

Zaccheus J. Ahonle, Ph.D., CRC

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EDUCATION

Department of Occupational Therapy, College of Public Health and Health Professions,
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL.

Program: Post-doctoral Fellowship in in Advanced Rehabilitation Research & Training
(June 2018 – June 2020)

The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

Program: Rehabilitation Counseling

Department: Special Education

Degree: **Doctor of Philosophy** (December 2015)

The University of Texas at Austin, TX

Program: Rehabilitation Counseling

Degree: **Master of Education** (December 2011)

The University of Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria

Program: Information Science

Degree: **Master of Information Science** (1999)

University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria

Major: Mathematical Sciences

Minor: Computer Science

Degree: **Bachelor of Science** (May 1994)

PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

2012-Present Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC). Certification # 00119525; 09/30/2024.

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

2020-Current **Assistant Professor; Mississippi State University, Department of Counseling, Higher Education Leadership, Educational Psychology, & Foundations' Rehabilitation Counseling Graduate Program. Mississippi State MS.** Teach graduate courses in rehabilitation counseling. Advise master's students. Participate in the graduate admission and selection process. Serve on graduate degree committees and direct dissertation research. Supervise practicum and internship students. Engage in committee service and research activities. Publish in professional journals, provide service to professional organizations, and deliver conference presentations. Seek external funding to support research activities. Engage in ongoing self-development activities.

2021-Current **Graduate Coordinator; Rehabilitation Counseling Program, Department of Counseling, Higher Education Leadership, Educational Psychology, & Foundations' Rehabilitation Counseling Graduate Program. Mississippi State, MS.**

Coordinate and write the CACREP accreditation self-study report for this program. Work on curricular changes and institute new academic standards for the program area as dictated by CACREP accreditation board, CRCC, assessment results, and program evaluation outcomes. Oversee both the in-person and distance education graduate programs. Provide guidance to students regarding academic policies and procedures and instructional and curricular issues. Produce accreditation and other reports as needed. Communicate student admission recommendations to the department head. Review and evaluate program admission criteria and selection process for prospective students. Resolve matters such as student program status, grade appeals, and retention and dismissal policies and procedures. Provide information on prospective student inquiries about the program. Promote the program to prospective students. Serve on relevant graduate education committees. Review and update program materials included in handbooks, the university bulletin, program brochures, web pages, administrative forms, and any other media.

2021-Current **Research Health Scientist, Veterans Rural Health Resource Center- GNV (VRHRC-GNV), North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System**

(NF/SG VHS), Malcom Randall VA Medical Center, Gainesville, FL. (through Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) Agreement between VRHRC- GNV and MSU.

Conduct research on rural veteran health outcomes, focusing on evaluating and improving healthcare services. Perform data analysis, prepare reports, and contribute to academic publications on veteran healthcare. Collaborate with interdisciplinary teams and foster partnerships between Mississippi State University and VRHRC-GNV. Disseminate research findings through conferences, seminars, and peer-reviewed publications.

2018-2020 **Research Assistant (WOC) with Dr. Sergio Romero, Director, Veterans Rural Health Resource Center- GNV (VRHRC-GNV) – formerly (Center of Innovation on Disability and Rehabilitation Research), North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System (NF/SG VHS), Malcom Randall VA Medical Center, Gainesville, FL.**

Collaborated with VA health services researchers on various grant-funded projects focused on enhancing the independence and quality of life for rural veterans. Contributed to designing research protocols, data collection, and analysis. Played a significant role in the dissemination of findings through publications and conference presentations. Gained valuable insights into rural health issues and well-being of veterans.

2016-2018 **Lecturer, Steve Hicks School of Social Work, The University of Texas at Austin, TX.**

Taught undergraduate and graduate portfolio courses in Disability Studies. Developed course syllabus. Tested students. Assigned grades. Provided curricular advisement when necessary.

2016-2018 **Project Manager/Disability Studies Graduate Portfolio Coordinator, Texas Center for Disability Studies (TCDS), Steve Hicks School of Social Work, The University of Texas at Austin, TX.**

Initiated and led efforts to establish a Disability Studies minor program at the University of Texas at Austin. Recognizing the regional need and potential impact, I convened a diverse workgroup of faculty members across disciplines to advocate for the program's creation. Through collaborative efforts and securing

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buy-in from key stakeholders including faculty, the Associate Dean, and Dean of

the Steve Hicks School of Social Work, we successfully launched the program, addressing a critical gap in disability education in the Southwest region. Oversaw projects related to disability studies. Coordinated graduate portfolio activities. Collaborated with stakeholders to enhance disability awareness and advocacy. Facilitated interdisciplinary research initiatives. Supported the professional development of graduate students in disability studies.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCES

2013-2016 **Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling Consultant, Capital City Rehabilitation Group DBA, CJ Turner Inc., Austin, TX.**

