Improving Post School Outcomes: Identifying and Promoting What Works for Youth with Disabilities – 84.324W

The What Works Transition Research Synthesis Project is based in the School of Education at Colorado State University and funded by the federal Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). The project’s mission is to review and synthesize the most recent two decades of research and advancements in the area of transition for youth with disabilities, in a concentrated effort to identify and promote effective practices.

Project staff members include professors and research associates from the School of Education and Occupational Therapy, working with a national advisory panel who are also experts in the field. Together, from the School of Education and Occupational Therapy, working with practices.

disabilities, in a concentrated effort to identify and promote effective research and advancements in the area of transition for youth with disabilities; these will inform our writing. Our research syntheses will be collected and screened 6,500 articles and project reports. We are in the date sub-study teams have reviewed some 45,000 abstracts, and have research efforts, staff at OSEP recognized the need for meta-analyses of the mass of research has accumulated. Rather than fund further small scale research efforts, staff at OSEP recognized the need for meta-analyses of existing research, and the What Works Project was established.

In collaboration with the principal investigator Dr. Brian Cobb, to date sub-study teams have reviewed some 45,000 abstracts, and have collected and screened 6,500 articles and project reports. We are in the process of coding in detail some 2000 articles meeting our inclusionary criteria; these will inform our writing. Our research syntheses will be organized by topics, under 3 larger themes – what works in postschool transition (leads to successful employment, secondary education, and independent living); what works in transition for youth with disabilities and those who care about them, including parents, teachers, related and adult service providers, potential employers, and policy makers; and what works in secondary resiliency (helping youth with identified disabilities stay in school until graduation).

Since the early 1980s, there has been a number of local, state, and federal initiatives to improve post school outcomes for youth with disabilities; numerous programs have been developed and a critical mass of research has accumulated. Rather than fund further small scale research efforts, staff at OSEP recognized the need for meta-analyses of existing research, and the What Works Project was established.

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We anticipate that the website will be ready sometime this summer (2004). Our site will include links to our research partners, the National Center for Secondary Education and Transition (NCSET), the Campbell Collaboration, and the Evidence for Policy and Practice Information Coordination Centre (EPPI-Centre), in the Social Sciences Unit at the University of London, as well as links to topic by topic to other areas of interest in special education and related fields. For more information, contact Morgen Awil at awil@sacs.colostate.edu.

PROJECT YEARS:
OCTOBER 1, 2001 – OCTOBER 1, 2004

Dr. Nancy Hartley, along with Poudre School District Superintendent Don Ungre, founded a unique research center in 1995 called the Research and Development Center for the Advancement of Student Learning, a clearinghouse to test, evaluate, and research new ideas for school practice. The Center provides a formal link between the school district and higher education by researching and evaluating innovative programs and best practices to advance educational theory and practice. There are various aspects of the Center which make it unique in the country: it has two equal co-directors – one from the Poudre School District and one from Colorado State University; it has line item funding that is not contingent on grants; it has a local and regional focus – researching issues particular to Colorado; and it isn’t focused on just one aspect of K-16 research – but rather any issue that is relevant to understanding how to improve student achievement. Because of Dr. Hartley’s vision, research conducted by the R&D Center has led to many changes in the way teachers are trained, as well as the evaluation of best practices to promote student learning.

Nancy is known for her work in the area of workforce preparation and transition for special needs students, an area where she has taught courses, conducted research, and provided major professional service. Her particular community service interest has been in the area of promoting the advancement of women in higher education administration. Along with numerous other volunteer community and professional service positions, she is currently on the board of the Colorado Women’s Foundation and the Poudre Valley Health System. Dr. Hartley will leave an impressive legacy from her tenure as dean of the College, Colorado State University, the College of Applied Human Sciences, and the School of Education are grateful to Nancy for her dedication and wish her well in her retirement!
New Frontiers: The Challenges Ahead
Nancy Hartley, Ph.D.  Director, College of Applied Human Sciences
Rick Ginsberg, Ph.D.  Director, School of Education

New challenges confront us all constantly. In higher education, these challenges are often met with the same enthusiasm and confidence that fills our research with teaching and learning. Changing mandates from the political world, financial uncertainties, advances in technology, diversifying student populations and an array of other sources. One of us, Dean Hartley, will be facing her own new frontiers later this year when she retires after serving ten years as the Dean of the College and four years as the Director of the School of Education. An article in this newsletter examines her legacy in detail, but it is clear that many positive changes have unfolded over these many years and the influence she has had on the education sector in Colorado is impressive.

