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Florida Gulf Coast University
College of Education
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EDUCATION

2003 **Ph. D.** Early Childhood Education, SUNY at Buffalo.
2000 **M. Ed.** Teaching English Language and Literature, University at Pecs, Hungary
1995 **B. A.** English as a Foreign Language, University at Debrecen, Hungary
1986 **M. Ed.** Hungarian and Russian Language and Literature, University at Szeged, Hungary

LANGUAGES

Oral and written fluency in English, Hungarian and Russian

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

2013-present **Professor**, Florida Gulf Coast University, Ft. Myers
2014-present **Program Coordinator**, Elementary Education, FGCU
2011-2014 **Co-Program Leader**, Early Childhood Education, FGCU
2008-2013 **Associate Professor**, Florida Gulf Coast University, Ft. Myers
2003-2008 **Assistant Professor**, Florida Gulf Coast University, Ft Myers,
2002 –2003 **Research Assistant**, SUNY, University at Buffalo
2000 – 2002 **Teaching Assistant**, Early Childhood Research Center, SUNY at Buffalo
1996 –2000 **Assistant Professor**, Saint Stephen University, Jaszbereny, Hungary
1992 – 2000 **Language Instructor**, Electrolux, Jaszbereny, Hungary
Summer 1991 **Hungarian Language Instructor**, American Peace Corps, Hungary
1987 – 1991 **Head Teacher, Curriculum Developer** Hungarian–Russian Bilingual School, Jaszbereny, Hungary
1986 – 1996 **High School Teacher**, Lehel Vezer High School Jaszbereny, Hungary

SCHOLARSHIP

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles in English

Szecki, T., Gunnels, C., Greene, J., Johnston, V., Vazquez, E. (2019). Infusing and evaluating skills for undergraduate research in the teacher education program. *Scholarship and Practice of Undergraduate Research (SPUR)*, 3(1), 20-29.

Halpern, C., Gonzales, D., Giambo, D., & Szecki, T. (2019). Explorations on the benefits of a holistic family language and literacy program in a Latino community: Multiple perspectives. *International Journal of Whole Child*, 4(1), 33-43.

- Essary, J. & Szecsi, T. (2018). Friendships overcome ignorance and misconceptions: Teacher candidates' exposure to a foreign culture in an online cross-national e-pals project. *Journal of Ethnic and Cultural Studies*, 5(1), 41-57.
- Mak, V., Szecsi, T., Varga L. (2018). Overview of EEG research in early childhood education: An international perspective. *Képzés és Gyakorlat*, 16(3), 37-44.
- Szecsi, T., Varga L., Mak V. (2018). Current trends, dilemmas and future directions in neuropedagogy in the field of early childhood. *Képzés és Gyakorlat*, 16(3), 51-58.
- Varga, L. & Szecsi, T. (2018). Neuropedagogy in early childhood in Hungary: Foundations and micro-investigation. *Képzés és Gyakorlat*, 16(3), 67-74.
- Szecsi, T., Lashley, T. Nelson, S. & Sherman, J. (2017). Teachers' perspectives on language assessment and effective strategies for young English language learners in Florida. *International Journal of Whole Child*, 2(2), 18-28.
- Hujala, E., Vlasov, J., & Szecsi, T. (2017). Parents' and teachers' perspectives on changes in childcare quality in the United States, Russia and Finland. *South African Journal of Childhood Education*, 7(1) (online) 2223-7682. 1-10. Available <http://sajce.co.za/index.php/sajce/article/view/538>
- Szecsi, T., Sherman, J., Iliopoulos, L., Morris, K. & Osorio, A. (2016). The impact of short-term study abroad: Early childhood teacher candidates' self-reflection on transformation. *Kepzes es Gyakorlat*, 14(1), 223-238.
- Szecsi, T. (2015). International research for the betterment of children worldwide. *Kepzes es Gyakorlat*, 13(3-4). 171-175.
- Szecsi, T. (2015). Undergraduate student research in humane education: Benefits gained in action research. *Council on Undergraduate Research Quarterly*, 35(4), 42-46.
- Szecsi, T. Szilagyi, J. Giambo, D. (2015). Attitudes and beliefs of teacher candidates regarding heritage language maintenance. *Heritage Language Journal*, 12(1), 75-99.
- Giambo, D., & Szecsi, T. (2015). Promoting and maintaining bilingualism and biliteracy: Cognitive and biliteracy benefits & strategies for monolingual teachers. *Open Communication Journal*, 9(1), 56-60.
- Szilagyi, J., Giambo, D., & Szecsi, T. (2013). What if I don't speak it? Classroom strategies to nurture your students' the heritage languages. *Childhood Education*, 89(2-3), 117-121.
- Szecsi, T., & Spillman, C. (2012). Unheard voices of minority teacher candidates in a teacher education. *Multicultural Education*, 19(2), 24-29.
- Szecsi, T. & Szilagyi, J. (2012). Immigrant Hungarian families' perceptions of new media technologies in the transmission of heritage language and culture. *Language, Culture, and Curriculum*, 25(3), 265-281.
- Thirumuthy, V., & Szecsi, T. (2012). Introduction. Socio-cultural context for learning in families and communities. *Childhood Education. International Theme issue*, 88(5), 283-285.
- Szecsi, T., & Spillman, C. (2012). Migrant students' "funds of knowledge": Hispanic teachers' perspectives in the United States. *Practice and Theory in Systems of Education*, (7)1. 1-10.
- Szilagyi, J., & Szecsi, T. (2011). Transforming teacher education in Hungary: Competencies for elementary education teachers. *Childhood Education*, 87(5), 327-331.
- Szecsi, T., Barbero, M., DeCampo, A., & Toledo, M. (2010/11). Teaching respect, responsibility, and kindness through dog safety lessons. *Childhood Education*, 87(2), 125-128.
- Szecsi, T. Spillman, C, Vazquez-Montilla, E., & Mayberry, S. (2010). Transforming teacher cultural landscapes through reflection on multicultural literature. *Multicultural Education*, 17(4), 44-48.

