

April 14, 2014

To: Dr. John Watson
Vice-President of Academic Affairs

From: V. Carole Smith, Ph.D.
Associate Professor for Middle Level Education

Re: Report on the Professional Development Research Grant

I received \$1289.00 to conduct and present a study on the influence superintendents and principals have had on middle level licensure in Arkansas. I conducted this study with Dr. Charlene Johnson Carter from the University of Arkansas Fayetteville. The first presentation of this study was at the Association of Middle Level Education Higher Education Symposium in Minneapolis, Minnesota. We are currently fine tuning this data, will present this information at other conferences and write articles for association journals related to the topic of Middle Level licensure.

Our presentation was well received because many of the states have similar problems with continuous change in middle level licensure.

I received 300.00 from the college of education which gave me some assistance in staying for the Association of Middle Level Education Conference that was attended by the Collegiate Middle Level Association Officers. I also attended the session on writing Middle Level SPA reports.

I appreciate the opportunity to participate in professional organizations and conferences. For teacher education faculty, it is crucial for us to maintain professional connections, by exposure to cutting edge knowledge in teacher education and to revitalize our own enthusiasm and motivation for teaching. In our profession, it is important that we observe and participate in what we teach.