For the College of Applied Human Sciences and the School of Education, new frontiers mean there will be a new Dean whose perspectives are unknown at this point. But no matter who the individual leading the College may be, the prospects for the future are very promising. In the area of teacher preparation, the CSU program remains a leader in the state and the nation. The Professional Development School model has now been extended to include experiences on site for students in early childhood education, junior high school, and high school programs. This collaborative spirit is also reflected on campus, as all the disciplines engaged in preparation programs and the content area teachers work closely with the School to assure that best practices guide our teacher preparation programs. A recently completed Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) grant followed for the School of Education and is focused on student teachers working with local teachers to align CSU content offerings with the Colorado Model Content standards for K-12. Another recently funded CCHE grant will focus on enhancing the mathematics preparedness of teachers and teaching methods to foster student teacher retention and student achievement. Other initiatives highlight why the teacher preparation programs in the School are among the best in the nation. These grants coupled with a strong history of the technology lab and funding have allowed us to integrate technology into all of our preparation programs.

“Our new frontiers beckon us, whether they be retirement or the challenges of tomorrow, one way or another our students, faculty and staff are committed to the future.”

R&D Center – Projects and People

The Research and Development Center for the Advancement of Student Education is a collaborative effort among the School of Public Affairs (SPA) and Colorado State University’s (CSU) College of Applied Human Sciences. The R&D Center is directed by Brian Cobb (CSU) and Elinn Dickman (PSD). During this academic year (2003-2004), while Brian Cobb is on sabbatical, Tom Cavagnah was named Assistant Director. Ann Foster, former Co-Director, is now the Executive Director of the National Network for Educational Renewal in Seattle.

Graduate Students at R&D

The R&D Center provides a number of CSU students with Graduate Research Assistantships (GRA). The following students are working on R&D projects: Joan Clay, James Dogan, Dorothy Garrison-Wade, Deirdre Magies, Bill Miles, Diogo Vega, Vida Wilkinson, and Jenni Wolgemuth. Undergraduate student Carrie Thompson also worked at the R&D Center in the fall. The students are involved in a number of projects focused on program evaluation, research, and literature review.

Projects

The students working as Graduate Research Assistants participate in a number of projects related to the Poudre School District, including the Irish School Study and the Foundation Survey. In addition, three major projects involve GRAs. The Colorado Institute of Technology (ICT) contracts with R&D to provide program evaluation, and they have funded R&D in developing three grants: the New School Leadership Project and Project Teach. The R&D Center is also participating in a multi-state program called Just for Kids (see www.just4kids.org). See the R&D Center website for more information at www.colsate.edu/dept/rd/crcenter.

Retirements

Lois Gould

Lois Gould joined the School of Education faculty in the fall of 1995. Dr. Gould came to CSU from the University of Arizona. She brought her wealth of professional experience having taught biology, physical education, and general sciences as well as serving as assistant principal and principal of elementary schools.

Serving as Facilitator of Field-Based Experiences in Teacher Education, Dr. Gould coordinated the practice, student teaching, and induction functions for the teacher licensure program at CSU. She taught and coordinated the Professional Development School (PDS) of Fort Collins High School and TEAM (Teacher Education and Master’s) program, and helped establish PDS in several local junior high schools. Dr. Gould retired on May 13, 2003. She looked forward to exploring new ways to share her wealth of extra time between Lake Sunapee, New Hampshire, and Tucson, Arizona.

Robert Richburg

Robert Richburg has been honing his passion for teaching at CSU from 1970-1985 and 1998-2003, with a short two-year break to serve as Director of Staff Development for the Hidding, Minnesota school district. It is clear to all that Bob had a very successful career. He has positively influenced hundreds of teachers. One of his most popular innovations in the classroom includes the development of a nationally recognized program called Project Promising. A 10 month program that teaches mid-career professionals how to be effective teachers.

Among his most recent teaching awards are: CCHE Program of Excellence Award for 1993-98; 2000 Best Teacher Award; 2000 University Distinguished Teaching Scholar; 2001 College of Applied Human Sciences Outstanding Teaching Award; 2002 CSU Alumni Association Distinguished Faculty Award, and 2002 ISBA Excellence in Teaching Award.

Bob has enjoyed teaching responsibility and has had the opportunity to help students become successful and high school social studies teachers. He has contributed also to the master’s and doctoral programs in the School of Education. Recently, his research has included neuroscience applied to teaching and learning, which he has generously shared with faculty and students. Upon his retirement, Bob has opportunities to teach out of state and plans to spend more time with his wife and family.

Duane Jansen

Duane Jansen has had a lengthy and prosperous career spanning more than 30 years at CSU. Duane started as a student in the newly approved Ph.D. program in the Department of Educational and was among its first graduates. He was hired as an Instructor Teacher Trainer in 1974 and continued in his service to the University having served at Department Head of Educational (1984-1986) and Director of the School of Occupational and Educational Studies (1986-1991). Duane also has been the College of Applied Human Sciences Distance Learning Coordinator and the Coordinator of Continuing Education for the School of Education.

Throughout his career, Duane has thrived on his passions to assist students with their academic achievements. He has played an important role in helping students with their academic achievements. He has been a champion for vocational education at all levels. He will be remembered for his quiet yet persuasive approach to promote significant changes to this field. This summer, Duane was honored as an inductee into the Colorado Association of Career and Technical Education Hall of Fame. Upon his retirement Spring 2004, Duane will split his time between Colorado and Arizona and spend more time with his wife and many family members.

Sherry Neb

Sherry Neb started at CSU in 1980. After working at Parking Management and the Department of Occupational Therapy, she transferred to the Department of Education in 1985. Since 1985, Sherry has assumed several roles in the School of Education, including word processing, School secretary, and managing the Graduate Programs Office. Sherry has served on the Classified Personnel Council since 2001 and will complete her term in 2004. During this time, she also served as Chair of the Council for one year. Sherry was honored this fall by receiving one of the 2003 CSU Classified Personnel Outstanding Achievement Awards.

Upon retirement in May 2004, Sherry is looking forward to scrapbooking, reading more, and spending time with her grandchildren.

In Memory of Irving C. Cross

Irving Charles Cross passed away on December 15, 2003, at the age of 79. Dr. Cross started teaching agricultural education in 1955. He served as head of Agriculture Education and head of the Department of Vocational Education. Among his numerous awards were the Oliver P. Penock Distinctive Service award from CSU, Outstanding Service Award from the National FFA Association, being inducted into the Colorado Vocational Association Hall of Fame, and being the first educator to be inducted into the Colorado Agriculture Hall of Fame.

Retiring in 1985, Dr. Cross remained active in the community and with past and present students and faculty              His profound caring for students, great storytelling, and contagious laughter will be deeply missed. Contributions may be made in memory of Dr. Cross to the Ralph and Hazel Canada Memorial Scholarship through University Advancement, 601 South Howes Street, 521 University Services Center, Fort Collins, CO 80523-7115.

Awards

Dick Fulle, Ph.D., Professor, Counseling and Career Development, received the University Distinguished Teaching Scholar award this Fall 2003.

Sherry Neb, administrative assistant and manager of the SOE Graduate Program’s Office, was honored by receiving one of the 2003 CSU Classified Personnel Outstanding Achievement Awards.

Chavez,黎明, Assistant Professor, received the Colorado College of Applied Human Sciences 2004 Tenure Track Faculty Teaching Excellence Award.

David Whaley, Ph.D., Professor, received the College of Applied Human Sciences 2004 Superior Service Award.
COMMUNITY ORGANIZING TO REACH EMPOWERMENT (CORE CENTER)

Through an educational partnership between CSU and Poudre School District that was established in 1989, students from the Poudre Valley Mobile Home Park have an opportunity to receive academic support and participate in literacy-based activities to increase their success in school. Located in a neighborhood where less than half of the adults (45%) have graduated from high school or earned a GED diploma, the CORE Center, formerly Even Start, offers several educational programs – After School Club for children in first through sixth grade, Teen Talor for junior high students, and Students Achieving Lifetime Success with Attitude (SALSA) for students attending high school.

Students from the School of Social Work, School of Education, and Human Development and Family Studies support program participants in developing their literacy skills in language, math, and computer technology. “It's such a pleasure to see the enthusiasm of the students in my group as they work on their assignments, and I really appreciate the opportunity to promote student success by partnering directly with the teachers,” comments Marcia Fither, MSW intern.

PROGRAM ENERGY TAKES ON CHILDHOOD OBESITY

A groundbreaking program in the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition at Colorado State University is tackling the problem of childhood obesity head-on. An integrated science education enrichment program (Program ENERGY) has been established at Putnam Elementary School to reduce the rate of obesity and type 2 diabetes. This unique partnership pairs University educators and students with low income second, third, and fourth graders. Each week the enrichment program provides interactive, hands-on, fun, and challenging science activities in the areas of nutrition and exercise. “We are trying to help them learn what choice is the healthy choice,” says Professor Art Campbell, “so when they have a choice about what to eat, vegetables or French Fries, or how much to eat, super size or just the right amount, they are going to make the right choice.”

Program Energy is funded by the National Center for Research Resources and the National Institutes of Health and involves numerous partners around the State of Colorado.

THE GLOBE PROGRAM – NOW AT CSMATE!

The Center for Science, Mathematics, and Technology Education (CSmate), the Cooperative Institute for Research in the Atmosphere (CIRA), and the Department of Atmospheric Sciences at CSU, in partnership with the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR) in Boulder, recently entered into an agreement with NASA for $26 million over 5 years to assume primary responsibility for the GLOBE Program, a worldwide hands-on, environmental education program. Students are inspired to become scientists by collecting data in areas such as climate change using research grade instruments – the data collected are reliable enough for students and scientists to use to solve real environmental problems. GLOBE is a partnership between the State Department and 103 other countries. By annually hosting a series of professional development workshops attended by U.S. and international GLOBE partners, CSmate will be able to offer CSU faculty and students interested in science, mathematics, or technology education the opportunity to contribute. Poudre School District is partnering directly with the teachers,” comments Marcia Fither, MSW intern.

REACH OUT AND READ PROGRAM ENCOURAGES CHILDHOOD LITERACY

The Reach Out and Read (ROAR) Program is a partnership between the non-profit Fort Collins Salud Family Health Center, which serves low income children, and the CSU School of Education. Started in September 2003, ROAR makes early literacy a part of pediatadic practice by bringing books and reading aloud to young children who are at the clinic for well-child checkups. CSU teacher licensure student serve as waiting room readers where they assist children with the development of literacy skills by reading aloud to them. Showing parents and caregivers by example that reading aloud is fun encourages early literacy skills that provide a foundation for future school success. ROAR is beneficial to both the teacher candidates, who need practicum experiences to practice and learn about early childhood literacy outside of the classroom, and the children and families who come to Salud. At every well child visit, the pediatrician also interacts with the child about the importance of reading and gives each child a new book to take home.

EARLY CHILDHOOD TEACHER LICENSURE PROGRAM (ECE)

The Early Childhood Teacher Licensure Program is now in its third year. The program has graduated twenty-two students and currently has fifty-eight students enrolled. Several successful partnerships have been formed with area schools including Beattie, Cache La Poudre, Linton, O’Dea, Putnam, Riffenburgh, and Tavelli Elementary Schools, and the Poudre School District Early Childhood Programs.

The second cohort of students in is the student teaching phase of their training. Students are teaching in one prekindergarten and one elementary (K-3) setting for eight weeks each. They are finding out first hand how quickly eight weeks can go by and just how much there is to learn in that short time!

The third cohort of students began in the fall of 2003. They are now in the second phase, completing two practicum experiences: one in a prekindergarten classroom and one in an elementary placement (K-3). Teacher candidates in this phase spend a total of seven hours per week on site in early childhood classrooms learning teaching methods and the process of guiding literacy instruction.

