

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

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM
RSA-IM-03-01
DATE: October 4, 2002

ADDRESSEES: STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES (GENERAL)
STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES (BLIND)
STATE REHABILITATION COUNCILS
CLIENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
PROTECTION & ADVOCACY OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS
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PROGRAMS
AMERICAN INDIAN VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICE
PROGRAMS
CONSUMER ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS
RSA SENIOR MANAGEMENT

SUBJECT: Selection of Chairpersons and Members for the Twenty-Ninth Institute on
Rehabilitation Issues (IRI) Primary Study Groups

CONTENT: The purpose of this Information Memorandum (IM) is to inform you of the
selections of chairpersons and members for the Twenty-Ninth IRI primary
study groups. We greatly appreciate your continued interest in the IRI.
Please join us in congratulating those persons selected to participate on the
two primary study groups.

The IRI is sponsored by the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA),
and represents a collaborative effort amongst RSA, the state vocational
rehabilitation (VR) agencies, consumer groups, the Regional
Rehabilitation Continuing Education Programs (RRCEP), and other
stakeholders in the VR program, in developing a linkage between
knowledge development and practitioner utilization. It is through the
combined efforts of representatives from these groups that we hope to
strengthen these linkages and improve the dissemination and utilization of
the IRI publications. The IRI publications are useful in developing an
improved understanding of the complex challenges posed by contemporary
vocational rehabilitation.

Attached is a listing for each study group that contains the university coordinator, the chairperson, the study group members, and the city where the first two meetings will be conducted. The university coordinators will now begin to make arrangements for the first meetings of the study groups.

The persons selected to participate represent a diverse group of individuals from throughout the rehabilitation field, who possess the knowledge and expertise necessary to develop quality IRI publications. IRI publications are used in training VR professionals, and also as technical assistance resources for VR counselors, consumers, administrators, human resource development specialists, community-based rehabilitation service providers, researchers, educators, and policy analysts.

Again, we appreciate your support of the IRI and your interest in this year's topics. We encourage you to attend the National IRI Forum that will be held in Washington, DC, on May 5–6, 2003. This will be the third meeting for the two study groups, at which time they will present their draft documents to the participants at the Forum. Prior to the Forum, The George Washington University RRCEP III will be posting registration information on the Internet at www.gwu.edu/~rrcep/.

If you have any questions regarding this IM, please contact Mr. Charles Sadler at (202) 205-9286, or via email at charles.sadler@ed.gov.

Joanne Wilson
Commissioner

Attachment

cc: COUNCIL OF STATE ADMINISTRATORS OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY SYSTEMS
NATIONAL COUNCIL ON INDEPENDENT LIVING
NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF REHABILITATION PARTNERS
NATIONAL REHABILITATION FACILITIES COALITION

Twenty-Ninth Institute on Rehabilitation Issues

I. Promoting Consumer Empowerment through Professional Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling

University Coordinator – Jeanne Miller
Director, RRCEP VI
The University of Arkansas

Chairperson – Carlos Serván
Deputy Director, Nebraska
Commission for the Blind and Visually
Impaired
Lincoln, NE

The study group will meet in Chicago, IL

Study Group Members

1. William Campagna California Department of Rehabilitation, Sacramento, CA
2. Katherine Carol Tango Consulting, Denver, CO
3. Kristen Cox Rehabilitation Services Administration, Washington, DC
4. MaryLee Daniels Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission, Pittsfield, MA
5. Susan Gabel National Louis University, Evanston, IL
6. Rosemary Gallagher Washington Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Olympia, WA
7. Ron Gardner Louisiana Tech University, Baton Rouge, LA
8. Lea Grupen Hawaii Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind,
Honolulu, HI
9. Andrew Imparato American Association of People with Disabilities,
Washington, DC
10. Victoria Kollmann Iowa Department for the Blind, Cedar Falls, IA
11. Allen Kropp Rehabilitation Services Administration, Boston, MA
12. Therese Manderino Rehabilitation Services Administration, Chicago, IL
13. Michael McCue University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
14. Orville Townsend Iowa Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Iowa City, IA

II. Teaching Orientation and Mobility Professionals: Non-Traditional Approaches to Meet Critical Staffing Shortages

University Coordinator – Donald Dew
Director, RRCEP III
The George Washington University

Chairperson – Christine Boone
Director, Bureau of Blindness and Visual
Services,
Pennsylvania Office of Vocational
Rehabilitation, Harrisburg, PA

The study group will meet in Philadelphia, PA

Study Group Members

1. Jeffrey Altman Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired,
Lincoln, NE
2. Edward Bell Student, University of Arkansas, Little Rock, AR
3. Susan Benbow Rehabilitation Services Administration, Washington, DC
4. Christine Brown University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
5. Robert Burton Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired, Richmond,
VA
6. Joseph Cordova Rehabilitation Services Administration, Washington, DC
7. Joseph Cutter New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired,
Newark, NJ
8. Ronald Ferguson Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, LA
9. Kathleen Huebner Pennsylvania College of Optometry, Elkins Park, PA
10. Edna Johnson Rehabilitation Services Administration, Washington, DC
11. Tyra Rice-Hawkins Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services, Anniston, AL
12. Larry Sidwell Iowa Department for the Blind, Des Moines, IA
13. William Wiener Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI