

Cindy A. Muzzi  
 Assistant Director  
 Center for Research in Educational Policy  
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**EDUCATION**

DEGREE	DISIPLINE	INSTITUTION	YEAR
M.S. with honors	Educational Psychology and Research	University of Memphis	2007
B.A.	Psychology	University of Memphis	2004

**PROFESSIONAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

POSITION	DEPARTMENT	ORGANIZATION	PERIOD
Assistant Director	Center for Research in Educational Policy	University of Memphis	2023-
Research Associate II	Center for Research in Educational Policy	University of Memphis	2020-2023
Research Associate I	Center for Research in Educational Policy	University of Memphis	2009-2020

Assistant Director

- Manages the day-to-day operations and activities of the Center for Research in Educational Policy
- Managing budgets, finances, and resource allocations for the entire center
- Evaluates and manages strategic plans for various projects/studies to ensure all grant project goals are being met in a timely manner
- Coordinates and manages logistical tasks associated with accepted proposals
- Builds and maintains partnerships with other research institutions, industry partners, and funding agencies
- Organizes materials for progress reports and grant submissions.
- Assists in the preparation of grant proposals and funding applications
- Monitors and manages marketing efforts, including social media, digital marketing, and website
- Work closely with the Research Director and Budget Officer, initiates and organizes training and development for research staff, post docs and graduate assistants
- Assists with compiling data and writing reports outlining the effectiveness of the research projects
- Oversees the collection, storage, and management of research data and ensures data security and compliance with ethical standards
- Recruits, supervises, evaluates, and coordinates all activities of research staff for various projects
- Addresses challenges and resolving issues that may arise during the course of research projects
- Provides support and guidance to researchers in overcoming obstacles.

## Research Associate II

- As a member of the Leadership Team, assists in key decision-making regarding day-to-day operations and personnel management, including but not limited to salary splits, staffing considerations, and new staff and graduate assistant hires
- Serves as Principal Investigator for projects such as the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) evaluation for the Virginia Department of Education
- Serves as an advisor to the Faculty Senate Administration Policies Committee to determine how to best evaluate the UofM deans, provost, and president
- Develops and manages all aspects of evaluation plans in collaboration with UofM faculty and external sponsors, including creation of budgets, data collection instruments, and technical reports
- Acts as CREP's Qualtrics survey manager, including providing support for UofM faculty and CREP PIs needing survey development, management, and data collection
- Develops and submits evaluation plans to the UofM IRB
- Conducts webinar trainings with external stakeholders
- Reviews other CREP associates reports to ensure highest possible consistency and quality
- Provides management and mentorship for other CREP associates and graduate assistants
- Represents CREP in cross-campus collaborations with other faculty and staff
- Continues fulfilling the duties of a Research Associate I

## Research Associate I

- Over a ten-year period served as project manager responsible for day-to-day activities of several multi-year, federally-funded evaluations with the Smithsonian Science Education Center (SSEC).
  - Worked with schools for five years across multiple states (NC, TX, NM) for i3 SSEC, evaluating the use of science kits and the effects of these kits and professional development on teacher pedagogy and student learning
  - Helped run a three-year i3 Extension grant in North Carolina with SSEC
  - Evaluated a five-year SSEC study in Colorado - *LASER Focused: An English Language Learner specific component to the SSEC's Leadership and Assistance for Science Education Reform (LASER) model for inquiry-based science*
- Grew from a role assisting with CREP's online data collection platform to an expert in Qualtrics survey administration, ultimately leading CREP's transition from its previous online data collection system to Qualtrics
- Collaborated with CREP staff and external partners to develop surveys, rubrics, and observations
- Conducted data collection activities associated with CREP evaluations, including site visits, classroom observations, interviews, focus groups
- Wrote and reviewed technical reports for clients, and contributed to dissemination of evaluation results in one-pagers and conference presentations
- Cleaned online survey data for analysis
- Conducted qualitative data analyses using Excel to code and build Pivot Tables
- Conducted quantitative data analyses using Excel to build graphs and charts to illustrate evaluation results
- Trained CREP staff and graduate assistants to use a variety of evaluation tools, including qualitative coding, Pivot Tables, and data presentation using tables and graphs
- Became proficient in Excel, Word, Power Point, Adobe Acrobat, and Qualtrics

