



# INDIANA UNIVERSITY

INDIANA INSTITUTE ON  
DISABILITY AND COMMUNITY



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## POLICY BRIEF



### Education Policy Brief: Indiana's Teacher Evaluation Legislation

[Sandi Cole](#), Director of the Institute's [Center on Education and Lifelong Learning](#), is co-author of a Policy Brief focusing on the implications of Indiana's teacher evaluation law for policy, higher education, and professional development. The Brief was issued through the [Center for Evaluation and Education Policy \(CEEP\)](#) at Indiana University. In 2011, the Indiana General Assembly passed a broad and ambitious reform package that significantly altered how teachers and principals are evaluated. Senate Enrolled Act 001 (SEA 1) requires 1) annual evaluation for all certificated employees, 2) objective measures of student achievement and growth, 3) rigorous measures of effectiveness, 4) annual designation of each certificated employee in four rating categories, 5) explanation of the evaluator's recommendation for improvement and the time in which improvement is expected, and 6) a provision that a teacher who negatively affects student achievement and growth cannot receive a rating of "effective" or "highly effective."

Nearly all school corporations in Indiana are either implementing a new evaluation system for teachers and principals or are in the midst of developing their evaluation systems. From those school corporations that are

currently implementing a system, much is being learned about the impact of the new system, as well as areas that will require refinement or change in the coming years. Initial findings include that the role of the principal must change in order to ensure the time and skills necessary to provide quality feedback to teachers and there is a great need for professional growth on assessment literacy. Evaluator training and re-training is critical; the development of assessments and student growth measures for the non-ISTEP+/ ECA teachers has been a challenge; and transparency and collaboration in the development and implementation of evaluation systems is imperative.

This [brief](#) is the second in a two-part series on the new era of teacher evaluation in Indiana. In the [first brief](#), the results of a survey of attitudes and beliefs of school corporation superintendents were discussed; the features of quality evaluation plans were highlighted; and the essential elements of a planning process that ensures equitable, effective, and efficient plans for evaluating educators was introduced (Cole, Ansaldo, Robinson, Whiteman, & Spradlin, 2012).

The objectives of this second brief are 1) to provide information and discussion on the implications of the Indiana legislation on teacher and administrator preparation programs; 2) to provide information and discussion on the implications for educational policy and the procedural challenges that the state, superintendents, and boards should formally address to limit the possibilities for legal challenges and to ensure high-quality plans; and 3) to provide information and discussion on the implications for professional development as it relates to teacher and evaluator training and the use of teacher evaluation data to determine the focus of professional development.

## UPCOMING



### Students on the Spectrum Club (S.O.S.) Meetings Start September 10th

The [Indiana Resource Center for Autism](#) at the Indiana Institute is pleased to announce its 5th year of support of the [Students on the Spectrum Club](#) (S.O.S.) at Indiana University. The S.O.S. Club meetings begin this Fall with the initial Call Out meeting on Tuesday September 10th from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. in the Distinguished Alumni Room at the Indiana Memorial Union.

All Indiana University students who live with an autism spectrum disorder are welcome. Ivy Tech students and other adults 18 years and older, on the autism spectrum, who plan to attend IU are also encouraged to check out the S.O.S. Club. This group provides students the opportunity to engage with each other and others in the University community around topics and activities of interest. In previous years, topics and activities, decided by the student members, have included becoming an effective self-advocate, dealing with anxiety, communication and social skills, employment related issues, playing billiards and other games as well as finding supports and activities on campus and in the community. For further information please contact the S.O.S. Club Adviser [Marcy Wheeler](#) at the Indiana Resource Center for Autism at (812) 855-6508 or e-mail at [mwheeler@indiana.edu](mailto:mwheeler@indiana.edu).

## IN BLOOMINGTON



## “Gallery Chats” - A New Program for Seniors

You are cordially invited to bring a group of seniors from your facility (limit: 15 per group) to the [Indiana University Art Museum](#) for “Gallery Chats,” a new program for people, ages 65 and older. This program can be scheduled at a time that works best for your facility (afternoons work well; less school tour interruption).

For each “Gallery Chats” session, we will highlight a new “corner” of the museum’s collection and focus on a few, select original works of art. Our tour guides are trained to ask open-ended questions; explore and encourage all possible answers; and, initiate engaging and non-threatening “chats” about art.

