link to Article](#)

Hogan, L., **Peterson, T.** (November 2001). *Camelot: Our search for the source of "good teaching."* Kappa Delta Pi Record.

Bulach, C., **Peterson, T.** (November 2001). *Investigating levels of openness and trust between teachers and their principals.* SRCEA Yearbook.

### **Other Publications**

**Peterson, T.** (2016). SPARK Mentoring Video published at UWG.

**Peterson, T.,** Frazier M. (2015) SPARK Mentoring: Lightening Up Dead Eyes of Our Youth from the Inside Out. 8th Annual Mentoring Conference New Perspectives in Mentoring: A quest for Leadership Excellence and Innovation, 8th Annual Mentoring Conference Proceedings 2015. p 1220

### **INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES PRESENTATIONS**

**Peterson, T.** (October 2021). [Reclaiming annoying and defiant students.](#) International Holistic Teaching and Learning Conference October 7-11, 2021. Southern Oregon University in Ashland, OR

**Peterson, T. Thomaston, T. Tarpley, A.** (June 2021). [Investigating how to Resolve the Disconnect Between Educators and Challenging Students.](#) PDK International, Educators Rising National Virtual Conference. [Program Link](#)

**Peterson, T.** (October 18, 2018). [A Spiritual Transformative Pedagogy.](#) Curriculum and Pedagogy, New Orleans, LA.

**Peterson, T.** (April 14, 2018). [Meeting: A Conduit for Vulnerability and Hope.](#) AERA, New York, NY.

**Peterson, T.** (September 2017). [Meeting: A conduit for vulnerability and hope.](#) [Holistic Teaching & Learning Conference, Ashland, Or.](#)

**Peterson, T.** Frazier T (August 2015). *Teachers vs. Troubled Youth in a Struggle for Survival.* European Educational Research Association, [Budapest, Hungary.](#) [\(Picture\)](#)

**Peterson, T.,** Panel (Apr 4, 2014). *Martin Buber and education for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.* AERA, Philadelphia, PA.

**Peterson, T.** (Apr 4, 2014). *Awakening presence.* AERA, Philadelphia, PA.

**Peterson, T.** (Apr 4, 2014). *SPARK: Developing a pre-service teacher program with an at-risk youth intervention program component.* AERA, Philadelphia, PA.

**Peterson, T.** (Apr 29, 2013). *Buber's spiritual classroom.* AERA, San Francisco, CA.

**Peterson, T.** (July 19, 2007). *Dialectic of imagination in education.* International Conference on Imagination and Education, Vancouver, BC Canada.

### **NATIONAL CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS**

**Peterson, T.** (Feb 22, 2022). [Teaching Martin Buber's "I and Thou" for student understanding.](#) Critical Questions in Education Conference, Charleston, SC.

**Peterson, T.** Traylor, J. Tarpley, A. Robertson, T. Love, S. (March 11, 2020) [Educators vs. Challenging Youth: Igniting Hope in High-Risk Youth.](#) Georgia Southern University's National Youth-At-Risk Conference Savannah, GA.

**Peterson, T.** Parmer T. Love S. Gaylor, R. Rabun M. (March 4, 2019). [Igniting a SPARK in "Dead-Eyed" Youth.](#) Georgia Southern University's National Youth-At-Risk Conference Savannah, GA.

