



The Insider

Life Span Institute at Parsons

March 2011

Patty Black Moore, Editor

KANSAS GOVERNOR VISITS LSI/PARSONS



Kansas Governor Sam Brownback along with Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services Secretary Robert Siedlecki and SRS Deputy Secretary Ray Dalton visited the Life Span Institute at Parsons during their visit to Parsons State Hospital & Training Center on March 24.

LSI scientists David Lindeman, Kathryn Saunders, Dean Williams and Sara Sack talked about their own work and the unique University relationship with PSH&TC. Examples include: Jerry Rea, superintendent of PSH&TC also holds a University appointment and is the principal investigator for a University grant; University projects employ PSH&TC residents in various research studies; some KU staff started with PSH&TC and are now employed by the University and some staff who started with the University are now in leadership positions with PSH&TC.

A lively discussion ensued describing the national reputation of the University

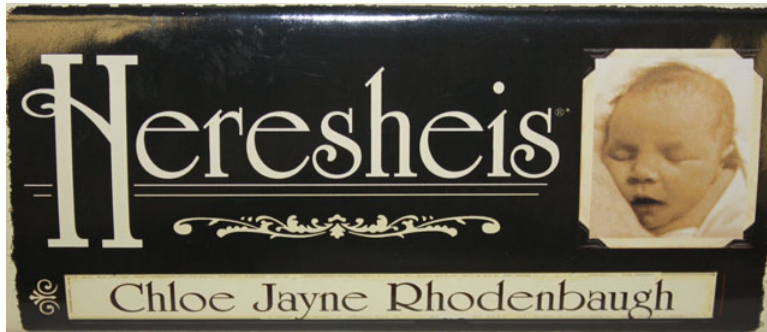
researchers and how their work widely benefits Kansas.

In the picture: front row, Governor Brownback and SRS Secretary Siedlecki listen to Sara Sack, LSI senior scientist, explain the impact of the statewide assistive technology program.

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“Just the STATS”



Laura Hanigan, Business Office, turned in these statistics for her baby daughter, Chloe Jayne:

Birthdate: February 7, 2011
Arrived: 7:48 a.m.
Weight: 7 lbs. 12 oz.
Length: 19 inches
Siblings: Katlin, Ashleigh, Tommy
Dad: Dan

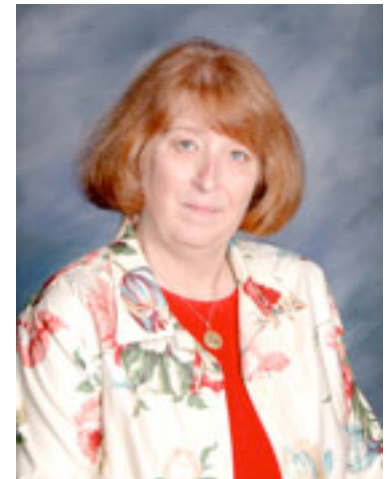
PROJECT HIGHLIGHT



Think College Kansas: Supporting Individuals with Intellectual or Other Developmental Disabilities

Kathleen Olson, Ph.D., is the Co-Project Director along with Wendy Parent-Johnson, Ph.D. and D. Richard Parent-Johnson, Ph.D.

This project is funded by the Administration on Developmental Disabilities through the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) and will collaborate closely with Think College at the Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI) at the University of Massachusetts, Boston.



Project Summary:

Kansas Employment First has effectively enhanced expectations and impacted efforts at systems change aimed at improving employment outcomes for individuals with intellectual or other developmental disabilities (I/DD). However, limited knowledge of exemplary post-secondary programs and a lack of concrete opportunities for collaborative practice, work against the emergence of a cohesive effort to address this systemic issue. Through a new grant, Kathleen

Olson and Wendy Parent-Johnson from Kansas University's Kansas University Center on Developmental Disabilities (KUCDD) and Richard Parent-Johnson from the Center for Research on Learning, in collaboration with other key partnering agencies will implement a "Think College Kansas Initiative" by hosting an initial stakeholder meeting, conducting on-going Workgroup sessions, disseminating information

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to all relevant audiences across the state, facilitating the development of a state strategic action plan, and sponsoring a statewide promotional event. Engagement of self-advocates, including those who have an interest and/or experience with postsecondary education, is a priority for all activities.

The entire process will begin with an initial stakeholder meeting where successful evidence-based practices will be shared, a state vision defined, and participants will brainstorm critical state-specific issues and solutions. Results from this meeting will guide the workgroup agenda for the following nine months of activities. The Workgroup will meet bimonthly to articulate identified barriers, address policy and implementation issues, map community and state resources, define opportunities for interagency collaboration, and explore funding streams that

can be blended to support the development of inclusive post-secondary experiences for students with I/DD.

