

# FYI Newsletter: February 22, 2010

Quick Scan:

- Indiana Institute Receives Three-Four Year IN-DOE Grants
- Inspiring Abilities Resource Fair and Family Concert
- Transition and Community Resource Fair
- Pratt Presents at ICASE
- Library Corner

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**SAVE THE DATE FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 2010 AND PLAN TO ATTEND THE  
INDIANA INSTITUTE OPEN HOUSE**

[Click to RSVP](#)

## **GRANT AWARDS**

**INDIANA INSTITUTE RECEIVES THREE-FOUR YEAR IN-DOE GRANTS:** Indiana University's Indiana Institute on Disability and Community has been awarded three four-year grants from the Indiana Department of Education. The grants, totaling \$11,638,400, will help develop state-wide resource initiatives in the areas of positive behavior supports (PBS), effective assessment and instruction, and improved transition outcomes for Hoosier students with disabilities.

With the first grant, the Indiana Institute's Center on Education and Lifelong Learning, in collaboration with the Equity Project of the Center on Evaluation and Education Policy in the IU School of Education, will work with six schools to develop culturally responsive PBS and establish a statewide teacher training and technical assistance network.

Key components of culturally responsive PBS include raising awareness of racial and ethnic disparities in the disciplining of students and establishing a commitment to forging deliberate "cultures of success" for low-income black and Latino students.

To assess the initiative's contribution to Indiana's goals of high achievement and literacy, the project will include a school-based research component that will monitor how the project impacts achievement, dropout rate, parental involvement, and placement of students with disabilities in general education classrooms.

In the second project, the Indiana Institute's Center on Education and Lifelong Learning will assist the state in implementing an Indiana Resource Center for Improvement Activities focused on effective assessment and instruction. The project is a collaborative effort with the PATINS Project, an Indiana Department of Education Division of Student Learning assistive technology systems change initiative, and the Blumberg Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Special Education at Indiana State University.

The resource center will:

- Act as a statewide resource to Local Education Agencies (LEAs) and schools to support state testing decisions and the use of resulting test data;

- Provide best practices in professional development statewide concerning ISTEP+ accommodations, ISTAR, ISTAR-KR and the Modified ISTEP+, and work with the Indiana Department of Education Assessment Division to provide accurate information;
- Act as a statewide resource to LEAs and schools on the accessibility of instruction, Universal Design for Learning, and differentiated instruction while working with IN-DOE staff to coordinate this information; and
- Respond to statewide assignments for IN-DOE to intervene with selected LEAs and schools based on federal indicator data.

The third initiative establishes an Indiana Resource Center for Improvement Activities through the Indiana Institute's Center on Community Living and Careers. This project is also a collaborative effort with the Blumberg Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Special Education at Indiana State University. The resource center will assist local education agencies and schools in Indiana through professional development activities to improve secondary transition-focused education services and outcomes for students with disabilities.

The center will:

- Act as a resource center to LEAs and schools to improve secondary transition education, services, and outcomes for youth with disabilities;
- Develop knowledge and build statewide capacity through teachers leaders to improve transition indicators focusing on graduation rates, compliant Transition Individualized Education Programs (Transition IEPs), improved postsecondary outcomes, and a decrease in drop-out rates;
- Respond to statewide assignments from IN-DOE to intervene with selected LEAs and schools based on federal indicator data; and
- Develop evidence-based practices and quality indicators for secondary transition-focused education, family involvement, career education, life-skills instruction, work-based learning, and interagency collaboration.

For more information on the PBS or effective assessment and instruction initiatives, contact Sandi Cole at (812) 855-6508 or e-mail [cmcole@indiana.edu](mailto:cmcole@indiana.edu). For information on secondary transition-focused education and services for students with disabilities, contact Teresa Grossi at (812) 855-6508 or e-mail [tgrossi@indiana.edu](mailto:tgrossi@indiana.edu).

About the [Center on Evaluation and Education Policy \(CEEP\)](#) at Indiana University: CEEP promotes and supports rigorous evaluation and research primarily, but not exclusively, for educational, human services and nonprofit organizations. Center projects address state, national, and international education questions. CEEP is part of the IU School of Education.

About the [PATINS Project](#): The PATINS Project is an Indiana Department of Education, Division of Student Learning, Office of Differentiated Learners assistive technology systems change initiative. The project is designed to impact both the organizational capacities of local public schools and the professional capabilities of school staff in the delivery of assistive technology services and the implementation of Universal Design for Learning Principles.

About the [Blumberg Center](#): Since the fall of 1985, the Blumberg Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Special Education has engaged in collaborative activities with ISU College of Education faculty, students, and staff. Such efforts focus on benefiting individuals with exceptionalities through research, program development, and outreach activities across the state.

## **UPCOMING**

**INSPIRING ABILITIES RESOURCE FAIR AND FAMILY CONCERT:** The Down Syndrome Family Connection and Learning Tree Preschool is sponsoring an opportunity to learn about products and services available to persons with

disabilities on Saturday, March 6, 2010 at the Sherwood Oaks Christian Church in Bloomington. For more information, call (812) 720-9603 or e-mail [info@downsyndromefamilyconnection.org](mailto:info@downsyndromefamilyconnection.org).

**TRANSITION AND COMMUNITY RESOURCE FAIR:** All students, K-12 with a disability along with their families, are invited to explore the resources and services available to students during school and for life after high school at the Monroe/Owen Counties Transition and Community Resource Fair scheduled for Tuesday, April 20, 2010 at Ivy Tech Community College. Visit over 30 booths and enjoy light refreshments and door prizes. For more information contact Kathy Bruner at (812) 330-7700.

### **COMINGS AND GOINGS**

**PRATT PRESENTS AT ICASE:** Cathy Pratt, Center Director of the Institute's Indiana Resource Center for Autism, presented at the Spring Indiana Council of Administrators of Special Education (ICASE) Spring Conferences on Thursday, February 18, 2010.

Pratt's presentation titled Evidence-Based Practices in Preservice Training and in Professional Development focused on the newly released NCATE Teacher Competencies related to Autism Spectrum Disorders. Additionally, evidence-based practices as articulated through the National Standards Project and the National Professional Development Center in Autism were also addressed.

### **LIBRARY CORNER**

**NEW ITEMS:** The following new materials may be borrowed by Indiana residents from the Center for Disability Information and Referral at the Institute. To check out materials, contact the library at 1-800-437-7924, send e-mail to [cedir@indiana.edu](mailto:cedir@indiana.edu), or visit us at 2853 East Tenth Street in Bloomington.

Clark, H. B. & Unruh, D. K. (2009). Transition of youth & young adults with emotional or behavioral difficulties: An evidence-supported handbook. Baltimore: Paul H. Brookes Pub. Co.

Dunlap, G. (2010). Prevent, teach, reinforce: The school-based model of individualized positive behavior support. Baltimore: Paul H. Brookes Pub Co.

Paradiz, V. (2009). The integrated self-advocacy curriculum: A program from emerging self-advocates with autism spectrum and other conditions. Shawnee Mission, KS: Autism Asperger Co.

- See more at: <http://www.iidc.indiana.edu/index.php?pageId=40&newsId=221&newsType=2#sthash.16C9ICAr.dpuf>