

First Year Research Award:

Education

Faculty Supervisor:

Professor Michael Daiga

Position Title: First Year Research Scholar in Statistics Education

Criteria: The Wittenberg University Department of Education will offer a First Year Research Award (FYRA) for the academic year 2022-2023 to an incoming student to work with Dr. Michael Daiga. This student will have a demonstrated academic ability and/or research interest in how PK-16 students learn data and statistics.

Expectations: FYRA Scholarship recipients will devote between 6 and 8 hours per week across their first year to FYRA program and their research-related project, according to the FYRA Learning Contract agreed upon by the sponsoring professor and the scholarship recipient. Recipients will also be expected to participate in a regular meeting of FYRA recipients, present their results in an appropriate forum and submit a copy of their presentation to the appropriate university office. FYRA Scholarship recipients will also participate in an assessment of the FYRA program. (The FYRA Scholarship is not part of a student's work study award.)

Research Activity: The FYRA recipient will assist Dr. Michael Daiga in the ongoing research about how PK-16 students learn data and statistics. Specifically, with the increasing availability of data, research concerning the individual's statistical knowledge and ability is becoming an increasingly important topic to investigate. This FYRA recipient will explore the statistical thinking construct identified as transnumeration. Transnumeration was coined to describe the action individuals demonstrate when rearranging data in a variety of manners in graphical representations to expose the numeracy (Chick 2004; Shaughnessy & Pfannkuch, 2002; Wild & Pfannkuch, 1999). Through mentorship, the FYRA recipient will work towards authoring or coauthoring academic presentations. There is potential for developing publications for academic or practitioner journals depending on the FYRA's progress, critical thinking and reasoning, and efforts towards researching the construct. Applicants with a strong work-ethic and a passion for learning are encouraged to apply.