

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES
REHABILITATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20202

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

RSA-IM-01-25

DATE: February 28, 2001

ADDRESSEES: STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES (GENERAL)
STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES (BLIND)
STATE REHABILITATION COUNCILS
CLIENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
PROTECTION & ADVOCACY OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS PROGRAMS
REGIONAL REHABILITATION CONTINUING EDUCATION
PROGRAMS
AMERICAN INDIAN VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION PROGRAMS
RSA SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

SUBJECT: Call for Topics, 28th Institute on Rehabilitation Issues (IRI), 2001-2002

CONTENT: This Information Memorandum (IM) is to request your assistance in identifying topics for the 28th Institute on Rehabilitation Issues (IRI). For over fifty years the primary goal for the IRI has been to develop training materials to improve the skills of VR professionals.

During the National IRI Forum to be held from May 7-8, 2001, at the Washington Marriott Hotel in Washington, DC, the IRI Planning Committee will discuss the topics that are determined to be most relevant for study. Final selection of the three topics to be studied during the next IRI cycle are made by the RSA Commissioner, in consultation with the president of the Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation (CSAVR).

The basic purpose of the IRI is to:

1. Identify and discuss current issues of importance to the State-Federal VR program.
2. Develop materials that can be used by persons responsible for staff development in the State VR agencies, RRCEPs, rehabilitation

counselor training programs and by others concerned about staff development in rehabilitation.

3. Publish and disseminate the materials widely to persons who provide rehabilitation services to individuals with disabilities.

The selection criteria used by the IRI Planning Committee are:

1. The topic is currently one of concern to a large number of State VR agencies.
2. It is a topic that can be completed within a year.
3. There are recognized experts or a body of literature that will be available to the prime study group.

For many years, the IRI topics have been of great importance as a technical assistance resource to the rehabilitation community. The publications resulting from the IRI are widely distributed to the State VR agencies, RRCEPs, university rehabilitation counselor degree programs and consumer groups identified during the course of the study group meetings.

Clearly, wide dissemination and utilization of the products resulting from the IRI are the goals of all concerned. Approximately three thousand copies of each publication are printed, depending upon the level of interest expressed. It is our goal to improve and enhance the use of the IRI publications by VR practitioners in all rehabilitation settings, and to ensure that the documents are meeting the current training needs.

Attached is a list of IRI topics developed in recent years. Also attached is the form, which you may use when submitting topics. **Please submit suggested topics no later than March 30, 2001, to Charles Sadler.** He will coordinate the call for topics within RSA. The CSAVR has asked that all topics suggested by State VR agency staff be sent to them, so that they may prioritize their selections before submitting them to RSA.

When submitting topics, please be sure that you have included sufficient information on the form so that appropriate decisions on the selection of topics can be made. After selecting the topics for study, the Commissioner will assign one to each of the three university coordinators and also select RSA Regional Office staff to participate as members of the prime study groups. Membership on an IRI prime study group is both a privilege and an honor and I appreciate your continued interest and support of the IRI process.

Mark E. Shoob
Deputy Commissioner

Attachments: Previous IRI Topics
Topic Suggestion Form

***PREVIOUS INSTITUTE ON REHABILITATION SERVICES (IRS) and
INSTITUTE ON REHABILITATION ISSUES (IRI) TOPICS***

IRS PUBLICATIONS

First IRS (1963)

1. Case Recording
2. Medical Consultation
3. Motivation

Second IRS (1964)

1. Medical Consultation
2. Motivation

Third IRS (1965)

1. Caseload Management
2. Evaluation of Vocational Potential
3. Training Aids and Materials

Fourth IRS (1966)

1. Training Methods
2. Evaluation Units

Fifth IRS (1967)

1. Public Information
2. Public Offender

Sixth IRS (1968)

1. Alcoholic
2. Support Personnel
3. Cooperative Programs in VR

Seventh IRS (1969)

1. Behavioral Disorders
2. Closure of Cases
3. SSDI Beneficiaries

Eighth IRS (1970)