## **UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES**

- Chair of the Research Associate II Search Committee (CREP)
- Research Assistant/Associate Faculty Search Committee (CREP)
- Inaugural Faculty and Staff Advisory Committee for Student Academic Success (Dr. Karen Weddle-West)
- UofM Research Leadership Development Cohort (Dr. Steve Zanskas)

## **VOLUNTEER WORK**

- Family Partners Council for LeBonheur Children’s Hospital
  - Present to doctors and staff about raising a medically fragile child
  - Identify gaps in support services provided by the hospital
  - Provide the hospital with feedback and edits on handouts, books, and informational guides distributed throughout the hospital
  - Mentor parents
- Parent-Teacher Association Secretary for Shrine School
  - Raise money for teacher appreciation activities
  - Communicate with the district and superintendent about schools needs
  - Secured a new parking lot for the school
  - Secured funding from the district for a state-of-the-art all-inclusive playground

## **EVALUATION AND PROJECT EXPERIENCE**

Seeding Success Full-Service Community School Evaluation	2023-present
UofM Delta Regional Authority Pilot (Dr. Behles)	2023-present
UofM NSF CAREER Ultrasound Imaging (Herickhoff)	2023-present
UofM NSF IUSE Peer Mentors (Dr. Rockson-Szapkiw)	2023-present
UofM CyberCorps Scholarship for Service Evaluation (Dr. Yang)	2022-present
UofM IDEAS Expanding Access to Study Abroad Evaluation (Dr. Laumann)	2022-present
Virginia 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) Program Evaluation	2012-present
UofM CoRS Women’s+ Mentorship Network Surveys (Dr. Harrell-Williams)	2022-2023
UofM COVID Impact Student Survey (Dr. Weddle-West)	2022
UofM CoRS Nursing Workforce Diversity: An Exploration of Minority Nurses Intent to Pursue Doctoral Studies Survey (Dr. Hearne)	2022
UofM CoRS Breaking Barriers to Literacy Survey (Dr. Moncrieff)	2022
UofM Presidential Search Surveys (Melanie Murry)	2021
UofM Textbook Affordability Survey (Dr. Weddle-West)	2021
UofM Business and Finance Climate Assessment Survey (Maria Alam)	2021
Achievement School District (ASD) Special Education Needs Assessment	2021
Shelby County Schools 360° Review of Aspiring Principals	2020-2021
Management & Evaluation School Climate Inventory Surveys – Atlantic City	2019-2023
UofM Faculty Senate Surveys (Drs. Dapremont, Marchetta, Banning)	2019-2023
Williamson County School Climate Inventory Surveys	2019-2023

LASER Focused: A Model for Teaching Inquiry Based Science to English Learners Evaluation	2016-2021
Project STAND (Student Transition, Acceleration, and NCRS Demonstration) Evaluation	2016-2017
Smithsonian Science Education Center (SSEC) i3 Extension of the LASER Model in North Carolina Evaluation	2015-2018
Smithsonian Science Education Center (SSEC) Colorado LASER Initiative Evaluation	2014-2019
UofM Transforming a Civil Engineering Curriculum through GIS Integration (CCLI) Evaluation (Dr. Ivey)	2011-2013
Smithsonian Science Education Center (SSEC) i3 Leadership Assistance for Science Education Reform (LASER) Validation Study	2010-2015
Memphis City Schools High School Redesign Evaluation	2010-2011
Networking Educational Talent for Science (NETS) Program Evaluation for UTHSC	2010-2011
Briefs for Central Naval Analysis (CNA) Regional Educational Laboratory (REL)	2010-2011
Dyersburg State Community College Title III, Part A Program Evaluation	2009-2014
Evaluation of the Federal Public Charter Schools Start-up Program for Illinois Department of Education (ISBE)	2009-2011
Effects of a Hybrid Program for Algebra I on Grade 9 Students' Mathematics Achievement	2009-2011
UofM Calculus WebAssign Evaluation (Dr. Haddock)	2009-2010

## EVALUATION & PROJECT REPORTS

**Muzzi, C.,** McKinney, R., Black, J., & Zoblotsky, T. (2023). *Virginia Department of Education Evaluation of 21st Century Community Learning Centers 2021-2022*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.

