

## CURRICULUM VITA

### **SHARON SYC**

Clinical Associate Professor

Erikson Institute  
Graduate School in Child Development  
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#### **EDUCATION**

- 1992 Ph.D. in Educational Psychology; Specialization in Infant/Child Development and Developmental Psychology  
University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
- 1976 M.A., with Honors in Special Education  
Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, Illinois
- 1972 B.A., with Honors in Elementary Education and Special Education  
University of Illinois at Chicago

#### **CERTIFICATION**

Elementary Education, K-9 (Type 03), State of Illinois  
Social/Emotional Disorders, K-12 (Type 10), State of Illinois  
Learning Disabilities, K-12 (Type 10), State of Illinois

#### **PROFESSIONAL HISTORY**

- 2000 – Present Clinical Associate Professor, Erikson Institute, Chicago, Illinois
- 1997 – 2000 Adjunct Faculty, Erikson Institute, Chicago, Illinois
- 1996 – Present Consultant, Developmental ASPIRE Early Intervention Program (Formerly known as PARC Early Intervention Program)
- 1997 – 1998 Part-time Faculty, Psychology, College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, Illinois
- 1996 – 1998 Adjunct Faculty, Psychology, Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, Illinois
- 1996 – 1998 Adjunct Faculty, Psychology, Concordia University, River Forest, Illinois
- 1996 – 1999 Teacher, LaGrange Elementary School District 102, LaGrange, Illinois
- 1994 – 1996 Visiting Lecturer, Psychology, Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, IL
- 1994 Adjunct Faculty, Psychology, Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, Illinois

1993 – 1996	Research, Psychology, University of Chicago
1984 – 1986	Co-director of Child Care Research, The Ounce of Prevention Fund, Chicago
1984 – 1985	Research Associate, Child Psychiatry: Parent Infant Development Service (PIDS), University of Chicago Hospitals
1980 – 1981	Research Assistant, Thresholds Psychiatric Rehabilitation Center: Mother's Project
1972 – 1979	Therapeutic Teacher/Diagnostician, Nicholas J. Pritzker Children's Hospital and School

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

- Developmental Psychology
- Early Childhood Education Methods I, II
- Exceptional Child; Children with Special Needs and Diverse Abilities
- Language Development
- Life Span Development
- Social Psychology

## **FUNDED PROJECTS/PROGRAMS SINCE 2000**

2006-present	Online Infant Specialist in Child Care Certificate Program Campus Infant Specialist in Child Care Certificate Program
2000 – 2006	Co-director, Development of <i>BrainWonders</i> web site in conjunction with Zero To Three and Boston University

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

- PARC Association Taking the Initiative Award (1999)
- Scholarship, University of Chicago (1980 – 1981)
- Traineeship Award, University of Illinois at Chicago (1970 – 1972)
- Scholarship, University of Illinois at Chicago (1968 – 1972)

## **ADVISORY POSITIONS**

2006 – present	Board Member, Illinois Developmental Therapy Association
2004- 2007	Early Intervention Credentialing Advisory Group
1997 – present	Erikson Institute students in Infant Studies, Child Development, and Teacher Education
1996 – present	Board member, Illinois Association for Infant Mental Health
1997 – 2000	Membership Chair, Illinois Association for Infant Mental Health
1996 – 2003	Developmental ASPIRE Early Intervention Program

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS SINCE 1995

- Alibali, M.W., Bassok, M., Olseth, K., Syc, S.E., & Goldin-Meadow, S. (1999). Illuminating mental representations through speech and gesture. *Psychological Science*, 10, 327-333.
- Alibali, M.W., Bassok, M., Olseth, K., Syc, S.E., & Goldin-Meadow, S. (1995). Gestures reveal mental models of discrete and continuous change. In J.D. Moore & J.F. Lehman (eds.), *Proceedings of the seventeenth annual conference of the cognitive science society*, pp. 391-396. Hillsdale, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS SINCE 1995