**Peterson, T.** Rabun, M. (March 2018). [Transforming Youth from Within.](#) Georgia Southern

- University's National Youth-At-Risk Conference Savannah, GA.
- Peterson, T.** Moore, J. Rabun, M. (March 2018). [\*SPARK: Bad Attitudes Not Bad Kids\*](#). Featured presenter at National Youth-At-Risk Conference Savannah, GA. (Pictures here)
- Peterson, T.** (March 2017). [\*SPARK Mentoring\*](#). Featured presenter at [National Youth-At-Risk Conference Savannah, GA](#).
- Peterson, T.** Rabun, M. (March 2017). [\*Identity and Integrity: The Conduit of Vulnerability between High-Risk You and Mentors\*](#). Georgia Southern University's National Youth-At-Risk Conference Savannah, GA. ([Have Pictures Here](#)) ([2](#)) ([3](#)) ([4](#))
- Peterson, T.** Frazier, M. (March 2016). [\*SPARK Mentoring: Co-creating sacred relationships with youth\*](#). Georgia Southern University's [National Youth-At-Risk Conference Savannah, GA](#).
- Peterson T.** Rabun, M. (November 2016). [\*Schools vs. Challenging Youth: Investigating an emerging, reconciling and transformative curriculum\*](#). [American Educational Studies Association \(AESA\)](#), Seattle, WA.
- Peterson, T.** Frazier M. (2015). [\*SPARK Mentoring: Lightening Up Dead Eyes of Our Youth from the Inside Out\*](#). 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Mentoring Conference New Perspectives in Mentoring: A quest for Leadership Excellence and Innovation. Albuquerque, NM.
- Peterson, T.** Frazier, M. (March 2013). [\*SPARK It Up: Reigniting Hope in High-Risk Adolescents\*](#). Georgia Southern University's National Youth-At-Risk Conference Savannah, GA.
- Peterson, T.** (Nov 8, 2007). *Pathway to wisdom*. North American Conference on Spirituality of Children and Youth, Chattanooga, TN.

## REGIONAL CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS

- Peterson, T.** Vanwormer, E. Surry, J. Thomaston, T. Montgomery, Z. Herb, I. (May 17, 2022). [\*Creating a healing environment for students\*](#). Innovations in Pedagogy Conference. University of West Georgia.
- Peterson, T.** (Feb 4, 2022). [\*Failing by making all "A's"\*](#). Eastern Educational Research Association, Clearwater, Florida.
- Peterson, T.** (Feb 3, 2022). [\*Interpreting Martin Buber's "I & Thou" for student understanding\*](#). Eastern Educational Research Association, Clearwater, Florida.
- Peterson, T. Surrey, J.** (October 2, 2021). [\*Co-creating a dialogical classroom with "challenging" students\*](#). Virtual Instructional Technology (IT) Forum focusing on Innovations in Teaching and Learning. University of West Georgia, Carrollton, GA.
- Peterson, T.** Thomaston, T. Tarpley, A. (May 2021). [\*Reclaiming Annoying and Challenging Students\*](#). Innovations in Pedagogy Conference. University of West Georgia
- Peterson, T.** Tarpley, A. (January 2021). [\*SPARK Mentoring Program, Kiwanis Club of Carrollton, GA\*](#).
- Peterson, T.** Tarpley, A. (Feb 19, 2021). [\*A Spiritual Transformative Pedagogy\*](#). Southeast Philosophy of Education Conference. Decatur, Georgia (Canceled)
- Peterson, T.** Parmer, T. Love, S. Tarpley, A. (January 2020). [\*SPARK Mentoring Program, Kiwanis Club of Carrollton, GA\*](#).
- Peterson, T.** (April 11, 2019). [\*Discovering the Source of Authentic Pedagogy\*](#). USG Teaching & Learning Conference. UGA, Athens, GA.
- Peterson, T.** (December 2019). [\*SPARK Mentoring Program, Kiwanis Club of Newnan, GA\*](#).
- Peterson, T.,** Gaylor, R. (February 2019). [\*Educators vs. Challenging Youth: Investigating a New and Transformative Curriculum\*](#). Instructional Technology Forum. UWG. Carrollton, GA.