1. Disabled Disadvantages (Rural)
2. First-line Supervision
3. Staff Development

Ninth IRS (1971)

1. Drug Abuse
2. Placement and Follow-up
3. Expediting Services

Tenth IRS (1972)

1. Public Assistance Client
2. Program Evaluation
3. Vocational Evaluation and Work Adjustment

Eleventh IRS (1973)

1. Severely Disabled
2. Deaf
3. Blind

IRI PUBLICATIONS

First IRI (1974)

1. Severely Handicapped
2. Measurement of Outcomes
3. Assessment of Rehabilitation Counselor Performance

Second IRI (1975)

1. Placement of the Severely Handicapped
2. Consumer Involvement
3. Severe Delivery Systems

Third IRI (1976)

1. Post Employment Services
2. Affirmative Action
3. Legal Concerns of the Rehabilitation Counselor

Fourth IRI (1977)

1. Homebound Employment - AR
2. Rehabilitation Facilities - Stout
3. Utilization of Material of the IRI - WV

Fifth IRI (1978)

1. Independent Living - AK
2. Similar Benefits - Stout
3. Rehabilitation of Persons with Emotional Disorders - WV

Sixth IRI (1979)

1. Adjustment Services in Voc. Rehabilitation - AR
2. Rehabilitation Engineering: A Counselor's Guide - Stout
3. Techniques for Working in the Community - WV

Seventh IRI (1980)

1. Independent Living - Part B - AR
2. Interpreter Services - Stout
3. Rehabilitation Counseling - WV

Eighth IRI (1981)

1. Uses of Technology in the Delivery of Rehabilitation - WV
2. Utilization of Peer Helpers as a Rehabilitation Resource - AR
3. Delivery of Rehabilitation Services to Inner City Nonwhite - Stout

Ninth IRI (1982)

1. Rehabilitation of the Learning Disabled Client - WV
2. Marketing: An Approach to Placement - Stout
3. Marketing - A Strategy to Promote the Rehabilitation of Handicapped Individuals - AR

Tenth IRI (1983)

1. Projects with Industry and Rehabilitation - WV
2. Private/Public Rehabilitation

Eleventh IRI (1984)

1. Rehabilitation of the Deaf-Blind Individual - AR
2. Continuum of Services: School to Work - Stout
3. Looking into Placement Systems - WV

Twelfth IRI (1985)

1. Supported Employment - AR
2. Rehabilitation of Head Injured Clients - Stout
3. Rehabilitation and the Future - WV

Thirteenth IRI (1986)

1. Multidisciplinary Approach - AR
2. Rehabilitation Technology - Stout
3. Substantial Services - WV

Fourteenth IRI (1987)

1. VR Counselor & Rehabilitation Today - WV
2. Use of Vocational Evaluation in VR - Stout
3. Future Work Place: Implications for Rehabilitation - AR

Fifteenth IRI (1988)

1. Client Involvement in VR - Stout
2. Rehabilitation of Persons with Severe Psychiatric Disabilities & Technology for Individuals with Chronic Mental Illness - AR
3. Fundamentals of Eligibility for VR Services - AR A Better Understanding - Stout

Sixteenth IRI (1989)

1. VR Services to Persons with HIV Infection - Stout
2. The provision of TA for Rehabilitation - Stout
3. Disability Management at the Work-Place: State - Federal VR - AR

Seventeenth IRI (1990)

1. Aging in America - Stout
2. Assistive Technology - AR
3. VR Services in IL Centers - AR

Eighteenth IRI (1991)

1. Substance Abuse as a Secondary Disability - Stout
2. New & Innovative Employment Services Strategies in VR - AR
3. Human Resources Development (HRD) in Rehabilitation - Stout

Nineteenth IRI (1992)

1. Consumer Involvement in Rehabilitation Research and Practice - AR
2. Serving the Underserved - Principles, Practices and Techniques - Stout
3. Multi-Cultural Diversity in Rehabilitation - AR

Twentieth IRI (1993)