Provided individual counseling to veterans. Assessed and evaluated veterans' career goals. Provided comprehensive career and vocational assessments, independent living assessments in Texas, job site assessments, and vocational counseling services. Assisted active-duty service members and veterans navigating the medical board process and transitioning to civilian life. Prepared detailed reports for VA Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) specialists outlining recommendations for assistive technology devices necessary in the home environment and suitable college training or career paths for veterans. These reports were crucial in guiding VR specialists to deliver personalized support and services, thereby facilitating successful transitions to civilian life and achieving vocational and independent living goals for the veterans assessed. Operated primarily at major military installations such as Fort Hood in Killeen, Texas, and Fort Bliss in El Paso, Administered, scored and interpreted various assessment instruments including but not limited to the *Wechsler Intelligence Scales, MMPI, Beck Depression Inventory, WRAT-IV, etc.*

CURRENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Teaching/Advising

COE 8373
COE 8383
COE 6373
COE 8053
COE 8730

Courses Taught

Medical Aspects of Disability.
Job Placement in Rehabilitation.
Vocational Assessment.
Rehabilitation Counseling Practicum.
Rehabilitation Counseling Internship.

Graduate Advisee Load

Master's- Rehabilitation Counseling: 2024-2025=**13**; 2023-2024=**18**; 2022-2023=**10**; 2021-2022=**6**; 2020-2021=**7**.

Current Doctoral Students' Committee Member

2023 - Present - Breana Jamison.

Recruitment and Admissions

Managing the recruitment season for Fall 2024 admissions, including:
Conducting interviews with prospective students
Reviewing applications and recommending candidates for admission

Program management and advising & Program assessment and evaluation.

TEACHING ACTIVITIES - COURSES TAUGHT

Dates	Name of Course, School, University	Role in Course
	* SW360 = undergraduate classes; 387R = graduate classes	
Fall 2022, 2021, 2020	<i>In- Person – Starkville Campus</i> COE 8373: Medical Aspects of Disability Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS	Instructor Instructor
Fall 2022, 2021	COE 8353: Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS	Instructor
Spring 2023, 2022, 2021	COE 8383: Job Placement in Rehabilitation Mississippi State University	Instructor
Spring 2024, 2023,2022,2021	COE-8730: Internship in Rehabilitation Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS	Instructor
2023, 2022, 2021, 2020	COE 8053-02: Practicum in Rehabilitation Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS	
	<i>Distance Education - A/synchronous Online</i>	
Spring 2024	COE 8730-501: Internship in Rehabilitation Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS	Instructor
Fall 2023,2022, 2023/24,	COE 8373-501: Medical Aspects of Disability Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS	Instructor
Fall 2022 & 2023,2024	COE 8353:501: Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS	Instructor
Fall 2023 & 2024	COE 8053-501: Practicum in Rehabilitation Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS	Instructor
Spring 2016, 2017, & 2018	SW360K/387R18: Social Context of Disability: SHSSW, University of Texas at Austin	Instructor
Fall 2017	SW 360K/SW 387R: Aging & Disability – Fall 2017: SHSSW, University of Texas at Austin	Instructor
Summer 2017	SW 360KN/387R16: Developmental Disabilities & Self Advocacy: SHSSW, University of Texas at Austin	Instructor
Fall 2016, 2017	SW360K/387R17: Making Systems Work for People with Disabilities: SHSSW, University of Texas at Austin	Instructor

- **RESEARCH INTERESTS - Themes and Population**

Themes:

- **Employment and Community Integration for Individuals with Disabilities** -This theme focuses on enhancing vocational rehabilitation and community re/integration for individuals with acquired neurological disabilities e.g., traumatic brain injury (TBI) and cognitive impairments. This theme addresses employment, return to school, and independent living.
- **Improving Vocational Rehabilitation and Health Services for Rural Populations** -This theme focuses on addressing disparities in service delivery for rural populations such as Rural Veterans, emphasizing accessibility and the use of technology to bridge gaps in rehabilitation services.
- **Addressing Disparities in Rehabilitation Outcomes for People with Disabilities** -This theme examines the intersectionality of disability, race, socioeconomic status, and the environment, aiming to identify and address disparities in rehabilitation outcomes for individuals with acquired neurological disabilities such as TBI and Cognitive Impairment.

Population:

- Individuals with Acquired Disabilities such as Brain Injuries, Cognitive Impairments, and more recently, Long-COVID.
- Rural Veterans and Veterans with disabilities.

SCHOLARSHIP PUBLICATIONS (Total N=25)

Peer Reviewed Article Publications - (n = 16 Articles)

Lebeau, K, **Ahonle, Z.J.**, Mburu, S. N., Romero, S., & Myers, K (**In Press**). Trends in Utilization and Cost of Physical Therapy Referrals to the Community in the Veterans Health Administration System: A Quality Improvement Study *Federal Practitioner*

Ahonle, Z.J., Wei, T.E., Rumrill, P., & Dillahunt-Aspillaga, C. (**In Press**) Competitive integrated employment in the State- Federal Vocational Rehabilitation Program Among individuals with Cognitive, Physical, and Sensory Functional Impairments. *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation*

Chiu, C., Rumrill, S., **Ahonle, Z. J.**, Wertheimer, J., Henderson, K., & Dillahunt-Aspillaga, C. (2024). The Unique Function and Value of a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor for People with Disabilities and Chronic Illnesses. *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*.

