

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

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM
RSA-IM-03-15
DATE: September 22, 2003

ADDRESSES: STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES (GENERAL)
STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES (BLIND)
STATE REHABILITATION COUNCILS
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RSA SENIOR MANAGEMENT

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

CONTENT: The purpose of this Information Memorandum (IM) is to inform
you of the selections of the chairpersons and members for the
Thirtieth IRI primary study groups. Please join us in
congratulating those persons selected to participate on the two
primary study groups.

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

The Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) sponsors the
IRI, which is a collaborative activity involving representatives
from 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 arrange the first meetings of the study groups.

We appreciate the support that you have shown for the IRI during its fifty-six year history, and your interest in sending in topic suggestions and nominations for study group membership. We encourage you to attend the National IRI Forum that will be held at the Key Bridge Marriott Hotel in Arlington, VA, on May 3 - 4, 2004, at which time the two study groups will present their draft documents to the participants at the Forum who will then have the opportunity to discuss the drafts and to offer constructive criticism. Prior to the Forum, The George Washington University RRCEP III will be posting registration information on its web site at:

<http://www.gwu.edu/~rrcep/>

If you have any questions regarding this IM, please contact Mr. Charles Sadler at (202) 205-9286 [voice], (800) 877-8339 [Federal Information Relay Service], or via e-mail 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

Thirtieth Institute on Rehabilitation Issues

Topic I - Innovative Methods for Providing VR Services to Individuals with Psychiatric Disabilities

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

Chairperson — Robert F. Kilbury
Director
Illinois Office of Rehabilitation Services

The study group will meet in Boston, MA.

Study Group Members

1. William A. Cochran University of Arkansas, Hot Springs, AR
2. Claire Courtney Minnesota Rehabilitation Services, St. Paul, MN
3. Laura DiGalbo Connecticut Bureau of Rehabilitation Services, Hartford, CT
4. Marianne Farkas Boston University, West Boston, MA
5. John G. Harper Missouri Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Jefferson City, MO
6. Joe Marrone University of Massachusetts, Boston, MA
7. Thomas McCarthy RRCEP I Assumption College, Worcester, MA
8. Kathryn McNulty National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, Pascoag, RI
9. Carolanne O'Brien Delaware Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, New Castle, DE
10. Lisa Razzano University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL
11. Darlene Rutkowski California State Department of Rehabilitation, San Francisco, CA
12. E. Sally Rogers Boston University, Boston, MA
13. Stephaine P. Taylor Oregon Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Portland, OR
14. Jacquelyn E. Tellier Rehabilitation Services Administration U. S. Department of
Education, Boston, MA
15. Kenneth R. Wireman On Our Own of Maryland, Inc., Baltimore, MD

Topic II - A New Paradigm for Vocational Evaluation: Empowering the VR Consumer through Vocational Information

University Coordinator — Jeanne Miller
Director, RRCEP VI
University of Arkansas

Chairperson — Michael O'Brien
Director
Washington State Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

The study group will meet in Baltimore, MD.

Study Group Members

1. Michael Ahlers Kansas Rehabilitation Services, Salinas, KS
2. Jeffrey Annis University of Wisconsin-Stout, Menomonie, WI
3. Joseph Ashley Virginia Department of Rehabilitation Services,
Richmond, VA
4. Gary Cuseck Kentucky Department for the Blind, Louisville, KY
5. Barbara Derwart Employment and Training Administration
U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, DC
6. Juliet Fried University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO
7. Curtis Glisson Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services,
Montgomery, AL
8. Leicester Johnson Community Preservation and Development Corporation,
Washington, DC
9. Anthony Langton Tech Connections, Columbia, SC
10. Pam Leconte George Washington University, Washington, DC
11. Paul Power University of Maryland, College Park, MD
12. Steve Sligar Center for Sight and Hearing, Rockford, IL
13. Edward Smith Rehabilitation Services Administration
U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC
14. Stephen Thomas East Carolina University, Greenville, NC
15. Jon Iannucci-Waller Michigan Rehabilitation Services, Detroit, MI