- Potter, G., Thirumurthy, V., Szecsi, T., & Salakaja, M. (2009/10). Children's literature to help young children construct understandings about diversity: Perspectives from four cultures. *Childhood Education, 86*(2), 108-112.
- Szecsi, T. (2008). Creative drama in preschool curriculum: Teaching strategies implemented in Hungary. *Childhood Education, 85*(2), 120-124.
- Szecsi, T. (2008). Diversity in elementary schools in Hungary. *E-Journal of American Hungarian Educators Association, 1*(1), 1-18. Available on <http://ahea.net/e-journal/volume-1-2008/5>
- Giambo, D., & Szecsi, T. (2007). Does diversity education make a difference in teacher education?: Pre-service teachers' dispositions explored. *Practice and Theory in Systems of Education, 2*(3-4), 35-50.
- Szecsi, T. & Giambo, D. Inclusive educational practices around the world: An introduction. *Childhood Education, 83*(6), 338-342.
- Thirumurthy, V., Szecsi, T., Hardin, B., & Ramsey, D. (2007). Honoring teachers: A world perspective. *Journal for Early Childhood Teacher Education, 28*(2), 181-198.
- Zygmunt-Fillwalk, E., Staley, L., Kumar, R., Lin, C., Moore, C., Salakaya, M., & Szecsi, T. (2007). Kids speaking up for kids: Advocacy by children, for children. *Childhood Education, 83*(4), 199-205.
- Giambo, D., Gonzales, E., Szecsi, T., & Thirumurthy, V. (2006). Beyond Johnny Appleseed: Learning English as a new language through ethnically diverse literature. *Childhood Education, 83*(2), 104-107.
- Giambo, D., & Szecsi, T. (2005). Opening up to the issues: Preparing pre-service teachers to work effectively with English language learners. *Childhood Education, 82*(2), 107-110.
- Szilagyi, J., & Szecsi, T. (2005). A Hungarian preschool for the children, teachers and parents. *Childhood Education, 81*(5), 261-266.
- Giambo, D., & Szecsi, T. (2005). Parents can guide children into the world of two languages. *Childhood Education, 81*(3), 164-165.
- Szecsi, T. & Giambo, D. (2004). ESOL in every minute of the school day. *Childhood Education, 81*(2), 104-106.
- Hoot, J., Szecsi, T., & Moosa, S. (2003). What teachers of young children should know about Islam. *Early Childhood Education Journal, 31*(2), 85-90.
- Szecsi, T., Hoot, J. L., & Miklosne, K. I. (2003). Distance learning in higher education: A status report on teacher education in Central Europe. *Journal of Continuing Education, 51*(2), 46-52.
- Szecsi, T. (2002). Schooling for diverse children in Hungary. *Childhood Education, 78*(6), 326-333.

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters in English

- Forsen, E., Varpanen, J., Strehmel, P., Kawakita, M., Inouue, C., Marchant, S., Modise, M., Szecsi, T., Halpern, C. (2019). International review of ECE leadership research- Finland, Germany, Japan, Singapore, South Africa, and the United States under review. In Strehmel, P. Heikka, J., Hujala, E. & Waniganayake, M (Eds). *Leadership in early childhood in times of change: Research from five continents*. Barbara Budrich Publishers. 241-265.
- Szecsi, T., & Meehan, M. (2018). „Dogs are great listeners”: A University course project leads to young children's reading to shelter dogs. In Jalongo, M. (Ed.), *Children and dogs in their lives*. New York: Springer. 299-320.
- Szilagyi, J., Szecsi, T., & Meehan, M. (2015). Teacher candidates' views about play and its role in kindergarten classrooms. In L. Varga (ed.). *Early Childhood Education: International Research Report*. Sopron: University of West Hungary. 367-390.

- Hoot, J.L., F. Bakuza, M. Lavasani, R.Park, M. Sharifian, and T. Szecsi (2015). Globalization: International perspectives on early childhood teacher education. In L. Couse and S. Recchia (Eds.). *Handbook of Early Childhood Teacher Education*, New York: Routledge. 348-363.
- Szecsi, T., & Spillman, C. (2014). Unheard voices of minority teacher candidates in a teacher education *Annual Editions: Multicultural Education*, 17th ed,
- Szecsi, T. (2013). Lilia Bartolome: Calling attention to the ideological clarity of teachers. In Kyrilo, J. *Critical Pedagogy of Resistance: 34 Pedagogues We Need to Know*. Rotterdam, The Netherlands: Sense Publishers. 9-12.
- Szecsi, T. (2013). Teaching pre-service early childhood educators about humane education. In Jalongo (Ed.), M. *Teaching Compassion: Humane Education in Early Childhood*. New York: Springer. 49-66.
- Szecsi, T. (2012). Trans-cultural electronic professional dialogues for nurturing teacher candidates' competencies. In S. Orphanos, (Ed). *Organizing and Improving School Environment*. Athens, Greece: Athens Institute for Education and Research. 69-82.
- Szecsi, T. & Miklosne, I. (2009). The door is locked, only love has the key: Hungarian children speak up for children worldwide. In Stanley, L. *Education for global citizenship*. iTunes University. Accessible at <http://egc.iweb.bsu.edu/itunesu/itunesu.html>
- Szecsi, T., & Giambo, D. (2007). Playful activities as mediators in a culturally and linguistically diverse world: A global perspective. In C. Ferguson and E. Dettore (Eds.), *To Play or Not to Play: Is It Really a Question?* Olney, MD: Association for Childhood Education International. 23-31.

Journal International Focus Issue (Co-editor)

- Thirumurthy, V. & Szecsi, T. (2012). Sociocultural contexts for learning in families and communities. International Issue. *Childhood Education*. 88(5).
- Szecsi, T. & D. Giambo, (2007). Inclusive educational practices around the world. *Childhood Education*. 83(6).

Refereed Journal Articles in Hungarian

- Szecsi, T. (2010). Foreign language reading competencies and multicultural children literature: Best practices. *Kepzes es Gyakorlat*. 7(1-2).81-90.
- Szecsi, T. (2008). Integration of diversity standards in teacher preparation programs. *Pedagoguskepzes*. 35(4). 97-103.
- Szecsi, T. (2007). Diversity as perceived by administrator, teacher educator, mentor teacher and teacher candidates in Hungary. *Pedagoguskepzes*. 34(5). 29-47.
- Szecsi, T. & Giambo, D., Thirumurthy, V. Gonzales. M. (2007). Multicultural literature in learning English as a foreign language. *Modszertani Kozlemenyek*. 47(2). 70-76.
- Szecsi, T. (2006). Play activities in different cultures: Facilitating cultural and linguistic competencies through play. *Modszertani Kozlemenyek*. 46(5) 189- 195.
- Szecsi, T. (2006). Electronic exchange of professional experience between Hungarian and American pre-service teachers. *Pedagoguskepzes*. 33(1-2). 121-132.
- Szecsi, T., & Thirumurthy, V. (2005). How are teachers honored in different countries? *Modszertani Kozlemenyek*. 45(1). 3-8.
- Szecsi, T., & Miklosne, K. I. (2002). Preservice teachers' beliefs regarding diversity: A Hungarian perspective. *Szolnoki Tudomanyos Kozlemenyek*. Szolnok:
- Miklosne, K. I., & Szecsi, T. (2000). Survey in the area of language teaching in Jaszag region. II. *Nyelvinfo*, 8(4), 12-14.