Semeah, L. M., Orozco, T., Wang, X., **Ahonle, Z J.**, Cowper Ripley, D. C., Ganesh, S. P., Wilson, L. K., Litt, E. R., Ahern, J. K. Santos Roman, L. M., Varma, D. S., Lee, M. J., Novak, J. R., & Jia, H., (2023). Rural and Urban Home Modification Program Users: A comparative study. *Health Environments Research & Design Journal*. 16(2), 223-235. <https://doi.org/10.1177/19375867221142627>

Ahonle, Z.J., Hill, J. C., Rumrill, P., Degeneffe C. E., & Dillahunt-Aspillaga, C. (2023). The 2023 revision to the CRCC Code of Ethics: Implications for defining and protecting the counselor-client relationship. *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00343552221147220>.

Ahonle, Z. J., Tucker, M., Degeneffe, C. E., Romero, S., & Dillahunt-Aspillaga, C. (2022): Return to School Outcomes among Adults with TBI One Year After Rehabilitation Discharge: A TBIMS Study, *Brain Injury*, 36(8), 1000-1009. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02699052.2022.2105952>

- Degeneffe C. E., Tucker, M., & **Ahonle, Z.J.** (2022). Brief Report: Participation among transition-aged youth with traumatic brain injury in the state/federal vocational rehabilitation system. *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin*, 65(2), 161–165. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0034355220967109>
- Semeah, L. M., Orozco, T., Wang, X., Jia, H., Lee, M. J., Wilson, L. K., Ganesh, S. P., **Ahonle, Z J.**, Varma, D. S., Litt, E. R., Ahern, J. K. Santos Roman, L. M., Cowper Ripley, D. C. (2022). Predictors of County-Level Home Modification Use Across the US. *Federal Practitioner*. 39(6), 274-280. <https://doi.org/10.12788/fp.0279>
- Ahonle, Z. J.**, Kreider, C. M., Hale-Gallardo, J. L., Castaneda, G., Findley, K., Ottomanelli, L., & Romero, S. (2021). Implementation and use of video tele-technologies in delivery of individualized community-based vocational rehabilitation services to rural veterans. *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation*, 55(2),227-233 <https://doi.org/10.3233/JVR-211159>
- Semeah, L. M., Orozco, T., Wang, X., Lee, M. J., **Ahonle, Z. J.**, et. al. (2021). Home modifications for rural veterans with disabilities. *Federal Practitioner*, 38(7), 300-310. <https://doi.org/10.12788/fp.0153>
- Semeah, L.M., Ganesh, S. P., Wang, X., Cowper-Ripley, D. C, **Ahonle Z. J.**, Lee, M. J., Hale-Gallardo, J., Jia, H. (2021). Home modification and health services utilization in rural and urban veterans with disabilities. *Housing Policy Debate* <https://doi.org/10.1080/10511482.2020.1858923>
- Degeneffe C. E., Tucker, M., & **Ahonle, Z.J.** (2020). State-level differences in public vocational rehabilitation closures among transition-aged youth with traumatic brain injury. *The Australian Journal of Rehabilitation Counselling*, 26(2), 136-142. <https://doi.org/10.1017/jrc.2020.18>
- Ahonle, Z. J.**, Jia, H, Mudra, S. A., Romero, S., Castaneda, G., Levy, C. (2020). Overdose, and suicide among VHA veteran enrollees: A Comparison between local, regional, and national level data. *Federal Practitioner*. 37(9), 420-425. <https://doi.org/10.12788/fp.0025>
- Hale-Gallardo, J. L., Kreider, C. M., Jia, H., Castaneda, G., Freytes, I. M., Cowper Ripley, D. C., **Ahonle, Z. J.**, Findley, K. & Romero, S. (2020). Telerehabilitation for rural veterans: A qualitative assessment of barriers and facilitators to implementation. *Journal of Multidisciplinary Healthcare*, 13, 559-570. <https://doi.org/10.2147/JMDH.S247267>
- Hale-Gallardo, J. L., Kreider, C., Ni, Y., Semeah, L. M., **Ahonle, Z. J.**, Cowper Ripley, D. C., Mburu, S., Delisle, A.T., Jia, H. (2020). Serving rural veterans with disabilities: A national survey of centers for independent living. *Journal of Community Health*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10900-020-00941-6>
- Ahonle, Z. J.**, Barnes, M., Romero, S., Sorrells, A. & Brooks, G. I. (2020). State-federal vocational rehabilitation in traumatic brain injury: What predictors are associated with successful employment outcomes? *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin*, 63(3), 143-155. First published online (2019) <https://doi.org/10.1177/0034355219864684>

Peer-Reviewed Abstract Publications (n = 6 Abstracts)

- Ahonle, Z. J.**, Tucker, M., Degeneffe, C. E., Romero, S., & Dillahunt-Aspillaga, C. (2021). Return to school among individuals with traumatic brain injury: Prevalence and factors associated with outcomes one-year post-injury: A TBIMS Study, *Archives of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation*, 102(4), e15. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apmr.2021.01.047>

Ahonle, Z. J., Kreider, C. M., Hale-Gallardo, J. L., Ottomanelli, L., Castaneda, G., Findley, K., & Romero, S (2021). Implementation and use of remote technologies in delivery of individualized community-based vocational rehabilitation services to rural veterans, *Archives of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation*, 102(4), e18. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apmr.2021.01.057>.