People of varying physical or cognitive abilities are welcome. Please let us know your specific needs when you schedule your tours. Folding stools will be set up in the galleries just for your group. We will have this corner of the gallery all to ourselves. The feedback we have received from our senior tours has been extremely positive. Basically, people feel free to talk when everyone’s contributions are encouraged and valued.

“Gallery Chats” utilizes memory games, stories, and free association, to name a few techniques. To make arrangements for a session, or for further information, e-mail Ed Maxedon, Lucienne M Glaubinger Curator of Education at [gmaxedon@indiana.edu](mailto:gmaxedon@indiana.edu).

## IN INDIANA



### SAI 2013 Conference

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the [Self-Advocates of Indiana Conference](#) “Time for Empowerment and Change,” scheduled for October 8-9, 2013 at the Marten House, Indianapolis.

The conference is a two day event, bringing together self-advocates from across Indiana. Breakout sessions, entertainment, music, and Keynote speaker, Chester Finn, who has held several leadership positions within the self-advocacy movement and current Special Assistant with the New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities, will help make this conference one to remember. An Appreciation Luncheon will also celebrate contributions and achievements from self-advocates and supporters who have made a difference in 2013. Registration fee is \$100.00 for Self-Advocate members and affiliates and \$115.00 for non SAI members. For more information, contact The Arc at (317) 977-2375 or e-mail [mcooper@arcind.org](mailto:mcooper@arcind.org).

## NATIONALLY



### AUCD Announces New Executive Director

The Board of Directors of the [Association of University Centers on Disabilities](#) (AUCD) is pleased to announce the selection of Andrew J. Imparato as the next Executive Director of the Association. Mr. Imparato succeeds George Jesien who will be retiring after successfully leading the organization for the past fourteen years. The Indiana Institute has been a member of AUCD since 1970. Network members receive core funding

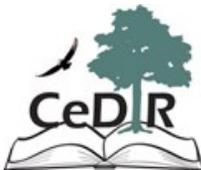
through the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD).

Imparato comes to AUCD from the position of Senior Counsel and Disability Policy Director for the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, chaired by Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa. In the last two and a half years, Imparato has been the lead staffer for Chairman Harkin's effort to reauthorize the Rehabilitation Act as part of the Workforce Investment Act; to expand the number of people with disabilities working in integrated, competitive employment; to improve accessibility of taxicabs, movie theaters, airplanes, and electronic and information technology; and to improve transition outcomes for the generation of young people with disabilities who have come of age since the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Previous positions include President and Chief Executive Officer of the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD), the largest cross-disability membership organization in the U.S. Prior to joining AAPD, Imparato was General Counsel and Director of Policy for the National Council on Disability, an attorney advisor with the US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, counsel to the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Disability Policy, and a staff attorney with the Disability Law Center in Boston, Massachusetts.

Imparato has been widely recognized for his leadership and advocacy. In 2005, he was named one of "Ten Outstanding Young Americans" by the U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce (Jaycees). His work has been recognized by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Transportation, the National Council on Independent Living, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation. In 2012, AUCD awarded him the Gold Star Award, presented to a Capitol Hill staffer who exemplifies a true partnership in crafting strong public policy in collaboration with AUCD and the greater disability community. Imparato graduated with distinction from Stanford Law School and is a summa cum laude graduate of Yale College.

## LIBRARY CORNER



### New Library Collection Items

Flake, S. (2012). Pinned. New York: Scholastic Press.

Films for the Humanities & Sciences (Firm), & Films Media Group. (2012). Lost child?: Living with an intellectual disability. New York, N.Y: Films Media Group.

Whiteford, W. A., Hadary, S. H., Keplinger, D., MedSchool Maryland Productions, & University of Maryland at Baltimore. (2007). King gimp: Long live the king. Baltimore, MD: MedSchool Maryland Productions.

These new materials may be borrowed from the [Center for Disability Information and Referral](#) (CeDIR) at the Institute. To check out materials, please call the library at 800-437-7924, send us an email at [cedir@indiana.edu](mailto:cedir@indiana.edu), or come by and visit us at 2853 East Tenth Street in Bloomington.