**Muzzi, C.** (2023). *CyberCorps External Evaluation Year 1 Focus Group Summary*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.

Bertz, C.A., Zoblotsky, T., McSparrin Gallagher, B., **Muzzi, C.**, Schimmel-Bristow, A. & Hardick, M. (2022). *LASER Focused: A Model for Teaching Inquiry-Based Science to English Learners Summative Report*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.

**Muzzi, C.,** Nastos, C., & Zoblotsky, T. (2022). *Virginia Department of Education Evaluation of 21st Century Community Learning Centers 2020-2021*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.

Shearon, E., **Muzzi, C.**, & Strahl, J.D., (2022). *Memphis Area Legal Services Cycles of Success Program Annual Report Baseline and Post Comparison*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.

- Muzzi, C.,** McSparrin Gallagher, B., & Zoblotsky, T. (2021). Virginia Department of Education Evaluation of 21st Century Community Learning Centers 2019-2020. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Bertz, C. A., Gallagher, B. M., **Muzzi, C.,** Schimmel-Bristow, A., & Zoblotsky, T. A. (2020). *SSEC Colorado LASER Initiative Five-Year Summative Report*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Bertz, C.A., Zoblotsky, T., McSparrin Gallagher, B., **Muzzi, C.,** & Schimmel-Bristow, A. (2020). *LASER Focused: A Model for Teaching Inquiry-Based Science to English Learners 2018-2019 Technical Report*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Bertz, C.A., Zoblotsky, T., McSparrin Gallagher, B., **Muzzi, C.,** & Schimmel-Bristow, A. (2020). *LASER Focused: A Model for Teaching Inquiry-Based Science to English Learners 2017-2018 Technical Report*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Muzzi, C.,** McSparrin Gallagher, B., Shearon, E., & Zoblotsky, T. (2020). Virginia Department of Education Evaluation of 21st Century Community Learning Centers 2018-2019. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Bertz, C., **Muzzi, C.,** Gallagher, B., & Zoblotsky, T. (2019). *SSEC Colorado LASER Initiative 2017-2018 Annual Report*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Muzzi, C.,** McSparrin Gallagher, B., Shearon, E., Feibelman, S., & Zoblotsky, T. (2019). Virginia Department of Education Evaluation of 21st Century Community Learning Centers 2017-2018. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Bertz, C., Zoblotsky, T., McSparrin Gallagher, B., **Muzzi, C.,** & Tang, Y. (2018). *The LASER Model: A Systemic and Sustainable Approach for Achieving High Standards in Science Education. Investing in Innovation (i3) Extension Summative Report*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- McSparrin Gallagher, B., Tang, Y., Vanelli, L., **Muzzi, C.,** & Zoblotsky, T. (2018). Virginia Department of Education Evaluation of 21st Century Community Learning Centers 2016-2017. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Muzzi, C.** & Zoblotsky, T. (2018). *TSIN Rural STEM Collaborative Fall 2018 Teacher Survey Report*. Prepared for the Tennessee STEM Innovation Network. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Arthur, R. M., Bertz, C. A., Gallagher, B. M., **Muzzi, C.,** Young, A., & Zoblotsky, T. A. (2017). *SSEC Colorado LASER Initiative 2015-2016 Annual Report*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.