Kreider, C. M., **Ahonle, Z. J.**, Hale-Gallardo, J. L., Castaneda, G., Findley, K., & Romero, S. (2021). A Role for OT collaboration with vocational rehabilitation specialists providing individualized community-based services to younger rural veterans? *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 75(7512510252). <https://doi.org/10.5014/ajot.2021.75S2-RP252>

Semeah, L. M., Wilson, L. K., Ahern, J. K., Litt, E.K., Santos, L.M., & **Ahonle, Z.J.** (2021). National mapping: Home modification services. Proceedings of the 2021 annual conference of the Housing Education and Research Association. HERA 2021 Refereed Abstracts, p.40 – 42. <https://housingeducators.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/2021-hera-proceedings-2.pdf>

Castaneda, G., Olney, A., Kaufman, M., Lee, M. J., Kreider, C. M., Hale-Gallardo, J., Findley, K., **Ahonle, Z.**, & Romero, R. (2020). Examining Patient and Caregiver Telehealth Satisfaction in the Veterans Health Administration, *Telemedicine and e-Health*, 26(4). <http://doi.org/10.1089/tmj.2020.29036.abstracts>

Ahonle, Z. J., Romero, S., Barnes, M., & Sorrells, A. M. (2019). Vocational rehabilitation as a public health intervention for individuals with traumatic brain injury. *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*, 100(12), e211. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apmr.2019.10.155>

Manuscript Under Review

Oyesanya, T.O., Faieta, J., Silveira, S.L., Cogan, A.M., Pappadis, M.R., **Ahonle, Z.J.**, Backus, D., Kolakowsky-Hayner, S., Roberts, P. (Under Review, 2024) Development and Satisfaction of a Mentoring-Match Algorithm: the ACRM CDNG Leadership Mentoring Program *Mentoring and Tutoring Partnership in Learning*.

Media Publication - Feature Article (n = 1)

Semeah, L. M., Ganesh, S. P., Wang, X., Cowper-Ripley, D.C., **Ahonle, Z. J.**, Lee, M.J., Orozco, T., Hale- Gallardo, J., & Jia H. (June 02, 2021). Home modifications can improve health outcomes for urban and rural veterans (June 02, 2021). <https://housingmatters.urban.org/research-summary/home-modifications-can-improve-health-outcomes-urban-and-rural-veterans>.

Peer Reviewed Published Book Chapters (n = 2 Book Chapters)

Looby, E. J., Ahonle, Z. J., Li, T., Donald, L., Gray, K. T., Carter, S., & Almutairi, A. (2023). Underserved Disability Populations in Rural Communities: Cultural Competence and Social Justice Imperatives. In *Facilitating Social Justice, Service Delivery, and Advocacy Through Multicultural Counseling Competencies* (pp. 24-56). IGI Global. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.4018/978-1-6684-6155-6.ch002>

Semeah, L. M., Wang, X., Cowper-Ripley, D., Lee, M. J., Ahonle, Z., Ganesh, S. P., Hale-Gallardo, J. L., Levy, C. E., Jia, H. (2020). Improving Health through a Home Modification Service for Veterans. In: Fiedler BA, editor. *Three Facets of Public Health and Paths to Improvements: Behavior, Culture, and Environment*. Elsevier Inc. City: Academic Press; 2020. p. 381-416. ISBN:9780128190081. <https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-819008-1.00014-6>

Research Reports and Other Professional Materials

Ahonle, Z. J. (2024, June). *The Self-Study Report (SSR) and Application Reaffirmation of Accreditation of the Rehabilitation Counseling Program, CACREP*. Department of Counseling, Higher Education Leadership, Educational Psychology, and Foundations, Mississippi State University.

Evaluation Report - Published online

Ahonle, Z. J., Amy, S., Seay, P. (2016). Money Follows the Person Demonstration Employment Project: An evaluation of systems changes efforts toward competitive integrated employment for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Texas. Austin, TX: The University of Texas at Austin.

SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS

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|-----------|---|
| 12/2023 | Service Commendation Certificate Award from American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine (ACRM) as ACRM Mentoring Program 2023 Faculty. |
| 11/2022 | Service Commendation Certificate Award from American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine (ACRM) as ACRM Mentoring Program 2022 Faculty. |
| 5/2022 | 2022-2023 MSU Community Engagement Learning (CEL) Fellow Certificate Award. |
| 2018 | Faculty Recognition Award, Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, The University of Texas at Austin, TX - for positively contributing to the academic endeavors of students with disabilities and for creating an inclusive environment for all students at the University of Texas at Austin, TX. |
| 2015 | Connor R&P Endowed Scholarship Award, the University of Texas at Austin, TX |
| 2015 | Graduate School Summer Fellowship Award, the University of Texas at Austin, TX. |
| 2014 | M. B. Moran Endowed Presidential Scholarship in Education Award, the University of Texas at Austin. |
| 2010-2014 | RSA Scholar, United States Department of Education Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) Scholarship Award Recipient. |

SCHOLARSHIP: PRESENTATIONS (TOTAL N = 23)

Invited Presentations (n = 5)

Ahonle, Z.J., Dillahunt-Aspillaga, C., Rumrill, P., & Bower, W. (2023). Differential vocational rehabilitation outcomes for Mississippi residents with cognitive, physical, and sensory impairments [Webinar]. *University of Kentucky Human Development Institute: Quality Employment Virtual Continuing Education Series*. Lexington, KY. November 30, 2023.