- Miklosne, K. I., & Szecsi, T. (2000). Survey in the area of language teaching in Jaszrag region I. *Nyelvinfo*, 8(2), 14-15.
- Szilagyine, H. Zs., & Szecsi, T. (1998). Methodological theory of bilingual education in early childhood settings In: Kadar Z. - Kertesz R. (Ed.), *Szolnoki Tudományos Közlemények*. Szolnok: 57-62.
- Deme, M., & Szecsi, T. (1998). Techniques of translation. *Nyelvinfo*, 6(4), 15-18.

Book Chapters in Hungarian

- Szecsi, T., & Szilagy, J. (2008). *Preschool named Maci where children, teachers and parent feel at home*. In E. Barko & F. Shaffhauser (Ed). *Child-Centered Education in Maci Preschool 1993-2008*. Jaszbereny: Maci Alapítvány. pp.44-51.
- Szecsi, T. (2005). *International partnership via email: Preservice teachers' views about diversity and language learning*. In L. Petho (Ed.), *Jaszragi Evkonyv 2005*. Jaszbereny: Jaszragi Evkonyv Alapítvány. pp 177-188..
- Miklosne, K. I., & Szecsi, T. (2004). *New challenges in teacher preparation*. In L. Petho (Ed.), *Jaszragi Evkonyv 2004*. Jaszbereny: Jaszragi Evkonyv Alapítvány: pp. 82-88. (in Hungarian).
- Szecsi, T. (2003). *A Hungarian project of an American professor*. In L. Petho (Ed.), *Jaszragi Evkonyv 2003*. Jaszbereny: Jaszragi Evkonyv Alapítvány: pp 200-205.
- Szecsi, T. (2002). *Multicultural education in America*. In L. Petho (Ed.), *Jaszragi Evkonyv 2002*. Jaszbereny: Jaszragi Evkonyv Alapítvány: pp 85-89.
- Szecsi, T. (2000). *It's Earie: Workbook for English listening comprehension*. Jaszbereny: Saint Stephen University.
- Szecsi, T. (1988). *Geography: Textbook for bilingual middle schools*. Budapest: OPI. (in Russian).

Other publications

- Szecsi, T. (2011). Think globally, act locally. *Childhood Education*, 87(3). 4-5
- Lee, L. & Szecsi, T. (2009). New agenda for the Awards committee. *Activist*, 22(1). 1-2.
- Szecsi, T. (2008). ACEI students reach out across borders. *Emerging Educators*. 13. 3.
- Szecsi, T. (2007). Achievements and challenges in education around the world: Areas for international partnerships. *Childhood Education*. 83(5). 308-E.
- Szecsi, T. (2007). Building new relationships through intercultural experience. (2007). *Childhood Education*. 83(4).224-E.
- Szecsi, T. (2007). Looking toward Moscow, 2008. *The ACEI Activist*. 19(2). pp. 1&5.
- Salakaja, M. & Szecsi, T. (2006). 2008 ACEI World Conference. *Childhood Education*. 83(2).98-N.
- Szecsi, T. (2006). Thoughts after reading interviews with children. In I Miklosne (Ed.), *Gyermekek Gyermekekrol Gyermekekert* . Jaszbereny: Alma Mater Bercesenyi Alapítvány: p.95. (in Hungarian).
- Szécsi, T., Giambo, D., Thirumurthy, V., & Gonzales, M. E. (2006). Multikulturális irodalom az angol nyelvtanulás folyamatában. Retrieved September 11, 2006, from http://www.hunra.hu/e107_plugins/content/content.php?content.11
- Szecsi, T. (2006). Developing cross-cultural understanding among preservice teachers. *Childhood Education*. 82(5). 292-E
- Szecsi, T. (2006). To have or not to have: Recess from an international perspective. *Childhood Education*. 82(4). 226 E

- Gonzales, M., & Szecsi, T. (2006). International partnership on the American continent: US educators and students working with children and teachers in Bolivia. *Childhood Education*. 82(3). 162.
- Szecsi, T. Bridges among educators around the globe. *ACEI The Activist*. Manuscript accepted for publication. 18(2). 3.
- Szecsi, T. (2005). Embracing languages and cultures in the Magic Preschool, Moscow. *Childhood Education*. 82 (2) 98.
- Szecsi, T. (2005). Mission toward education: Pedagogy and Practice. The Florida Association for Childhood Education International. *Childhood Education*.
- Szecsi, T. (2003). Book review on *Early intervention practices around the world* by Odom, Hanson Blackman, & Kaul., <http://www.teachinflorida.com/teachertoolkit/FGCUBookReviews.asp>
- Szecsi, T. (2003). Book review on *Racism in the classroom* by Quisenberry & McIntyre. http://www.teachinflorida.com/teachertoolkit/FGCUBookReviews.asp?a=fullreview&review_id=25
- Szecsi, T. (2002). Hungarian children learn English language: Promises and challenges. Association for Childhood Education International, *Hong Kong–Macao Newsletter*. 2.
- Szecsi, T. (2001). Getting a doctorate away from home...and taking your family with you II. Association for Childhood Education International, *The Student Connection*, 6(2), 1-2.
- Szecsi, T. (2001). Getting a doctorate away from home...and taking your family with you I. Association for Childhood Education International, *The Student Connection*, 6 (1), 3-4.
- Szecsi, T., & Szilagyine, H. Zs. (1998). We have come from America. *Jaszfurt*, X. (14), 3. (in Hungarian).

PRESENTATIONS

Refereed International Conferences in the USA

- Szilagyi, J. & Szecsi, T. (2012 April). Hungarian-American immigrant children's use of media technologies to maintain their heritage language and culture. AHEA conference, New York, NY.
- Szecsi, T. & Szilagyi, J. (2011 April). Immigrant Children's Right to Education: Heritage Language and Culture Maintenance. Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Szecsi, T. Thirumurthy, V., Salakaja, M. (2010 April). Cross Cultural Gaze on Guiding Principles for Early Childhood Education: India, Hungary and Russia, Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, Phoenix, AZ.
- Szecsi, T. Lee, L. (2010 April). ACEI Award Winning Educators' Philosophy, Experiences, Achievement and Stories of Working with Children, Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, Phoenix, AZ.
- Szecsi, T. (2009 March). Unheard Voices of Minority Teacher Candidates in Teacher Education Programs. Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, Chicago, IL
- Szecsi, T. Thirumurthy, V., Salakaja, M., Potter, G. (2009 March). Using Children's Literature to Help Children Construct Understandings about Diversity: A four culture – perspective. Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Zygmunt-Fillwalk, E., Staley, L., Kumar, R., Lin, C., Salakaya, M., & Szecsi, T. (2009 March). Education for Global Citizenship. Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.

