

Dr. William H. Evans by Keling Yang



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Education

- B.A. in Sociology and Biology, 1970

[Adrian College](#), Adrian, Michigan

- M.Ed. in Special Education / Emotional Disturbance, 1974

[University of Florida](#), Gainesville, Florida

- Ph.D. in Special Education / Emotional Disturbance, 1981

University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

Doctoral Dissertation: *The Effects of Exercise on Selected Classroom Behaviors of Emotionally Handicapped Adolescents.*

William H. Evans, known as “Bill” to friends and colleagues, is an internationally recognized special educator. He works with various policy development groups, and has served as an expert witness and consultant to school districts (Anonymous author, 2009). His lifetime dedication and contributions in special education to serving children and youth with emotional disorders are well known and universally acknowledged.

Early Work

Following graduation from Adrian College, Dr. Evans started his career as a classroom teacher and has taught elementary, middle, and high school students. From 1970-1973, he taught history and English at the Scotch Plains High School in Scotch Plains, NJ. After teaching high school for three years, he went back to school and earned his M.Ed. degree in emotional disturbance in special education from the University of Florida in 1974. He then went on to obtain his Ph.D. in 1981. During this period, he also worked as a teacher of emotionally handicapped and varying exceptionalities in the Alachua County Schools in Gainesville, FL. In addition, he served as Director of the Diagnostic Clinic Classroom within the [Shands Teaching Hospital](#) at the University of Florida. Currently he serves as a counselor in many clinical settings with children and their families, including the [Council for Exceptional Children](#), the [Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders](#), the Division for Children with Learning Disabilities, and the [Council for Educational Diagnostic Services](#). He is actively involved in these councils and dedicates his life to

helping disadvantaged children and youth.

Later Work

Dr. Evans joined the [School of Education](#) at the University of West Florida as an assistant professor in 1981, and quickly achieved the rank of full professor in 1986. He has fostered a large number of teachers and professionals across the US and abroad who have made a difference in the lives of children. He was awarded the Outstanding Teaching Award from the University of West Florida for his immense work in this field. In addition to his great teaching competency, Dr. Evans also took the role as Chair of the Division of Teacher Education from 1988-2003, and as Coordinator of Doctoral Programs at the School of Education, where he currently continues to serve.

As a researcher and practitioner, Dr. Evans specializes in teacher effectiveness, educational assessment, and developing a culture of success for disadvantaged students. He has conducted remarkable research and was named an Outstanding Researcher at the University of West Florida. He has authored numerous professional articles and books on assessment, classroom management, and the use of data in instructional planning, which have significantly changed and improved the professional practices of those who work with exceptional children and youth.

Dr. Evans served as a consultant with three universities abroad, and he has a wealth of experience overseas. He served as Consultant at the [University of Dar es Salaam School of Education](#) in Tanzania in 2005, and at the [Thomas Jefferson School](#)

of Mexico City in 2008. He also was a presenter at [Hanoi National University of Education](#) in Vietnam in 2007. His professional life has been devoted to conducting research that is collaborative, comprehensive and compatible to the cultural settings in which he is working. Since he has collaborated with professionals in numerous schools and agencies in the US and abroad and has a keen appreciation for the critical role that education plays in shaping the lives of children. Dr. Evans values professional cooperation with colleagues greatly. He believes that establishing communication and collaboration between educators is the foundation for the development of future research efforts across settings, and could promote the development of scholarly and practitioner-oriented publications and conference presentations (Evans, 2003). He said, "These publications and presentations would aid in the sharing of professional practices across cultures and result in the promotion of a new generation of professional publications that could help university professors expand their knowledge and provide critical information to practitioners who work with a diverse population of students with disabilities."

Dr. Evans also has served in a variety of national leadership and editorial roles. He serves as the Executive Editor of *Preventing School Failure*, which acts as a forum within which to examine critical issues, share new research and innovative practices, debate controversial subjects, advance the growth of quality programs and, in turn, improve the lives of children and youth served in all educational settings. He also is the Associate Editor of *Diagnostique*, Consulting Editor of the *Journal of Precision Teaching*, the *Journal of Behavioral Disorders*, *Programming for Adolescents with Behavioral*

Disorders, and Severe Behavioral Disorders in Children and Youth.

Awards

- Recipient of the Teaching Incentive Program Award for Teaching Excellence, 1996
- Recipient of the University Research and Creative Activities Award, University of West Florida, 1995
- Special Education Teacher of the Year; [Gatorland Chapter of Council of Exceptional Children](#), Gainesville, FL, 1977

Publications (Selected)

Boling, C. J., & Evans, W. A. (2008). Reading success in the secondary classroom. *Preventing School Failure, 52*(2), 59-67.

Gable, R. A., Bullock, L. M., & Evans, W. H. (2006). Changing perspectives on alternative schooling in children and adolescents with challenging behavior. *Preventing School Failure, 51*(1), 5-10.

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- wayward son. *Reaching Today's Youth*, 4(3), 7-11.
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- Evans, W. H. (1995). A personal perspective: Dignity, data and integrity. In B. Brooks, & D. Sabatino (Eds.), *The personal perspectives of current leaders in special education*. Austin, TX: Pro-Ed.
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