



UNIVERSITY OF
OREGON

College of
Education



Hello UOCOE,

Research drives innovation at the [College of Education \(COE\)](#), and the dedication of our students, faculty, and partners allows us to address the challenges of tomorrow for children and families. Your support strengthens our COE community, fueling impactful discoveries and creating meaningful opportunities for applied learning. Explore this issue to learn about the latest advancements in our research and collaborations, made possible through donor-leveraged support.



Advancing Equity in Preschool: Sara Schmitt, PhD, Leads ISLA-P Initiative

We are thrilled to feature Sara Schmitt, PhD, recipient of funding from the College of Education's 2024-25 Faculty Fund Awards. This funding is made possible by generous donors committed to empowering faculty to pilot research projects.

Sara Schmitt, hired as the Bricker/Squires Faculty Chair in Early Intervention, will use this funding to develop the Inclusive Skill-Building Learning Approach for Preschool (ISLA-P). This project will address exclusionary discipline practices in preschool that disproportionately impact children of color, boys, and children with disabilities.

[Learn More in our Faculty Spotlight Series](#)

"Having access to early intervention is something that can literally change a child's developmental trajectory and promote success in school and life, and I want to be a part of that."

— Sara Schmitt, PhD



Fueling Discovery: Doctoral Research Awards Make a Lasting Impact

Through the generosity of current and past donors, the College of Education can offer up to \$3,000 in dissertation completion assistance to approved doctoral candidates. Since 2009, these awards have empowered over 100 students to pursue innovative research that benefits academia and society.

Darien Combs, PhD '21 Counseling Psychology, completed her doctoral degree with the assistance of these funds to help pay dissertation costs that included participant incentives, hiring a culturally responsive research assistant, purchasing secure hardware and software for data analysis, and transcription services. Combs now runs a private practice in Colorado, assisting patients in both Spanish and English.

Building Research Connections: Insights from the Dan Reschly Distinguished Lecture

Last term, the College of Education proudly welcomed Dr. Kathleen Lynne Lane, Ph.D., BCBA-D, CF-L2, from the University of Kansas for the inaugural Dan Reschly Distinguished Lecture. During an interview with Dean Laura Lee McIntyre, Dr. Lane discussed her research on Ci3T models of prevention and shared how University of Oregon research and faculty have shaped her career. This impactful lecture series is made possible by the generous support of Dan and Krisann Reschly, whose investment strengthens our research community and collaboration.





Oregon150: Leading the Charge for Student Success in 2025

The Oregon150 Student Success Initiative is transforming how the College of Education prepares future leaders in education and human services. By increasing financial support through the COE General Scholarship fund, this initiative helps **recruit** students through increased tuition support, **retain** them through financial hardships, and **ready** them to enter the workforce by covering fees such as licensure. Your generosity is essential to expand our capacity to support future professionals in education.

[Learn More](#)

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