- Szecs, T. (2008 March). Prospective teachers in the real world of teaching: Reflections on the accomplishments and challenges during internship. Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, Atlanta GA.
- Szecs, T., Potter, G., Sahin, V. & Field, H. (2007 May). Voices of Educators from the Global Community: Turkey, Australia, Canada and Mexico. Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, Tampa, FL.
- Szecs, T., Mayberry, S., & Vazquez, E. (2007 May). Transformations through Critical Reflections: Scaffolding with Cultural Stories. Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, Tampa, FL.
- Szecs, T. (2007 April). Administrator, Teacher Educator, Mentor Teacher and Preservice teacher beliefs regarding diversity in Hungary. (2007 April). American Hungarian Educators' Association. 32nd Annual conference. New York, NY.
- Zygmunt-Fillwalk, E., Staley, L., Kumar, R., Lin, C., Salakaya, M., & Szecs, T. (2006 April). Kids Speaking up for Kids: Advocacy by Children, for Children. Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX.
- Szecs, T., Essary, J., & Reynolds, E. (2006 April). You've Got Mail: Cross-cultural Email Communication about Languages and Cultures. Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX.
- Szecs, T., Spillman, C, Mayberry, S., & Vazquez, E. (2006 April). Cultural Landscapes in Childhood Education: Transformations through Literature. Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX.
- Szecs, T. & Salakaja, M. & Chen, C. (2006 April). Voices of Educators from the Global Community: Russia and South Korea. Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX.
- Szecs, T., Spillman, C, & Mayberry, S. (2005 March). National and International Challenges for Inclusive General and Special Education in Teacher Preparation. Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, Washington D.C.
- Szecs, T., Hernandez, C., Nelson, K., & Cobian, E. (2005 March). Each Child Has a Story: Diversity Among Mexican Immigrant Children. Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, Washington D.C.
- Giambo, D. & Szecs, T. (2005 March). Does diversity education make a difference in teacher education?: Pre-service teachers' views explored. Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, Washington D.C.
- Szecs, T. & Thirumurthy, V. (2004 April). Honoring teachers: A world of perspectives. Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA
- Hoot, J., Szecs, T. Adams, L. (2004 April). What Teachers of Young Children Should Know About Islam. Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA
- Szecs, T. (2003 April). Teacher Education and Diversity: Interviews with Hungarian Teacher Educators about Their Views on Cultural Awareness. Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, Phoenix, AZ
- Szecs, T. & Hoot, J. (2003 April). Using E-mail to Develop Cross-Cultural Understanding Among Preservice Teachers: A Hungarian/USA Partnership. Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, Phoenix, AZ
- Szecs, T. (2002 April). Multicultural Issues in Preservice Teacher Preparation: Central Europe. Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, San Diego, CA.

Szecs, T. & Szilagyi, J. (2002 April). Educating Gypsy Minority Children in Hungarian Schools. Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, San Diego, CA

Refereed International Presentations outside the USA

- Szecs, T. (July, 2019). Comprehensive infusion of undergraduate research skills into teacher education: A case study in Florida. EDULEARN, Palma De Mallorca, Spain.
- Szecs, T., Aydin, H., & Giambo, D. (June 2019). Displaced Puerto Rican Students and Families' Experiences and Needs in Southwest Florida after Hurricane Maria. Migration Conference, Bari, Italy
- Szecs, T. (May 2019). How and why to maintain the heritage language?: Hungarian-American families' perspectives on multilingualism. Psycholinguistics Conference, Balatonalmadi, Hungary
- Halpern, C., Szecs, T., & Mak, V. (April 2019). Convergent and divergent discourses in early childhood education leadership: A case study. CAERDA, Toronto, Canada,
- Szecs, T. (December 2018). Comprehensive infusion of undergraduate research skills into teacher education: A case study in Florida. Budapest, Hungary
- Szecs, T. (December 2018). Language assessment and effective teaching and learning for English language learners in Florida. ICERI, Roma, Italy
- Szecs, T., & Szilagyi, J. (2018 May). Language assessment and effective strategies for English language learners i: Teachers' views and practices in Florida. ATINER, Athens, Greece
- Szilagyi, J., & Szecs, T. (2018 May). Immigrant families' heritage language practices: Hungarian-American families. ATINER, Athens, Greece
- Szecs, T. (2017 November). American-Hungarian parents' views about the development and maintenance of their children's Hungarian language proficiency. National Conference of Education, Nyiregyhaza, Hungary
- Szecs, T. (2017 August). Major accomplishment and challenges in early childhood in the USA: Research and Practice. Keynote presentation. National Conference of Education, Subotica, Serbia.
- Szecs, T. & Szilagyi, J. (2017 May). Language assessment and instruction for English language learners in Florida. ALTE, Bologna, Italy.
- Szecs, T. Lashley, T., & Nelson, S. (2017 April). Teachers' perspectives on language assessment and effective strategies for young English language learners in Florida. X. Theory and Practice Conference, Sopron, Hungary
- Szecs, T. (2017 April). Current research and trends in early childhood education in the USA. Keynote presentation. X. Theory and Practice Conference, Sopron, Hungary.
- Szecs, T. (2016 November). Heritage language maintenance: Preservice teachers' perspectives on heritage language maintenance. National Conference of Education, Szeged, Hungary
- Szecs, T., Essary, J., Meehan, M. & Mousa, F. (2016 March). A Cross-National Discussion of Diverse Childhood cases: UAE and USA Teacher Candidates React. Global Summit. Association for Childhood Education, San Jose, Costa Rica.
- Szilagyi, J., Szecs, T., & Meehan, M. (2016 March). Sustainable childhood through play: A multi-organizational collaborative approach in kindergarten. Global Summit. Association for Childhood Education, San Jose, Costa Rica.
- Szecs, T. (2015 July). Hungarian- American Families' Perception on Heritage Language Literacy Practices through Media Technologies. AHEA Annual Conference, Kolozsvar, Romania