- Bertz, C. A., Zoblotsky, T. A., Tang, Y., & **Muzzi, C.** (2017). *The LASER Model: A Systemic and Sustainable Approach for Achieving High Standards in Science Education Year 1 Technical Report Part II: School Sustainability Study*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational policy.
- Muzzi, C.**, Shearon, E., & Zoblotsky, T. (2017). *Project STAND (Student Transition, Acceleration, and NCRS Demonstration) Year 1 Evaluation Report*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Bertz, C. A., **Muzzi, C. A.**, & Young, A. (2016). *The LASER Model: A Systemic and Sustainable Approach for Achieving High Standards in Science Education Year 1 Technical Report Part 1: School Sustainability Study*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational policy.
- Bertz, C. A., McSparrin-Gallagher, B., Young, A., & **Muzzi, C.** (2015). *SSEC Colorado LASER Initiative 2014-2015 Annual Report*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Burgette, J., **Muzzi, C.**, Lee, L., & Niemeier, B. (2015). *The LASER Model: A Systemic and Sustainable Approach for Achieving High Standards in Science Education Summative Report Section 7 – Case Studies*. Memphis, TN: Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Goldfeder, E., **Muzzi, C.**, Shearon, E., & Lee, L. (2015). *Strengthening Institutions: Dyersburg State Community College Title III, Part A Program Evaluation for Years 1-5*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Muzzi, C.**, Goldfeder, E., & Shearon, E. (2015). *Strengthening Institutions: Dyersburg State Community College Title III, Part A Program Evaluation for Year 5 (2013-2014)*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Muzzi, C.** & King, M. (2014). *Strengthening Institutions - Dyersburg State Community College Title III, Part A: Year 4 Program Evaluation 2012-2013*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Muzzi, C.** (2013). *Strengthening Institutions - Dyersburg State Community College Title III, Part A: Year 3 Program Evaluation 2011-2012*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Muzzi, C.** (2013). *Transforming a Civil Engineering Curriculum through GIS Integration (CCLI) Evaluation: A Comparison between Baseline, Cohort 1, and Cohort 2 Focus Group Responses*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Muzzi, C.** (2013). *Transforming a Civil Engineering Curriculum through GIS Integration (CCLI) Evaluation: Faculty Focus Group Summary*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Muzzi, C.** (2012). *Strengthening Institutions - Dyersburg State Community College Title III,*

- Part A: Year 2 Program Evaluation 2010-2011*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Muzzi, C.** (2012). *Transforming a Civil Engineering Curriculum through GIS Integration (CCLI) Evaluation Comparison between Baseline and Cohort 1 Focus Group Responses*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Muzzi, C.** (2012). *Transforming a Civil Engineering Curriculum through GIS Integration (CCLI) Evaluation Faculty Focus Group Summary*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Lowther, D. L. & **Muzzi, C.** (2011). *Strengthening Institutions: Dyersburg State Community College Title III, Part A Program Evaluation for Year 1, 2009-2010*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Muzzi, C.** (2011). *Consequences of Block Schedules*. Brief written for Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) Appalachia. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Muzzi, C.** (2011). *High School Exit Exams*. Brief written for Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) Appalachia. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Muzzi, C.** (2011). *Networking Educational Talent for Science (NETS): Building Bridges to Health Science Literacy Final Report 2010-2011*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Muzzi, C.** (2011). *Teacher's Professional Development in Technology*. Brief written for Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) Appalachia. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Muzzi, C.,** Franceschini, L., & Gallagher, B. (2011). *An Evaluation of The University of Tennessee Health Science Center's Building Bridges to Health Science Literacy 2006-2011*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Muzzi, C.,** & Park, H. (2011). *Personal Computers in Education*. Brief written for Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) Appalachia. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Muzzi, C.,** Solomon S., & Flory M. (2011). *School Turnaround Models for Rural Settings*. Brief written for Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) Appalachia. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Muzzi, C.,** Strahl, J. D., & Morrison, D. M. (2011). *Evaluation of Charter School Funded with Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) Start-Up Grant: Annual Report*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.
- Muzzi, C.,** Strahl, J. D., & Morrison, D. M. (2011). *Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) Start-Up Grant: Annual Report*. Memphis, TN: The University of Memphis, Center for Research in Educational Policy.

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