Conclusions and recommendations from the workgroup will be shared at a culminating Think College Kansas promotional event where an expanded audience of stakeholders will provide input and feedback assuring the validity of the proposed plan and functioning as a kick off of continued events following completion of the proposed project. The result of this final collaborative event will be the development of a sustainable state action plan for implementing post-secondary experiences for students with intellectual and other developmental disabilities that maximizes resources and removes existing barriers to PSE, and increases PSE opportunities leading to paid employment for Kansans with I/DD.



WELCOME: Karen Lawson Joins KITS

Kansas Inservice Training System (KITS) is pleased to announce that Karen Lawson recently joined the KITS team as

Program Assistant. Karen is a Southeast Kansas native, and recently “came home” after living in the Joplin, Missouri area for the past thirty years.

Karen earned her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, with special emphasis on management and marketing, at Missouri Southern State University. Her career path has included professional fund development management for the Girl Scouts and the American Cancer Society; sales, customer service training and marketing management for community banks; small

business ownership and countless volunteer experiences.

Karen’s responsibilities include creating the KITS newsletter, preparing training materials and packets, making meeting and conference arrangements, compiling reports, maintaining the KITS training calendar, and generally giving an editorial or graphic design “final polish” to the materials and data for the KITS team.

When not at work, Karen enjoys kayaking, gardening, cooking, sewing and theatre. Last summer, she portrayed M’Lynn in *Steel Magnolias*. Karen lives north of Bartlett with “her Jack and a bunch of varmints”. She has two grown children: Matt, a professional baseball player, and Megan, a student at North Carolina Central University.

You can contact Karen at Extension 1618, or e-mail her at klawson@ku.edu.

PRESENTATIONS

- Brekken, L. (2011, February). *Families as Partners and Leaders for Early Childhood Inclusion*. Presentation at Kansas Division for Early Childhood Conference: It's All About The Relationship, Wichita, KS.
- Brekken, L. (2011, February). *In Concert: Steps to Collaborative Services*. Presentation at Kansas Division for Early Childhood Conference: It's All About The Relationship, Wichita, KS.
- Brekken, L. (2011, February). *Orchestrating Inclusion: Relationships are the Key*. Presentation at Kansas Division for Early Childhood Conference: It's All About The Relationship, Wichita, KS.
- Davis, C., Nelson, C., & Anderson, S. (2010, December). *TASN Regional IEP Training of Coaches*. KSDE Regional Training, Wichita, KS.
- Davis, C., Summer, J., Nelson, C., & Clavenna-Deane, B. (2010, November). *TASN Regional IEP Training of Coaches*. KSDE Regional Training, Dodge City, KS.
- Hayashi, Y. (2011, February). *Animal models and behavior analysis: Pigeon model of aggression induced by negative incentive shifts*. Invited presentation at the annual meeting of the Texas Association for Behavior Analysis, Galveston, TX.
- Heintz, C. (2011, January). *Listening Centers-Creating Interactive Story Times for Students*. Inservice for Haysville Public Schools, Haysville, KS.
- Nelson, C. (2010, August). *Blended Early Childhood Services – The Early Childhood Curriculum*. Inservice for Sedgwick County Special Education Cooperative, Maize, KS.
- Nelson, C. (2010, October). *Early Childhood Special Education Inclusion Planning Session*. Inservice for Salina Public Schools, Salina, KS.
- Nelson, C. (2010, October). *Service Delivery Options for Early Childhood Inclusion*. Inservice for the Maize Early Childhood Center, Maize, KS.
- Nelson, C. (2011, January). *Adapting the Early Childhood Curriculum for Meaningful Inclusion*. Inservice for the Maize Early Childhood Center, Maize, KS.
- Nelson, C., & Goosen, M. (2011, February). *What Early Childhood Professionals Need to Know About Preschool Literacy and MTSS*. Presentation at Kansas Division for Early Childhood Conference: It's All About The Relationship, Wichita, KS.
- Nelson, C., & Heintz, C. (2011, February). *Early Childhood Special Educator Update and Planning Retreat*. Inservice for the Southwest Kansas Area Cooperative District 613, Dodge City, KS.
- Nelson, C., & Rinkel, P. (2010, September). *Early Childhood Outcome Training for Speech-Language Pathologists*. Inservice for Salina Public Schools, Salina, KS.
- Nelson, C., & Rinkel, P. (2011, February). *Rating Early Childhood Outcomes: 2011 updates for Kansas speech-language pathologists*. Inservice for Kansas City, KS.
- Page, K. (2011, February). *New KITS Early Childhood Resource Center Program*. Presentation at Kansas Division for Early Childhood Conference: It's All About The Relationship, Wichita, KS.
- Rinkel, P. (2010, December). *Implementing Activity Based Intervention in the age of accountability*. Guest lecture, Baker University, Blue Valley School District Campus, Overland Park, KS.
- Rinkel, P. (2011, January). *Supporting all learners*. Inservice for Kansas City, KS.
- Rinkel, P. (2011, February). *Implementing a developmentally appropriate ECSE program in the age of accountability: What's on the horizon?* Inservice Training for Wamego Special Education Cooperative, Wamego, KS.
- Rinkel, P., Miller, N., & Easterly, K. (2011, February). *Creating and Supporting Professional Relationships: A community of practice approach*. Presentation at Kansas Division for Early Childhood Conference: It's All About The Relationship, Wichita, KS.
- Rinkel, P., & Nelson, C. (2010, September). *Early Childhood Outcome Training for ECSE Teams*. Inservice for Salina Public Schools, Salina, KS.
- Rinkel, P., & Nelson, C. (2011, February). *Tools for Meeting Kansas ECO Requirements*. Presentation at Kansas Division for Early Childhood Conference: It's All About The Relationship, Wichita, KS.