- Szecs, T., & Szilagy, J. (2015 March). Teacher candidates' views about students' heritage language maintenance. IAFOR International Conference on Language Learning, Dubai, UEA.
- Szecs, T., & Szilagy, J. (2014 March). Teacher candidates talk about heritage language maintenance: Views and possible Approaches. International Technology, Education and Development Conference, Valencia, Spain.
- Szecs, T., & Szilagy, J. (2014 March). Heritage language literacy practices through media technologies in Hungarian-American families. International Technology, Education and Development Conference, Valencia, Spain.
- Szecs, T. (2012 June). Minority Teachers' Perspectives of Migrant Children's "Funds of Knowledge". International Institute of Social and Economic Sciences, International Academic Conference, Dubrovnik, Croatia.
- Szecs, T. (2011 May). Trans-cultural Electronic Professional Dialogues for Nurturing Teacher Candidates' Competencies. 13th Annual International Conference on Education. Athens, Greece.
- Szecs, T. (2010 August). Cross-Cultural Professional Dialogues as Tools for Fostering Teacher Competencies in Initial Teacher Education. Association for Teacher Education in Europe. Budapest, Hungary.
- Szecs, T. (2010 July). Cultural and Linguistic Competencies Fostered through Cross-Cultural Email Correspondence in Teacher Education. International Conference Education, Economy and Society in Paris, France.
- Szecs, T. (2009 June). Multicultural literature for teaching English as a second language. Early Literacy Conference, Kecskemet, Hungary.
- Szecs, T. (2009 March) Fostering Cultural and Linguistic Competencies through Cross-Cultural Email Correspondence: An Innovative Approach in Teacher Education. International Certificate Conference, Florence, Italy.
- Szecs, T., Thirumurthy, V., Quek, L., Potter, G. (2008 June). Play and learning in childhood: The voices of adults and children across cultures. ACEI World Conference & Exhibition, Moscow, Russia.
- Szecs, T. (2008 June). Innovation through Critical Reflection of Cultural Stories: Educating for Global Understanding. ACEI World Conference & Exhibition, Moscow, Russia.
- Giambo, D. & Szecs, T. (2008 June). Ethnically Diverse Children Literature as a Tool for Learning English as a New Language. ACEI World Conference & Exhibition, Moscow, Russia.
- Szecs, T. (2007 October). Integration of Multiculturalism in the US Teacher Education: Considering NCATE Accreditation. National Educational Conference, Budapest, Hungary.
- Szecs, T. (2006 October). Diversity in Elementary Schools in Hungary through the Lenses of Administrators, Teacher Educators, Mentor Teachers and Preservice Teachers. National Educational Conference, Budapest, Hungary.
- Spillman, C., Szecs, T., & Mayberry, S. (2006 August). Cultural Stories: Building Blocks toward Transformations. International Reading Association 21st World Congress on Reading, Budapest, Hungary.
- Giambo, D., Szecs, T., Gonzales, L. & Thirumurthy, V. (2006 August). Beyond Johnny Appleseed: Learning English as a New Language through Ethnically Diverse Literature. International Reading Association 21st World Congress on Reading, Budapest, Hungary.
- Szecs, T., Giambo, D., Gonzales, L. & Thirumurthy, V. (2006 August). Portrayal of Gypsies in children literature: From India to Hungary through the Americas. International Reading Association 21st World Congress on Reading, Budapest, Hungary.

- Szecs, T. Second language teaching/learning in the United States: Blessing or curse. (keynote speech) (2004 June). Annual Conference of World Languages. Saint Stephen University, Hungary.
- Szecs, T., Szilagy, J. & Miklosne, K. I. (2004 June). How Can Parents Facilitate Their Children's Foreign Language Learning? Conference of World Languages. Saint Stephen University, Hungary.
- Szecs, T. & Miklosne, K. I. (2002, November). Tolerance and Prejudices: Hungarian Preservice Teachers' Views on Diversity. Annual Meeting of Szolnok Regional Scientific Association, Szolnok, Hungary
- Szecs, T. (2002, April). Issues in Multicultural Education: An American Perspective. Szent Istvan University, Jaszbereny, Hungary
- Brewster, J., Szecs, T. & Corson, P. (2001, April). Addressing Bias: International Perspectives on Providing Positive Experiences for Children in Child Care and Schools. Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, Toronto, Canada
- Hodossy, Zs., Szecs, T. & Szilagy, J. (2001, April). Foreign Language Teaching in the Early Childhood Setting in Hungary: Past, Present, and Future. Association for Childhood Education International Annual Conference, Toronto, Canada
- Miklosne, K. I. & Szecs, T. (2000, March). The Present Situation of the Early Childhood Language Learning in Jaszag Region Szent Istvan University, Jaszbereny, Hungary
- Szecs, T. & Szilagy, H. Zs. (1998, September). Theory and Practice in Early Childhood Language Learning. Annual Meeting of Szolnok Regional Scientific Association, Szolnok, Hungary
- Szecs, T. & Grega, R. (1995, June) Changes in Education after the Political Turn of 1989. Annual International Symposium of Democracy Foundation, Frederikssund, Denmark

Refereed Presentations at National Conferences

- Szecs, T. & Spillman, C. (2013 February). Mexican-American Teachers' Perspectives of Migrant Children's Funds of Knowledge. National Association for Bilingual Education Conference, Orlando, FL.
- Szilagy, J., Giambo, D., Szecs, T. (2013 February). Strategies for promoting students' heritage language – even when you don't speak it. National Association for Bilingual Education Conference, Orlando, FL.
- Szilagy, J. & Szecs, T. (2012 February). Bilingual Children's Use of Media Technologies to Maintain Their Language in Our Multicultural Nation. National Association for Bilingual Education. Conference, Dallas TX.
- Szecs, T. (2011 February). Infusion of Humane Education in Higher Education Honors Program. National Conference, Association of Professional Humane Educators, Fort Myers, FL
- Mayberry, S., Ray, L.Oliff, C., Spillman, C., & Szecs, T. (2004 November). Accelerated Induction into Teaching: Triumphs and Challenges. Annual Conference of Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children. Albuquerque, NM.
- Vazquez, E. & Szecs, T. (2004 November). Emerging Advocacy in Pre-service Teacher Education: Understanding IEPs and Inclusion Support Practices. Annual Conference of Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children. Albuquerque, NM.
- Szecs, T., & Hoot, J.L. (2002 November) Teacher Educators' Beliefs About Diversity in Early Childhood Education: A Hungarian Perspective. Annual meeting of the National Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators, New York, NY.

Szecs, T. & Szilagy, J. (2001 October). Early Childhood Education in Hungary: Problems and Promises. Annual meeting of the National Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Conference, Anaheim, CA.