1. Employment Outcomes for Persons with Acquired Brain Injury - Stout
2. Counseling & Guidance in the Rehabilitation Partnership - Stout
3. Placement 2000 - AR

Twenty-First IRI (1994)

1. Native American Rehabilitation Programs - Unmet Needs - AR
2. Operationalizing Consumer Decision-Making and Choices in the VR Process - Stout
3. Strategies for Enhancing Job Retention and Career Advancement - AR

Twenty-Second IRI (1995)

1. Shaping State Rehabilitation Programs through Consumer Partnerships: Issues and Strategies - Stout
2. *Use of Technology to Aid Clients in Employment - AR
3. **Vocational Rehabilitation and the One-Stop Career Center - Stout

Twenty-Third IRI (1996)

1. Strategies for Eliminating Barriers to effective Service Delivery - AR
2. Developing Effective Partnerships with Employers as an Effective Service Delivery Mechanism - Stout
3. ***Improving the Achievement of Employment Outcomes - GW

Twenty-Fourth (1997)

1. Field Service Managers and Supervisors: Strategic Leaders in Achieving Employment Outcomes - GW
2. Achieving Successful Employment Outcomes with the Use of Technology - Stout
3. Developing Self-Employment and Small Business Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities - AR

Twenty-Fifth IRI (1998)

1. Improving Employment Outcomes Through VR Counselors Who Meet the Comprehensive System of Personnel Development (CSPD) Requirements - AR
2. Improving Rehabilitation Services and Employment Outcomes for Individuals Who are Deaf and Low Functioning (LFD) - GW
3. Meeting Future Workforce Needs - Stout

Twenty-Sixth IRI (1999)

The first document listed below has been disseminated. The second and third documents are currently undergoing final edits.

1. Using the Internet as a Resource to the Work of the VR Counselor-GW
2. The Family as a Critical Partner in the Achievement of a Successful Employment Outcome - AR
3. Effective Strategies to Improve the Achievement of Employment for Individuals Who Are SSI/SSDI Participants - Stout

Twenty Seventh IRI (2000)

The following topics are currently under study and will be presented at the National IRI Forum on May 7-8, 2001:

1. Succession Planning in a Customer-Focused VR Environment - Stout
2. Effective Strategies for Improving Employment Outcomes for Persons with Kidney Failure - AR
3. Providing VR Services in a Workforce Environment - GWU

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KEY

AR: *University of Arkansas*
GWU: *George Washington University*
Stout: *University of Wisconsin- Stout*
WV: *West Virginia University*

- * **Not published and re-studied during the 24th IRI**
- ** **Not published and a similar topic re-studied during the 27th IRI**
- *** **Not published**

IRI University Coordinators :

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Most IRS/IRI publications may be obtained from the **National Clearinghouse of Rehabilitation Training Materials** (NCRTM). Contact the director, **Mr. David Brooks**, at:

NCRTM
Oklahoma State University
5202 Richmond Hill Drive
Stillwater, Oklahoma 74078-4080
Voice: 800.223.5219 or 405.624.7650
FAX: 405.624.0695
E-mail: brookdj@okstate.edu

Although no longer coordinating IRI study groups, **West Virginia University** (WVU) has maintained copies of the documents developed by its Research and Training Center. Contact **Dr. Richard Walls** for further information regarding these documents at:

West Virginia University
Research and Training Center
P.O. Box 6122
Morgantown, West Virginia 26506-6122
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REHABILITATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

**Topic Suggestion Form for the Twenty-Eighth
Institute on Rehabilitation Issues (IRI) 2001-2002**

**Please fill out this form carefully.
To receive full consideration, each item must be completed.**

1. Title of suggested topic:

3. Issues to be addressed in publication:

A.

B.

C.

D.

E.

3. Intended audience:

4. Potential effects on improving services to individuals with disabilities:

5. Names and addresses of persons with knowledge of this topic:

Name	Address
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6. Other resources (projects, programs, references, etc.):

7. Topic submitted by:

Please return no later than March 30, 2001 to:

Charles Sadler
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Rehabilitation Services Administration
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Washington, DC 20202-2735

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