- Moving Erikson Online: Four Perspectives from administrators, faculty, instructors, and designers on an intentional and inclusive process.* (2009, November). Workshop presented at the 2009 NAEYC Annual Conference and Expo November 18-21 Washington, D.C.
- Developing Academic Learning Communities: Lessons Learned while Moving Erikson Online.* (2009, June). Workshop presented at the NAEYC 18th National Institute for Early Childhood Professional Development June 14-17 Charlotte, North Carolina.
- Creation of An Online Infant Specialist Certificate Program: Sharing what we have learned.* (2008, June). Workshop presented at the NAEYC 17th National Institute for Early Childhood Professional Development June 8-11 New Orleans, Louisiana.
- Inclusion and Special Needs: The Unfinished Work of Early Childhood Teacher Preparation.* ( 2006, November). Workshop presented to Chicago City College Faculty at Erikson Institute, Chicago, Illinois.
- Neurobehavioral Observation of Infants and Toddlers.* (2005, October). Workshop presented at the Sharing A Vision-Working Together for ALL Young Children Conference in Oak Brook, Illinois.
- Stress, the Brain and the Developing Child.* (2004, November). Workshop presented at Maximizing Children's Potential: The Power of the Brain Conference in Evanston, Illinois.
- Brain Development.* (2004, April). Workshop presented at the FOCUS on Early Education Conference at Kankakee Community College in Kankakee, Illinois.
- The Effects of Stress on the Developing Child.* (2004, March). Workshop presented at the Human Literacy: Learning to read the world ... before learning to read the word Waldorf Early Childhood Conference in Chicago, Illinois.
- The Brain and the Developing Child: Stress, Coping and Caregiving.* (2003, August). Workshop presented to social workers for the Special Education District of Lake County in Wildwood, Illinois.
- The Brain and Language Development in the Developing Child.* (2003, May). Workshop presented at Erikson Institute, Chicago, IL.
- Brain Wonders: Development in the First Three Years with a Focus on Stress.* (2003, April). Workshops presented at the Sixth Annual Infant Toddler Conference, Oakton Community College, Des Plaines, IL.
- Stress and the Brain in the Developing Child.* (2003, April). Seminar conducted for the Loyola University School of Social Work, Chicago, IL.

- The Brain and Early Development.* (2003, February). Workshop presented at the Early Head Start Initiative Training in Zion, IL.
- The Developing Brain: The Developing Child from Birth through Adolescence.* (2002, October). Seminar conducted for the Loyola University School of Social Work, Chicago, IL.
- Brain Wonders: The Brain in the first three years of life.* (2002, June). Workshop presented at the DuPage Children's Museum, Naperville, IL.
- The Brain and Early Development.* (2002, May). Workshop presented at the Early Head Start Initiative Training in California.
- Brain Wonders: What you need to know about the brain and development.* (2002, April). Workshops presented at the Fifth Annual Infant Toddler Conference, Oakton Community College, Des Plaines, IL.
- BrainWonders.* (2002, April). Workshop presented at Erikson Institute, Chicago, IL.
- BrainWonders: Language and Literacy in Toddlers.* (2002, January). Workshop presented for Advocate Health Care-Day Care, Morton Grove, IL.
- BrainWonders: Working with Infants and Toddlers.* (2001, November). Poster presentation at the Zero To Three National Training Institute, San Diego, CA.
- The Brain and Child Development.* (2001, November). Presentation for Columbia College, Chicago, IL.
- Stress, Coping and Caregiving.* (2001, September). Workshop presented at the 5th Start Early Learning Begins at Birth Conference, Voices for Illinois Children and Erikson Institute, Chicago, IL.
- BrainWonders: Helping Babies and Toddlers Grow and Develop.* (2001, June). Workshop presented at Erikson Institute for Reach Out and Read Volunteers and Professionals, Chicago, IL.
- Brain Development and Sensory Processing From a Life Span Perspective.* (2001, March). Presented at Life Links and DAEYC Sharing Across the Ages Conference, Bensenville, IL.
- Early Influences on Brain Development.* (2001, February). Building Successful Partnerships, Chicago, IL.
- BrainWonders: Helping Babies and Toddlers Grow and Develop.* (2000, November). Training sessions for Child Care Initiatives, Chicago, IL.
- BrainWonders: Helping Babies and Toddlers Grow and Develop.* (2000, October). Workshop presented at the Golden Corridor Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Conference, Des Plaines, IL.
- BrainWonders: Helping Babies and Toddlers Grow and Develop.* (2000, September). Workshop presented at the DuPage Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Conference, Naperville, IL.
- The Infant/Toddler and Caregiver Relationship: Its Importance for Optimal Development in the Day Care Setting.* (1998, January). Workshop presented at the Annual Conference of the Chicago Metropolitan Association for the Education of Young Children, Chicago, IL.
- Special Needs: Early Signs in Infant and Toddlers.* (1997, October). Workshop presented at the South Suburban Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Fall Conference, Tinley Park, IL.

*Emotional Intelligence: Assessment in Young Children.* (1997, April). Presented at the Loyola University Center for Children, Families and Community Bridges for Communication Seminar Series, Wilmette, IL.

*Connecting with Colleagues: Professional Roles and Perspectives in Working with Infants, Toddlers, and Families.* (1997, March). Presented at the Illinois Association for Infant Mental Health Networking Seminar, Chicago, IL.

*Infant Mental Health: What is it and how does it work?* (1996, June). Presented at the Governor State University Early Intervention Conference, University Park, IL.

*Gestures reveal mental models of discrete and continuous change.* (1995, June). Paper presented at the annual conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Pittsburgh, PA.

### **SELECTED TRAINING AND CONSULTATION**

- Learning and the Brain: Using Brain Research to Reshape Classroom Practice, Boston, MA, 1999
- Infancy and Early Childhood Training, Arlington, VA, 1997.