Rumrill, S., **Ahonle, Z.,** & Rumrill, P. (2023). *Ethical issues and decision-making strategies in blindness vocational rehabilitation*. *University of Kentucky Human Development Institute: Quality Employment Virtual Continuing Education Series*. Lexington, KY. November 10, 2023.

Ahonle, Z. J., Rumrill, S., & Rumrill, P. (2023, October). Ethical Considerations in Empowering Individuals with Visual Impairments: Understanding the 2023 Code of Ethics for Certified Rehabilitation Counselors. A presentation at the Mississippi AER 2023 Conference Audience: Professionals, Individuals and Veterans with visual loss, and family members.

Ahonle, Z. J., Kreider, C. M., Ottomanelli, L., Kostas, S. P., & Romero, S. (October 27, 2021). Telerehabilitation Services to Rural Veterans. Research to Practice [Webinar]. *Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE), Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation Series*. <https://apse.site-ym.com/store/ListProducts.aspx?catid=672196>.

Ahonle, Z.J. (2017). Aging, & intellectual and developmental disabilities. Paper Presented at the Annual Intermediate Care Facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities provider and surveyor conference hosted by the *Department of Aging and Disability Services* (Now HHSC), Austin, TX. Audience: Professionals & Public.

International/ National Presentations (n = 11)

Ahonle, Z. J., Rumrill, P., & Rumrill, S. (2024, May). Differential Vocational Rehabilitation Outcomes for Consumers with Functional Disabilities: A Cross-Sectional Comparative Study. A presentation at Spring 2024 ARRPE Research Symposium. Audience: Rehabilitation Counseling Scholars, Educators, and Professionals.

Rumrill, P., Rumrill, P., & **Ahonle, Z. J.** (2024, May). New Direction in Vocational Rehabilitation Services for Consumers with Traumatic Brain Injury. A presentation at Spring 2024 ARRPE Research Symposium. Audience: Rehabilitation Counseling Scholars, Educators, and Professionals.

Ahonle, Z. J., Wei, T.E., Rumrill, P., Dillahunt-Aspillaga, C. (2023, November). Competitive Integrated Employment Outcomes Among Individuals with Cognitive Disabilities: Implications for Practice A Symposium presented at 2023 American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine, 100th Annual Conference & Expo, Atlanta, Georgia. Audience: Professional.

Ahonle, Z. J., Sanchez, J., Ching, D., Jorgensen Smith, T., & Dillahunt-Aspillaga, C. (2022, November). Multicultural & Ethical Considerations of Behavioral Health. Symposium presented at 2022 American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine, 99th Annual Conference & Expo, Chicago, Illinois. Audience: Professional.

Rumrill, P., **Ahonle, Z. J.**, Degeneffe, C. E., & Dillahunt-Aspillaga, C. (2022, March). Strategies for Working with Individuals with TBI Across Phases of the VR Process. Professional Poster Accepted for presentation at 2022 National Council on Rehabilitation Education (NCRE) Spring 2022 Conference, California: Professional.

Semeah, L. M., Wilson, L. K., Litt, E. R., Ahern, J. K., **Ahonle, Z. J.**, Santos-Roman, L. M., Novak, J. N., Wang, X. (2021, October). National Mapping: Home Modification Services. Professional Poster Accepted for presentation at 2021 Annual Conference Proceedings. Housing Education and Research Association, Minneapolis, MN. Audience: Professional. (*Presenter: Semeah, LM*).

Ahonle, Z. J., Tucker, M., Degeneffe, C. E., Romero, S., & Dillahunt-Aspillaga, C. (2021, June). Predictors of Return to School for Individuals with TBI at Year 2 Post-Injury. Professional Poster Accepted for presentation at 2021 National Council on Rehabilitation Education (NCRE) Summer Conference: Professional.

Ahonle, Z. J., Tucker, M., Degeneffe, C. E., Romero, S., & Dillahunt-Aspillaga, C. (2020, October). Return to school among individuals with traumatic brain injury: Prevalence and factors associated with outcomes one-year post-injury: A TBIMS Study. Poster presented at 2020 American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine, 97th Annual Conference & Expo, Virtual. Audience: Professional.

Ahonle, Z. J., Kreider, C. M., Hale-Gallardo, J. L., Castaneda, G., Findley, K., Ottomanelli, L., & Romero, S. (2020, October). Using remote technology to enhance face-to-face community-based vocational rehabilitation services to rural veterans with disabilities. Poster presented at 2020 American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine, 97th Annual Conference & Expo, Virtual. Audience: Professional.