Refereed Presentations at State/Regional Conferences

- Szecs, T., Gunnels, C., Greene, J., (2020 January). Teaching and evaluating skills for undergraduate research in the teacher education program. Teaching and Learning Conference, SW Florida, FGCU.
- Szecs, T. & Giambo, D. (2019 October). Critical pedagogy and social justice in a research-embedded course series: A pilot in a teacher education program. Florida Statewide Symposium: Best Practices in Undergraduate Research, Orlando, FL.
- Szecs, T., & Giambo, D. (2019 March). Nurturing students' heritage language while teaching English as a second language: Research and teaching strategies. SWFL. TESOL. Fort Myers, FL
- Halpern, C. Szecs, T. (2019 March). Discourses about early childhood leadership: Teachers and administrators views. 2nd COE Research Symposium, FGCU
- Szecs, T. Aydin, H. (2018 October). Infusing undergraduate scholarship into teacher education. 11th Annual Florida Statewide Symposium. Boca Raton, FL
- Halpern, C. Gonzalez, D., Chavez, L. Szecs, T. & Giambo, D. (2018 April). A Descriptive study of the effects of family language and literacy program. 1st COE Research Symposium, FGCU.
- Meehan, M. & Szecs, T. (2018 April). Dogs are great listeners: A university course project leads to young children's reading to shelter dogs (poster) 1st COE Research Symposium, FGCU.
- Hulya, J., & Szecs, T. (2016 October). Mentoring Undergraduate Research in Education and Business: Transformation in Global and International Communities. 9th Annual Florida Statewide Symposium, Orlando.
- Szecs, T. (2007 September). Play Activities in our Culturally and Linguistically Diverse World: A Global Perspective. Annual Conference of Early Childhood Association of Florida, Orlando, FL
- Giambo, D. & Szecs, T. (2005 April). Dispositions Toward Diversity: Research Day at Florida Gulf Coast University, Ft. Myers, FL.
- Szecs, T., Hernandez, C., & Nelson, K. (2005 February). What Should Teacher Know About Mexican-American Children: Life-stories of Immigrant Children. Florida Association for Childhood Education International/CSPD Annual Conference, Fort Myers, FL.
- Szecs, T., Mayberry, S. & Spillman, C. (2004 April). National and International Challenges for Inclusive General and Special Education in Teacher Preparation: Preliminary Findings of an International Study. Research Day at Florida Gulf Coast University, Ft. Myers, FL.
- Szecs, T. (2004 April). Culturally and Linguistically diverse children in early childhood settings. Annual Conference Child Care of Southwest Florida, Ft. Myers, FL.
- Szecs, T. & Irwin, N. (2004 March). Welcoming linguistically and culturally diverse parents into classroom. Annual Conference of the National Writing Project, Ft. Myers. FL.
- Szecs, T. (2003 November). Early Intervention Practices: A European Perspective. Early Childhood Innovation Institute, Ft. Myers, FL.
- Szecs, T., & Szilagy, J. (2002 May). Providing Quality Education for Minority Children. Annual Conference of New York State Association for the Education of Young Children, Buffalo, NY.
- Szecs, T., & Szilagy, J. (2002 May). Programmatic Diversity in Early Childhood Settings: A Hungarian Perspective. Annual Conference of New York State Association for the Education of Young Children, Buffalo, NY.

Szecs, T. & Szilagy, J. (2001 October). The History and the Present Status of Foreign Language Teaching in Early Elementary Grades in Hungary. Annual Conference of AEYC, Buffalo NY.

Invited Presentations and Workshops

Szecs, T. (2018 January) English as a new language for immigrants: Critical thinking for designing and teaching effective lessons. Lucas Center Symposium of Critical Thinking. Lucas Center, FGCU.

Szecs, T. (2017 February). Community engaged scholarship in education: Local and global initiatives. Community-engaged scholarship symposium. FGCU, Fort Myers.

Szecs, T. (2014 April). Early childhood education in the USA: Achievements and challenges. Western Hungarian University, Sopron, Hungary.

Szecs, T. (2008 February). From a course assignment to a scholarly presentation: A journey of student researchers. Florida Gulf Coast University.

Szecs, T. (2005 September). Addressing Cultural and Linguistic Diversity in Early Care. Workshop for Early Intervention Specialists. CSPD, Fort, Myers, FL

Szecs, T. (2005 August). Differentiated Instruction and Lesson Planning. Workshop for teachers of the American school, Santa Cruz, Bolivia.

Szecs, T. (2005 August). Responding Cultural Diversity in the Global Community: Strategies for teachers in Switzerland, Brazil and South Africa. Workshop at Florida Gulf Coast University, Fort Myers, FL.

INTERNATIONAL AND LOCAL RESEARCH PROJECTS AND GRANTS

Spanish-English bilingual students' views on bilingualism, heritage language and bilingual education. Dr. Giambo, Dr. Aydin, FGCU \$1000 (2019-present)

Displaced Puerto Rican Students and Families' Experiences and Needs in Southwest Florida after Hurricane Maria. Dr. Giambi, Dr. Aydin, FGCU. \$ 9,800 (2019-present)

Minority teachers' perspectives of migrant children's "Funds of Knowledge". FGCU and Collier County School District. 2011-2012.

Teaching young children to interact with dogs safely. FGCU Honors Program. Funded by Southwest Florida Community Foundation. 2009-2011.

Unheard voices of minority teacher candidates in teacher education program. Florida Gulf Coast University, Funded by FGCU Internal Research Grant, \$5,000. 2008-2009.

Unheard voices of minority teacher candidates in teacher education program. Florida Gulf Coast University, College of Education. \$ 2,000. 2008-2009.

Does diversity education make a difference in teacher education?: Pre-service teachers' views explored. Florida Gulf Coast University, 2004-2006.

Second language learning and culture: Cross-cultural communication between Hungarian and American preservice teachers. FGCU- St. Stephen University, 2003- 2005.

National and International Challenges for Inclusive General and Special Education in Teacher Preparation: Florida Gulf Coast University-St. Stephen University, 2003-2004.

International Diversity Project: Email project on multicultural education in teacher preparation. Saint Stephen University–University at Buffalo, 2001 – 2003.

Issues in multicultural early childhood education. University at Buffalo and Saint Stephen University. Funded by Hungarian-American Association of Science and Technology \$2,500, 2000

Foreign language learning in early childhood. Funded by Hungarian-American Association of Science and Technology, \$2,500, 1999.

Issues of English language teaching. Funded by Lingua B European Union Fund. \$4,000, 1998.
Teacher exchange program between Hungary and Denmark. Funded by Danish Ministry of Education, \$4,500, 1996.
Student exchange program between Hungary and the Soviet Union. Funded by Hungarian Ministry of Education. 1988-1989.

TEACHING

UNIVERSITY COURSES TAUGHT AT FGCU (2003-present)

Courses in the Honors Program:

IDH 2931: Teaching English Abroad: This course covers the foundations of learning a new language and strategies for teaching English as a foreign language.

ISS 2011: Education Research and Humane Education: This course provides foundational knowledge in educational research. Students will apply these research skills in a mini research in humane education.

ISS 2011 Interdisciplinary Social Sciences: This course is a unique combination of a scientific research application and service in humane education. Students will acquire and utilize research skills while designing the study, collecting data and interpreting qualitative and quantitative data.