- Peterson, T.** Thomaston T., Pollard A., Robertson, T. Lee T. (May 15, 2018). [\*Discovering the Source of Authentic Pedagogy\*](#). Innovations in Pedagogy Conference, Carrollton, GA.
- Peterson, T.**, Rabun, M. (July 2017). [\*SPARK Mentoring Program\*](#). Invited to present at CCEC. Central High School, Carrollton, GA.
- Peterson, T. Clemente, R. (3) students** (May 16, 2017) [\*Meeting: A Pedagogy of Connectedness\*](#). Innovations in Pedagogy, UWG.
- Peterson, T.**, Frazier M. (2015). [\*Adolescents at High Risk Versus Unprepared Teachers and Their Struggle for Survival\*](#). Southeast Philosophy of Education Society in Memphis, TN.
- Peterson, T.** (Feb 1, 2013). *Quelling the SPARK within: Reconsidering the focus of program evaluation*. Southeast Philosophy of Education Society, St. Petersburg, FL.
- Peterson, T.** (Feb 1, 2013). *Awakening Presence*. Southeast Philosophy of Education Society, St. Petersburg, FL.
- Peterson, T.** (Feb 12, 2010). *Building community in the classroom*, Eastern Educational Research Association in Savannah, GA.
- Peterson, T.** (Feb 20, 2010). *Imaginative education: Pathway to wisdom*. South-East Philosophy of Education Society Conference, Huntsville, AL.
- Peterson, T.** (Oct 2, 2010) *Spirituality in the classroom*. South Atlantic Philosophy of Education Society, UNCG, Greensboro, NC
- Peterson, T.** (Feb 18, 2010). *Awakening Presence*. SEPES Conference, Clayton State University, Atlanta, GA.
- Peterson, T.** (Feb 27, 2009). *Growing presence*, Eastern Educational Research Association in Sarasota, FL.
- Peterson, T.** (Oct 4, 2008). *Teaching from the heart*. New England Philosophy of Education Society, Boston College, MA.
- Peterson, T.** (Feb 21, 2008). *How to fail students in postmodern America*. Eastern Educational Research Association, Hilton Head, SC.
- Peterson, T.** (Feb 22, 2008). *Imaginative education: Pathway to wisdom*. Eastern Educational Research Association, Hilton Head, SC.

## GRANTS & GIFTS FOR SPARK PROGRAM

- Peterson, T.** [\*\(2016-2022\) Donations & Gifts to SPARK \(\\$25,163.64\)\*](#)
- Peterson, T.** (2022) GA grant from President for \$2947.
- Peterson, T.** (2022) [\*SRAP \\$1945\*](#)
- Peterson, T.** (2021) GA grant from President for \$2947.
- Peterson, T.** (2021) [\*SRAP \\$1945\*](#)
- Peterson, T.** (2020) GA grant from President for \$3000.
- Peterson, T.** (2020) [\*SRAP \\$1,945\*](#).
- Peterson, T.** (January 2020). Community Foundation of Newnan-Coweta Chamber of Commerce for the SPARK Mentoring Program. \$1,000.
- Peterson, T.** (2019) [\*SRAP \\$1,570\*](#).
- Peterson, T.** (2019) GA grant from President for \$3000.
- Peterson, T.** [\*\(2019\) Faculty Research Grant – SPARK \(\\$5,000\)\*](#).
- Peterson, T.** (2019) Awarded a van for SPARK youth transportation from Provost
- Peterson, T.** (December 2019) Coweta Kiwanis for \$2000.
- Peterson, T.** (2018). (\$5,000). Presidential Assistant Grant for SPARK.

**Peterson, T.** (2018). GA grant from President for \$3000.

**Peterson, T.** (2018). [SRAP \\$1,450.](#)

**Peterson, T.** (2019). GA grant from President for \$3000.

**Peterson, T.** (2017). GA grant from President for \$3000.

**Peterson, T.** (2017). [SRAP \\$1,800.](#)

**Peterson, T.** (2016). [Community Foundation of West Georgia Grant \\$2,500.](#)

**Peterson, T.** (2016). GA grant from President for \$3000.

**Peterson, T.** (2016). [SRAP \\$1,475](#)

**Peterson, T.** (2015). [SRAP \\$1,000](#)

**Peterson, T.** (2015). (\$4,908) Presidential Assistance Grant for SPARK

## **AWARDS AND HONORS**

- Received: [Outstanding Service Award from COE 2022](#)
- [Nominated for UWG Undergraduate Face to Face Teaching Award, 2021](#)
- [Received: Adult Learner & Military Friend Faculty Award, 2017](#)
- [Nominated for UWG Undergraduate Face to Face Teaching Award, 2017](#)
- [Nominated for UWG Service Award, 2017](#)
- Nominated for SOPS 2017 L. Anthony Sutin Civic Imagination, 2017
- Nominated for Service Award, 2014
- Nominated for Regents Teaching Award, 2012
- Award: "Outstanding Faculty Member" award for outstanding service in the College of Education by the Student Government Association 2001.
- Award: "Teaching Excellence Award" State University of West Georgia, College of Education, Department of Leadership and Policy Studies, 1999 - 2000
- Award: "Outstanding Faculty Member" award for outstanding service in the College of Education by the Student Government Association 1998.
- Award: "Teacher of Excellence" March 1996, Chi Omega.
- Recognition: Olympic Badminton Judge, Atlanta 1996.