Applications for admission to the fourth cohort of CSU early childhood education candidates are due February 13, 2004. We are looking forward to admitting another group of outstanding future educators. For further information about the Early Childhood Teacher Licensure Program, please contact Julie Jameson at 970-491-3499 or e-mail julie.jameson@csb.colostate.edu.

DISTANCE COHORTS

The SOE and its Educational Leadership faculty are pleased to announce that a new DrPh.D. cohort program began in February in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Tim Davies is the instructor for the first course, ED 709: Leadership Development. Shelly Rhea, on-site coordinator, is an administrator at the DeVry-Alpharetta campus in metro-Atlanta and a member of the Pr.D. cohort program. Dr. Joe Lehmann and Kathy Bommotti recently received funding for a research study of Ph.D. distance education students at the DeVry-Alpharetta and Chicago sites. The study, which was funded by the CSU Center for the Study of Learning and Teaching at a Distance, involves in depth and on-site interviews with Pr.D. students from two groups, those who are presently enrolled in the program and those who have exited the program. This study will be conducted over the Spring and Summer 2004 terms.

The following members of the original Atlanta Ph.D. Educational Leadership program have successfully completed their dissertation proposal defense and are now in the data collection, analysis, and writing stage. Allan Young; Hong Jordan, and Carolyn Jones. Three other cohort members, Mosby Beckwith, John Dunbar, and Roy Lee, were recently on campus to present their dissertation proposals to their respective committees. The following members from the Chicago-DeVry Ph.D program in Educational Leadership have also successfully presented their dissertation proposals on our CSU campus: Stan Lor, Ahmad Khan, and Telly Counsil. Congratulations to the Atlanta and Chicago Ph.D candidates!
SOE Highlights

- The School of Education received notification in November 2003 that all of the teacher licensure programs have been reaccredited by CCHE (Colorado Commission of Higher Education). Formal word of reaccreditation was received from NCATE (National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education) in March 2003.

- The School of Education was rated 9th in 2003 in the vocational/technical area by U.S. News and World Report.

- Dr. Duane Jansen, professor, was recognized for his lifetime commitment to Career and Technical Education Teacher Education at the Colorado Association of Career/Technical Education Annual Conference in June of 2003.

- As of Fall 2003, Dr. Ann Foster retired from PSD as co-director of Curriculum in the Content Areas – Research on Teaching & Teacher Education, U. of Colorado at Boulder.

- As of Spring 2002, Human Resource Development (HRD), a specialization of our Master of Education in Education and Human Resource Studies degree, was changed to Organizational Performance and Change (OPC). The name change in the master’s degree program was based on the need to communicate the focus of the program – performance improvement and organizational change.

New SOE Faculty Fall 2003

Roxanne Gonzales-Walker

- Degrees: B.S. Cum Laude, Psychology, U. of Maryland; M.S. Counseling, Superior Academic Achievement Award, Creighton U.; Ed.D. Higher Education Administration, U. of California, Boulder.


- Current Assignment: Assistant Professor – School of Education, PSU, teaching and advising in the Adult Education and Training and Community College Leadership specialties.

David Most


- Current Assignment: Assistant Professor – School of Education, CSU, teaching graduate level research courses.

Kiy Uchiyama

- Degrees: B.S. Elementary Education, Florida State U., Tallahassee, M.Ed. of U. of Tampa, B.A. of U. of Maryland, Edinburg, Germany; Campus Ph.D. Instruction and Curriculum in the Content Areas – Research on Teaching & Teacher Education, U. of Colorado at Boulder.


- Current Assignment: Assistant Professor, School of Education, CSU, teaching in Educator Licensing and coordinating the Professional Development School at Valley View High School.

Michael Deflirina


- Current Assignment: Associate Professor, School of Education, CSU, teaching and advising in Technology Education and Training and graduate programs.

GRANTS AWARDED 2003

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<td>Rick Ginsberg/Ramon Villareal</td>
<td>Charter Schools Leadership Training</td>
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<td>NW Regional Educational Lab</td>
<td>General Education Professional Development Program for Karlstad Area School Districts</td>
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