PRESENTATIONS CONTINUED

- Rinkel, P., & Shannon, C. (2011, January). *Providing accommodations and modifications for the special education preschool child in the 21st century*. Inservice at Kansas City, KS.
- Saunders, K. J., Hayashi, Y., Ezekwe, I., Tsau, S., & Robertson, S. H. (2011, March). *Instructional programming for early reading skills in adults with intellectual disabilities: Consonant clusters*. Poster session presented at the 44th Gatlinburg Conference, San Antonio, TX.
- Shannon, C., & Rinkel, P. (2011, January). *Implementing CARA's KIT*. Inservice for Kansas City, KS.
- Stremel Thomas, K. (January, 2011). *Young children with cochlear implants and multiple disabilities*. Southeast Kansas Deaf and Hard of Hearing Association, Wichita, Ks.
- Stremel Thomas, K. (March, 2011). *Children who are deaf-blind with cochlear implants*. Newsletter - National Family Association for Deaf-Blindness, Sands Point, NY.
- Stremel Thomas, K., & Schalock, M. (March, 2011). *Influencing outcomes for children who are deaf-blind with cochlear implants*. Webinar, Monmouth, Oregon.
- Turnbull, A., Aldersey, H., Chiu, C., Haines, S., Miksch, P., & Stroup-Rentier, A. (2011, February). *The Creation of Online Professional Development Trainings*. Presentation at Kansas Division for Early Childhood Conference: It's All About The Relationship, Wichita, KS.
- Walker, D., Miksch, P., Bigelow, K., & Atwater, J. (2011, February). *Building Capacity of Parents and Early Educators in Using Intentional Communication Interventions*. Presentation at Kansas Division for Early Childhood Conference: It's All About The Relationship, Wichita, KS.

STAFF PROFILE

Name: TONY GRADY
Job Title: SYSTEM SPECIALIST
Education: A.S., COMPUTER
INFORMATION SYSTEMS, LABETTE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

When I first came to work at KU more than 22 years ago, I produced graphs and graphics using a Hewlett Packard (HP) PC that had dual 3.5 floppy disk drives (no hard disk drive), a small monochrome touch screen monitor and a six-pen plotter. Desktop computers were just becoming popular around this time. Eventually computer systems became more prominent in the workplace allowing me to get hands-on experience working with and repairing them. As the years passed, I became responsible for supporting computer and network systems at Parsons.

Currently I maintain, support, secure, review, recommend, update and renew all aspects of the following: database servers, web servers, resource reservation web application, centralized back-up server, file servers, software

update servers, authentication servers, server room, desktop and laptop computer systems, software applications, virtual machine software appliances, workgroup printers, local area networks, wide area network, wireless local area networks, multimedia conference rooms, large format printers, scanning devices, and software media storages.

I maintain a working knowledge of IP addresses, IP ports, network cables, network cards, network login IDs, computer hostnames, command line shells, operating systems, file managers, applications and devices attached to network for Life Span Institute at Parsons to maintain Technical Liaison certification with University of Kansas Information Technology Security Office.