Ahonle, Z. J., Jia, H, Mudra, S. A., Romero, S., Castaneda, G., & Levy, C. (2020, March). Drug overdose and suicide among Veteran enrollees in the Veterans Affairs health care system: A comparison between facility, regional, and national level data. Poster presented at International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine Conference, Orlando, FL.

Ahonle, Z. J., Romero, S., Barnes, M., & Sorrells, A. M. (2019, November). State-Federal vocational rehabilitation as a public health intervention for patients with traumatic brain injury. Poster presented at American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine, 96th Annual Conference & Expo, Chicago, IL. Audience: Professional.

Local, State, and Regional Presentations (n = 6)

Ahonle, Z. J. (2022, October). Section A of the proposed new CRCC Code of Ethics – What blindness and low-vision rehabilitation professionals need to know. A presentation at the 2022 Mississippi AER 2022 Virtual Conference Audience: Professional, Individuals and Veterans with visual loss, and family members.

Ahonle, Z. J., Rumrill, P. & Rumrill, S. (2022, September). The new CRCC Code of Ethics: What rehabilitation counselors need to know. A presentation at the 2022 Rehabilitation Association of Mississippi (RAM) Conference, Oxford, MS. Audience: Professional.

Rumrill, S., Rumrill, P. & **Ahonle, Z. J.** (2022, September). A cognitive support technology and customized vocational case management intervention for college students with TBI. A presentation at the 2022 Rehabilitation Association of Mississippi (RAM) Conference, Oxford, MS. Audience: Professional.

Hale-Gallardo, J., Jia, H., Levy, C.E., Delisle, A.T., Freytes, M., Semeah, L.M., **Ahonle, Z.J.**, Dirk, L., Ni Yuxin, Ly Linal & Cowper-Ripley D.C. (2018, October). Health and independent living (HAIL) for Veterans with disabilities. Poster presented at Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Research Day within the Malcom Randall VA Medical Center, Gainesville, FL. Audience: Professional & Public.

Ahonle, Z. J. (2014). Reviewed predictors of successful employment for clients with traumatic brain injury. Paper presented at Texas Rehabilitation Association Summer Conference, Galveston, TX. Audience: Professional.

Ahonle, Z. J. (2013). *Empirically based transition practices/predictors for positive post-school outcomes for youths with disabilities*: Poster presented at Texas Rehabilitation Association Conference, Corpus Christi, TX. Audience: Professional.

Student Led Presentation (n=1)

Almutairi, A., **Ahonle, Z. J.**, & Wei, T.E. (2022, September). Vocational rehabilitation services and employment outcomes among individuals with cognitive impairment: Does racial

disparity exists? Poster presented the National Association of State Head Injury Administrators (NASHIA)'s 33rd Annual State of the States in Head Injury Conference, (Remote). Audience: Professional.

GRANTS AND FUNDING

Total amount of grant funding applied for from Fall 2020 – Summer 2024 is: **\$16,661,403.24**

CURRENTLY FUNDED EXTERNAL AWARDS (TOTAL = \$829,000.24):

National Science Foundation, \$750,000. (2022; *awarded*). Investigators: **Stratton-Gadke, K.K. (PI)**, Jones, A., **Ahonle, Z. J. (Co-PI)**., Dabbiru, L (Co-PI)., & Geroux, K (Co-PI). *Advancement of Driving Technology for Vocational Enablement*.

United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Veteran Rural Health Resource Center, Gainesville (VRHRC-GNV) IPA Agreement Research Award on VA Telerehabilitation Enterprise-Wide (TREWI) Initiative Project \$64,336.24 (2021, 2022, 2023; *awarded*). Investigators: **Ahonle, Z. J. (PI)**. *Trends in Physical Therapy Referrals to the Community in the Veterans Health Administration System*.

Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS., ORED/ADI Research Grant, , \$14,664 (2021; *awarded*). Investigators: **Ahonle, Z. J. (PI)**, Wei, E. (Co-PI), Dillahunt-Aspillaga, C (Co-PI), & Rumrill, P (Co-PI). *Employment Outcomes of Individuals with Cognitive Disabilities (Completed)*.

CURRENTLY PENDING PROPOSALS (TOTAL = \$9,995,345.00):

RSA, United State Department of Education Disability Innovation Fund Grant, \$9,995,345.00. (2024; *pending*). Investigators: **Ahonle, Z. J. (PI)**, Stratton, K.K. (Co-PI), Castle, M. (Co-PI), and Gadke, D. L. (Co-PI). *The Career Horizons Project (CHP): A 21st Century Workforce Initiative for Mississippians with Disabilities Accompanied by or Resulting from Long COVID Syndrome*.