IDH 4638C Research and Service in Humane Education: In this course, students design research studies, collect research data during the nine-week long service component, and analyze and report the research findings. Students will be involved in service activities, e.g. dog safety program for kindergarteners and collect research data about its effectiveness.

EDG 4930 Animals in Children's Life: This course is an introduction to the interdisciplinary approach toward exploring the impact of companion animals on children development, with a special emphasis on character education and values. The course will provide students with knowledge about humane education practices, and the connections of these practices to other pedagogies.

IDH 3910 Honors Directed Independent Research: Each topic is a course under the supervision of a faculty member. In this course, students will analyze a large-scale humane education research study and deliver the findings at national conferences.

***I developed all the courses above upon the request of the Honors Program.*

Undergraduate courses:

TSL 3080 Foundations of ESOL: This is an introductory course that explores second language acquisition, English grammar and cultures in the United States. Students gain an insight into major factors that influence language acquisition.

EDF 4112: Child Growth and Development: This survey course explores the developmentally accomplishments and characteristics of children from birth to 18 in all developmental domain. Students apply their knowledge in scenarios related to education.

EDF 3201 Diversity in Human Development: The complexity and variety of opportunities in early childhood, elementary, secondary and special education are explored. Each field, including ESOL will be addressed within the context of human diversity accompanied with 15 hour field experience.

EEC 4307 Cognitive Experiences for Young Children: Theoretical aspects of cognitive development for children ages zero to eight with emphasis on planning developmentally and culturally appropriate teaching-learning experiences and determining appropriate curriculum content in language arts, science, mathematics, and social studies with an emphasis on integrated experiences.

EDG 2701 Teaching Diverse Population: An introduction to the value of diversity in American society and the manifestations of diversity - different ethnic, racial, cultural, socioeconomic and/or linguistic backgrounds - in the educational system. Fifteen-hour classroom and/or community observation is required.

TSL 4340: Methods, Curriculum, and Instructional Effectiveness in ESOL: Teaching methods, strategies and curriculum development activities that enhance and facilitate learning of diverse students and maximizes the opportunities to meet the state standards. It also provides information relevant to the development of ESOL curriculum and various options for second language learners that facilitate the access to the language arts curriculum and academic learning.

TSL 4520 Second Language Acquisition, Culture and Linguistics: Second language acquisition, applied linguistics, and influence of cultural diversity on learning, communication, belief systems and value orientations and patterns of thinking and behaving including modifications and adaptations to meet the language needs of diverse students in the classroom.

EEC 4936 Senior Seminar: Capstone experience taken concurrently with the final internship. Trends and issues within the field of early childhood education are examined from the perspective of the final internship experience.

EEC 4402C: Relations across Family School and Community: The knowledge base and skills necessary to form partnership with families and the community to enhance the care and education of young children, to design and environment.

EEC 4510 Infants & Toddlers: This course is designed to teach students the knowledge base and skills necessary to provide a high-quality infant and/ or toddler program. The course will integrate knowledge of individualizing care and education for all children including children with special needs and children from diverse cultural groups

Graduate courses:

EDF 7707 Diversity and Global Studies in Education: This course has been designed for the Ed.D. program in educational leadership and curriculum and instruction with an emphasis on cultural diversity in education and comparative international education.

EEX 6708 Teaming in Early Childhood: This course examines various team models for service delivery, team development and team member roles. It places emphasis on the family of the young children with special needs as critical team members and family systems theory, and closely looks at the Florida service delivery system for young children.

EEC 6405 Home School and Family Interactions: Review of the current research on how children across the lifespan interact reciprocally with their families and with the various levels of schooling in their learning process, collectively and in small groups. Also the course allows a critical analysis of policies and programs that address ways to mobilize schools and families to work together.

EDG 6931 Selected Topic in Education: Each topic is a course under the supervision of a faculty member. The title and content will vary according to the topic.

SUNY at Buffalo (2001-2003)

LAI 511 Diversity in Early Childhood Education

LAI 205 Introduction to Child Development

LAI 416 Early Childhood Education, Theory and Practice

Saint Stephen University, Hungary (1997-2000)

Methodology of English Language Teaching in Early Childhood Setting

English Descriptive Grammar
English-Hungarian Translation
Dramapedagogy in Language Teaching
Foreign Language Development

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE.

Program Evaluator	Immokallee Collaborative Project and NCEF, Fort Myers, (2008-2010)
Conference Co-chair	ACEI World Conference, Moscow (2008)
General Conference Chair	Annual ACEI Conference Tampa (2007)
General Conference Chair	Mission toward Education: Pedagogy and Practice conference, FACEI, CSPD & Eagles Educate Conference, Fort Myers (2004)
Course developer	Ph.D. program in Educational Leadership and Curriculum and Instruction, FGCU (2004 -2005)
Accreditation Coordinator	Program Accreditation by the NAEYC, Early Childhood Research Center, University at Buffalo (2001)
Conference Chair	Annual Conference Saint Stephen University, Hungary (2000)
Curriculum Coordinator	American–Hungarian preschool project Saint Stephen University, Hungary (1996-2000)
Supervisor	Bilingual preschool, Jaszbereny, Hungary (1996-2000)
Supervisor	Elementary foreign language program, Hungary (1996-2000)
Director of student exchange	High school, Russia and Hungary (1987-1989)

SERVICE

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Professional Journal Service

Editor:

Editorial Board Member	Bilingual Research Journal (2019-present)
Editorial Board Member	Voices of Reform (2018-present)
Editorial Board Member:	American Journal of Qualitative Research (2018- present)
Editorial Board Member	Journal of Formative Design in Learning (2015-present)
Editorial Board member:	Journal of Global Education and Research (2016-present)
Editorial Board Member	Kepzes es Gyakorlat (Training and Practice) (2014-present)
Editorial Board Member	Journal of Educational Policies and Current Practices (2014-present)
Guest Co-editor	Childhood Education, International Focus Issue of 2012
Guest Co-Editor	Childhood Education International Focus Issue of 2007
Co-Editor	Teaching Strategies column, Childhood Education, (2004-2013)

Reviewer:

Reviewer:	European Association for Research on Learning and Instruction (2017-present)
Reviewer:	Bilingual Research Journal (2013-present)
Reviewer:	Language, Culture, and Curriculum journal (2012-present)
Reviewer	Equity and Excellence in Education journal (2012-present)

