Dr. Hirsch's scholarship is represented by two main lines of research related to special education with a focus on behavior: (a) identifying effective instructional methods for preservice and in-service teachers’ classroom management and functional-assessment-based interventions and (b) creating effective and sustainable university-district research-practice partnerships. Across these lines, she draws on theories rooted in applied behavior analysis, practice-based professional development, community engagement, and multimedia design theory. Her talk will discuss how she refocused her work during the pandemic. She will share how she continued to conduct relevant research to explore how to support preservice and in-service educators.

To date, Dr. Hirsch has published over 50 peer-reviewed journal articles and developed a national reputation in special education with over 100 conference presentations and webinars including 25 invited workshops/presentations. Her research activities have been supported by over $2.5 million in internal and external funding. In 2021, she was recognized by Association for Positive Behavior Support as the "Ted Carr Initial Researcher", and the Division for Emotional and Behavioral Health "Interventionist Award".

Dr. Hirsch was promoted to Associate Professor in August 2021.