PROPOSALS NOT AWARDED

Funding Source: **National Science Foundation (NSF)**
Project Title: NSF Convergence Accelerator Phase 2: DriVR
Role: **Co-Principal Investigator**
Project Dates: 12/15/22 - 11/30/24
Amount \$4,999,999.00

Funding Source: **United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)**
Project Title: MSU Extension Equine-Assisted Support Program for Veterans
Role: **Co-Principal Investigator**
Project Dates: 09/30/22 – 09/30/23
Amount \$434,295.00

Funding Source: **United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)**
Project Title: The Stars and Stripes Horsemanship Challenge
Role: **Co-Principal Investigator**
Project Dates: 10/01/21 - 09/30/22
Amount \$402,764.00

EXPIRED AWARDS (Funded and Completed)

Funding Source **Office of Rural Health, US Department of Veterans Affairs**
Project Title: Home Modifications for Rural Veterans with Disabilities (ORH15521)
Role: **Co-Investigator**

Project Dates: 10/2019 – 09/2021

Funding Source: Office of Rural Health, US Department of Veterans Affairs

Project Title: Health and Independent Living (HAIL) for Rural Veterans with Disabilities (ORH 7383)

Role: **Co-Investigator**

Project Dates: 10/2016 – 09/2020

Funding Source: North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System

Project Title: Analyzing the Home improvements and Structural Alterations (HISA) Benefits Program: A Retrospective Study

Role: **Co-Investigator**

Project Dates: 8/2018 – 02/2020

EDITORIAL POSITIONS

2024 – present **Editorial Board Member** (Invited), *Teaching and Supervision in Counseling (TSC)*, Southern Association for Counselor Education.

2022 - 2023 **Reviewer** (Invited), *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*.

2023 **Book Reviewer** (Invited), *Cognella Publishing*.

2017 - 2018 **Ad-Hoc Reviewer**, *National Clearinghouse of Rehabilitation Training Materials*.

2017 **Ad-Hoc Reviewer**, *Australian Journal of Rehabilitation Counseling*.

2016 - 2017 **Ad-Hoc Reviewer**, *Campbell Collaboration*.

BOARD, COMMITTEE, & LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

National Positions

Secretary, American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine (ACRM) Behavioral Health Executive Committee.

Board of Director Member, Association of Rehabilitation Research, Policy, and Education (ARRPE) (2023 - present).

Elected Committee Member, Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (CRCC) Item Writing Sub-Committee (2023 - present).

Mentoring Program Faculty, ACRM Career Development Networking Group (2022 - present).

Chair, Section A Workgroup, Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (CRCC) 2017 Code Revision Task Force (2021 – 2022).

UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE, AND DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

Fall 2022 – 2025 **Elected Member**, University Library Committee, MSU, Starkville, MS

Fall 2023 – Present **Member**, College of Education (COE) Assessment Committee, MSU, Starkville, MS.

Fall 2022- 2024 **Member**, COE Diversity Committee, MSU, Starkville, MS

Fall 2023 – Sp.2024 **Member**, Faculty Search Committee - Assistant/Associate Teaching Professor in Counseling (Non- Tenure Track) – Division of Education, MSU, Meridian, MS.

- Fall 2023 **Chair**, Faculty Search Committee –Assistant Professor, Rehabilitation Counseling (Tenure-Track), Department of Counseling, Higher Education Leadership, Educational Psychology, & Foundations (CHEF), MSU, Starkville, MS.
- Spring 2023 **Chair**, Faculty Search Committee – Assistant Teaching Professor, Clinical Mental Health Counseling (Non-Tenure Track), CHEF Department MSU, Starkville, MS.
- Spring 2022 **Member**, Faculty Search Committee –Assistant Professor, School Psychology (Tenure-Track), CHEF Department MSU, Starkville, MS.
- Sp. 2017 – 2018 **Member**, Bachelor of Science Curriculum Committee, Steve Hicks School of Social Work, the University of Texas at Austin, TX.

DOCTORAL DISSERTATION / EDS COMPS COMMITTEE MEMBER

- 2022 – present **Member**, Dissertation Committee for Jamison Breana, PhD Candidate, Teacher Education and Leadership. Dissertation Title: Evidence-Based Practices: The Special Educator’s Experience
- Spring 2024 **Member**, Education Specialists COMPS Committee for Hannah Flynt, Eds Candidate
- Spring 2024 **Member**, Doctoral COMPS Committee for Chiquita Holmes
- 2017 – 2018 **Member**, Dissertation committee for Lisa Lynn Sigafos, Ph.D. Candidate, Special Education, The University of Texas at Austin, TX (Ph.D. **completed** 2018)

MENTORING OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

Mentoring/Advising of Graduate Students

- 2020 – present Advising and mentoring of all graduate students (Total =41) in the rehabilitation counseling program.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

- Spring 2024 Spring 2024 ARRPE Research Symposium (May 21, 2024)
- Spring 2024 National Symposium on Quality Employment (May 22- May 23, 2024)
- Fall 2023 ACRM 100th Annual Conference at Atlanta, Georgia (Oct. 31 – Nov. 3, 2023)
- Fall 2023 Mississippi AERS Virtual Conference (October 2023)
- Fall 2023 Mississippi Counseling Association, Biloxi, MS (November 8 – 10, 2023)

- Fall 2022 ACRM 99th Annual Conference at Chicago, IL (November 6-11, 2022)
- Fall 2022 National Rehabilitation Counseling Association (NRCA) Virtual Conference (September 19 – 21, 2022)
- Fall 2022 Mississippi AERS Virtual Conference (October 27, 2022)
- Fall 2022 Rehabilitation Association of Mississippi (RAM), Oxford, MS (September 15, 2022)
- Spring 2021 Attended National Council on Rehabilitation Education (NCRE) -Virtual
- Spring 2020 National Institute of Health (NIH) Virtual Seminar on Program Funding and Grants Administration Attendance
- Fall 2020 American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine, 97th Annual Conference & Expo at Chicago, IL.