Reviewer	UNESCO Prospects journal (2011-12)
Reviewer	Early Childhood Education Journal (2009-2013)
Reviewer	Textbook for teachers of English Saint Stephen University, (2006)
Reviewer	SAGE Publications, Inc. (2006)
Reviewer	Routledge, Taylor and Francis Group, International Publisher (2005)
Reviewer	Journal of Research in Childhood Education (2004-present)
Reviewer	Childhood Education, 1 (2003 –present)
Reviewer	Journal of Early Childhood Teacher Education, (2000-2003)
Reviewer and Translator	From the Minds of the World’s Children (2001) Edited by J. Hoot et al., Association for Childhood Education International

International and National Service

Committee Chair	Awards Committee, Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI) (2011-2015)
Candidate	Member-At-Large, Executive Board, ACEI (2012)
Committee Co-chair	Awards Committee (ACEI), (2009-2011)
Council Member	Presidents’ Council, (ACEI) (2008-2011)
Candidate	Vice-President for Early Childhood, Executive Board, ACEI, (2008)
Committee Chair	International & Intercultural Committee (ACEI) (2005-2007)
Committee Member	Conference Committee (ACEI) (2006-2008)
Member	Hungarian Scientific Institute (2005- present)
Committee Member	Publication Committee (ACEI) (2003-2013)
Committee Member	International Committee (ACEI) (2001-2013)

Professional Service at State/Local Level

Conference board member	Global Conference on Education and Research, Sarasota (2016-2018)
Past-President	Florida Association for Childhood Education International (2010-2012)
President	Florida Association for Childhood Education International (2008-2010)
President-Elect	Florida Association for Childhood Education International (2006- 2008)
Vice-President of Early Childhood Member	Florida Association for Childhood Education International (2004- 2006) Professional Development Committee, Early Learning Coalition of Southwest Florida (2006)
Board member	Girl scouts of Southwest Florida (2004-2005)

University and College Service

Member	Sabbatical Committee, FGCU. (2018-present)
Chair	Peer Review Committee, College, of Education, FGCU (2017-present)
Member	FGCU IRB Committee (2017- present)
Member	COE Honors Immersion Cohort Task Force (2017-2018)
Member	COE ESOL Task Force (2017-2018)
Chair	FGCU Honors College Thesis Subcommittee (2017-2018)
FGCU Scholar	FGCU, QEP (2015-present)
Member	FGCU Peer Support committee (2015-present)
Member	FGCU Honors Executive Board (2008-2018)
Member	FGCU Academic Integrity Committee (2009-2011)

Member	FGCU Academic Integrity Committee (2015-2018)
Chair	FGCU Honors Executive Board (2012-2013)
Member	COE Post Master's Admissions and Policy Committee (2011-2015)
Member	FGCU Senate Grant and Research Team (2012-2015)
Member	FGCU Senate Faculty Affairs Team (2011-2014)
Member	FGCU Academic Integrity Committee (2009-2011)
Member	COE Peer Support Committee (2009- 2011)
Member	University Honor's Advisory Board (2007-2012)
Chair	COE Study Abroad Committee (2007-2008)
Chair	COE NCATE#4 Diversity Standard (2009- 2010)
Co-chair:	COE NCATE#4 Diversity Standard (2007-2009)
Co-Chair	COE Curriculum Committee (2005- 2007)
Member	COE Curriculum Committee (2005-2009)
Member	University Curriculum Committee (2005-2007)
Member	Research Excellence Award Committee (2005-2009)
Member	COE Standard #2 DOE accreditation committee (2005-2006)
Member	FGCU Faculty Senate, (2005-2009)
Chair	COE Research Task Force, (2005)
Faculty Advisor	Eagles Educate/ACEI.FGCU Student chapter (2004- 2014)
Member	COE College Technology Committee, FGCU (2003-2004)
Member	Early Childhood Committee, FGCU (2003-2008)
Member	COE NCATE#4 Task Force FGCU, FGCU (2003-2005)

AWARDS AND GRANTS

Achievement Awards:

2017	Recipient of Hungary Initiative Foundation Conference grant
2013	Fulbright Specialist Candidate
2012	Team Service Excellence Award, Florida Gulf Coast University
2009	Faculty Advisor of the Year, Association for Childhood Education International
2006	Nominee for <i>Teaching Excellence Award</i> , Florida Gulf Coast University
2005	<i>Who's Who Among America's Teachers</i> (9 th edition)
2005	COE Best Research poster, Research Day Award, FGCU
2004	COE Best Research Poster, Research Day Award, FGCU
2003	Elizabeth Braithwaite Student Leadership Award, ACEI
2003	<i>Who's Who Among Students in American Universities & Colleges</i>
2002	Mark Diamond Research Award, University at Buffalo

Professional Development Fund Grants:

2020	Professional Development Fund Grants for a conference in Portugal
2019	Professional Development Fund Grants for a conference in Spain
2018	Professional Development Fund Grants for a conference in Athens
2017	Professional Development Fund Grants for a conference in Bologna
2016	Professional Development Fund Grants for a conference in Sevilla
2015	Professional Development Fund Grants for a conference in Dubai
2014	Professional Development Fund Grants for a conference in Valencia
2012	Professional Development Fund Grants for a conference in Geneva

2011	Professional Development Fund Grants for a conference in Croatia
2010	Professional Development Fund Grants for a conference in Greece
2009	Professional Development Fund Grants for a conference in Paris
2008	Professional Development Fund Grants for a conference in Moscow
2007	Professional Development Fund Grants for a conference in New York
2006	Professional Development Fund Grants for a conference in New Mexico
2005	Professional Development Fund Grants for a conference in Phoenix
2004	Professional Development Fund Grants for a conference in New Orleans

Branch National Awards:

2010	ACEI Branch Excellence Award for Eagles Educate/ACEI
2008	ACEI State Branch Excellence Award, FloridaACEI
2005, 2007, 2008	ACEI Branch Excellence Award for Eagles Educate/FGCU/ACEI

Study and Conference Grants:

2015-,2017, 2019	Lucas Center Travel Grant, FGCU
2001, 2002	Conference Travel Grants, University at Buffalo
1996	Teacher of English Language Scholarship, Department of Education, Denmark
1995	Democracy in Europe Scholarship, Denmark
1988	Teacher of Russian Language Scholarship, Saint-Petersburg, Russia
1985	A Semester Scholarship in Teaching Russian as a Foreign Language, University Saint Petersburg
1982	A Semester Scholarship in Russian Culture, University at Moscow.

Professional Memberships

Institute of Language and Communication Studies and Macro World Publishing (2014-present)
National Association for Bilingual Education (2011-present)
Athens Institute for Education and Research (2011-present)
Association for Hungarian Teacher Educators (2010-present)
American- Hungarian Educators Association (2007-present)
National Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators (2000-2009)
Association for Childhood Education International (2000-present)
National Association for the Education of Young Children (2000-2009)