

In August, 2018, former CLLC staff member Anna Middleton, Ph.D., CALT, became the new Research Scientist in the Luke Waites Center for Dyslexia and Learning Disorders at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children in Dallas, TX.

"I am thrilled to have joined the team at the Luke Waites Center at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children," stated Middleton. "The collective expertise embodied by the Center's staff is inspiring."

In 2017, Dr. Middleton received her Ph.D. in Communication Sciences and Disorders from the University of Texas at Dallas, with a focus on neurolinguistics, language development, and literacy. Dr. Middleton earned her credentials as a Certified Academic Language Therapist in 2011.

"Dr. Middleton is an exceptional young scholar, who I have had the pleasure of collaborating with for several years, commented Dr. Tim Odegard, Endowed Professor at Middle Tennessee State University. "Her basic training as a developmental cognitive neuroscientist and training as a CALT provide her with a unique combination of skills. She is uniquely qualified to address several of the most pressing questions still facing our profession."

Dr. Middleton's education began with a BA in Psychology from the University of Colorado at Boulder in 2006. She began her CALT training while working for the Colorado Literacy and Learning Center from 2007-2008. Dr. Middleton then earned her MA in Psychology from San Diego State University in 2010 where she focused on cognitive and linguistic development. Dr. Middleton returned to Colorado from 2010 -2011 and completed her CALT training. She has provided intervention therapies to children with dyslexia since 2007.

"I am honored to be following in the footsteps of my predecessor, Dr. Jerry Ring, whose research has contributed so much toward LWCD's mission of serving children with Dyslexia and related Learning Disorders," reported Middleton.

Currently, Dr. Middleton's research interests include improving student outcomes by optimizing treatment efficacy, characterizing treatment resistance, and better understanding the psychological and neurological mechanisms underlying specific learning disabilities, particularly dyslexia.

"As a researcher and CALT, I have witnessed alongside many others a continued need for research that informs development of accessible, practical measures and methods of instruction for use in the real world," Middleton notes.

Dr. Middleton is married to her seventh-grade sweetheart, Matt Middleton, with whom she reconnected upon her return to Dallas for her Doctoral studies in 2011. They are the proud parents of 18-month-old Grace Lynne.

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