Outstanding 2024 Professional Development - Conferences Invited to Present or Have Proposals Accepted.

- Fall 2024 ACRM 101st Annual Conference at Dallas, Texas (Oct. 31 – Nov. 3, 2023)
- Fall 2024 Mississippi AERS Virtual Conference (October 2024)
- Fall 2024 Rehabilitation Association of Mississippi (RAM)/SERNRA conference, Biloxi, MS (October 2 – 4, 2024)
- Fall 2024 Southern Association for Counselor Education and Supervision 2024 Conference (SACES) at Dallas, Texas (November 7 – 9, 2024)

OTHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENTS ATTENDED

(e.g. Trainings, Workshops, etc.)

2023

Interactive Learning Tools

Effective Lecturing in Your Online Course (08/24/23)

Informal Canvas Course Review (11/06/23)

How to Write Discussable Discussion Questions

Introduction to Video Editing

Teaching Portfolio Workshop| Maymester Online offered by MSU Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) - (06/19/23)

“Accommodations” are Not Enough: Developing Intersectional Pedagogical Practices around Disability and Accessibility (Luncheon) (04/05/23)

Spring 2023 Online Course and Tools Showcase (03/29/23)

Helping Clients Succeed with ADHD: Strategies for Mental Health Professionals

2023-2024 Annual Information Security Training for Faculty and Staff

2022

Reflective Teaching Community of Practice through CTL

Inclusive Teaching Community of Practice through CTL

Selected and Participated in the Spring 2022 Community Engagement Learning (CEL) Fellows Program

Webinar: Adobe Creative Digital Literacy through ITS

Designing Effective Low Stakes Writing Assignments in ‘Your’ Class Luncheon and Roundtable through CTL

Webinar – Using Ouriginal – an Academic Integrity tool

Best Practices for Presenting Live through MSU Office of Research and Economic Development (ORED)

Responsible Conduct of Research via CITI through Office of Research Compliance and Security

Responsible Conduct of Research via Canvas through Office of Research Compliance and Security

Using the Outlining Method to Create a Quality Grant Proposal through ORED

Proposal Budgets: Practical tools for building your budget and justification through ORED

FCOI Disclosure Form through Office of Research Compliance and Security

The First Timer’s Guide to Submitting a Grant Proposal at MSU

NEA and NEH: How to Secure Funding through ORED

Emerging Trends in Proposal Requirements through ORED

Human Subjects Research through Office of Research Compliance and Security

Partnerships and Funded Projects: A panel discussion through ORED

Research Development and Research Administration: Different sides of the same coin through ORED

Publish and Flourish: Grant and Journal Writing with Dr. Tara Gray – organized by M - ORED (2/15/2022)

2021

Attended colloquium o suicide assessment and treatment

Attended colloquium on disability bias

Attended the Webinar by Works Clearinghouse (WWC) on systematic literature searches

Research development and research administration: Different sides of the same coin (08/26/21)

Getting the most out of Scopus (08/30/21) Types of Funding Seminar (08/31/21)

Types of Funding: An overview of standard project types (08/31/21)

Introduction to Pivot Seminar (09/09/21)

Building a Logic Model for Your Proposal (09/14/21)

Getting the Most Out of ICPSR (09/15/21)

WWC systematic literature searches (09/29/21)

MS Center for Clinical and Translational Research: Research Resources and Funding Opportunities (10/04/21)

Partnerships and funded projects-A panel discussion (10/19/21)

Broader Impacts Part 1: Advancing research impact in society (11/03/21)

General Data Sources: Where to find them (11/18/21)

2020

Getting Your Research Started (8/14/20)

Getting Started with Canvas (8/13/20)

Getting Started with WebEx - New Faculty (8/13/20)

Canvas Assessments - New Faculty (8/13/20)

Canvas Gradebook - New Faculty (8/13/20)

Using Canvas Studio (ARC) Effectively in Canvas (8/10/20)

New Faculty Teaching Academy (8/3 – 12/20)

Non-Traditional Classroom Electronic Equipment Training (8/7/20)

Using External tools in Canvas (8/7/20)

Using Rubrics in Canvas (8/6/20)

Supported Lectern Training (8/6/20)

Peer Review in Canvas (8/6/20)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS

2023 – present	Association for Counselor Education & Supervision (ACES)
2023 – present	Southern Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (SACES)
2023 – present	American Psychological Association (APA)
2023 – present	Association of Rehabilitation Research, Policy, and Education
2023 – present	Mississippi Counseling Association (MCA)
2021 – present	American Counseling Association (ACA)
2021 – present	American Rehabilitation Counseling Association (ARCA)
2020 - present	Rehabilitation Association of Mississippi (RAM)
2019 – present	American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine (ACRM)
2016 - present	The National Rehabilitation Association (NRA)
2016 – 2022	The National Council on Rehabilitation Education (NCRE)