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I maintain a working knowledge and provide support for University of Kansas centralized authentication, email, list server, network, web services and annual risk evaluation process by attending training sessions, web conferences, reviewing policies and working with University of Kansas Information Technology staff and Information Technology Security staff.

In my spare time at work, I provide assistance for set-up and configuration of KU central services and cellular phones for staff, assist in printing, finishing and laminating

large format documents such as posters and converting obsolete data and video media to digital formats.

I have a lovely wife, Cecil, two very bright and active sons, Newton and Noah. Cecil works at Dwayne's Photo troubleshooting and maintaining photo processing systems. Newton is in 6th grade at Meadowview grade school, and he spends most of his time completing homework and playing Pokemon. Noah is in 2nd grade at Meadowview grade school, and he spends the majority of his time playing football and catching crawdads.

STAFF NEWS

Yusuke Hayashi, research associate, was selected to participate in the 2011 Interdisciplinary Training Conference in Developmental Disabilities in San Antonio, Texas. This is the second year that Dr. Hayashi has received a \$750 Travel Grant to underwrite his travel and related costs to the March 1 conference. The conference is sponsored by the National Institute of Health (NIH) and is designed to foster interdisciplinary approaches to disabilities research in the next generation of scientists.

Graduate students and postdoctoral fellows from behavioral science and neuroscience training programs from across the United States are selected to attend this program. The event was held in conjunction with the 44th annual Gatlinburg Conference on Developmental Disabilities in San Antonio.



PROJECT NEWS

David Lindeman, director of **The Early Childhood Partnership Grant** reports that the grant supported three recent trainings. Two trainings titled *Promoting First Relationships* were with Judy Nagel as the presenter. These three-day workshops were held in Salina and Topeka. The other training supported by this project, a two-day workshop, was *Evidence Based Practices in Early Childhood* with M'Lisa Sheldon and Dathan Rush and was held in Wichita.

Assistive Technology for Kansans (ATK) hosted a webinar, *iPad Apps Across Disabilities*, presented by AT Specialist Rhonda Etter, M.A., CCC/SLP on March 22. ATK staff from five AT Access Sites across Kansas participated on their iPad, iPhone or iTouch devices loaded with many of the free apps. The iPad gives ATK staff easy connectivity from any location as they provide AT services to Kansas customers across all disabilities and ages.

LSI/PARSONS Co-SPONSORS E-WASTE DRIVE

The University of Kansas Life Span Institute at Parsons again joins Southeast Kansas Recycling along with other co-sponsors (City of Parsons, K-State Research & Extension-Labette County, Higher Calling Technologies, LLC, and Waste Corporation) in hosting a Labette County E-Waste Collection on Saturday, April 16 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Marvel Park (south of the stadium) on East Main Street in Parsons. Acceptable items include televisions, computer

systems, monitors, VCRs, CD and DVD players, printers, microwaves, cell phones and other types of electronic equipment.

Kari West, Parsons Public Information Officer said, "This has been a very successful recycling program in the past. We have diverted nearly six tractor-trailer loads of e-waste from the landfill." This will be the third year that LSI/Parsons staff have supported this event with their time and effort. Volunteers inventory, unload and sort items for recycling. To participate, contact Patty Black Moore at extension 1728.

FRAUD HOTLINE

What is it? Fraud is the deliberate misrepresentation of fact for the purpose of depriving the University permanently of property or legal right to property.

Financial Accountability is a top priority at the University of Kansas. The Office of the University of Kansas Internal Audit has created a fraud hotline that can be used to report information about fraud, waste or abuse of University resources. For more information, go to the KU Internal Audit webpage: <http://internalaudit.ku.edu/fraud/>.



Assistive Technology for Kansans Site Review

Three years ago, Rehabilitation Services Administration began federal peer reviews of state assistive technology programs and alternate finance programs funded by the Assistive Technology Act. The review panel typically consists of three directors from assistive technology programs and the federal program officers. Past reviews were conducted through a series of webinars.

Sara Sack was notified that Kansas was selected for peer review this year. Assistive Technology for Kansans and KATCO are

preparing documentation for the peer review panel that is due April 20th. This means that ATK staff has asked many of their colleagues in Parsons to help them prepare. A twist in the process this year is that the federal program officers are coming to Kansas for an on-site experience in addition to the electronic presentations.

Since it's important to understand how the Kansas programs collaborate, the project officers will have the chance to visit AT Access Sites in Wichita and Parsons, the KATCO office in Emporia and the KU offices in Parsons and Lawrence. It is expected that the review will be conducted the first week of June. *Submitted by Sheila Simmons, ATK program coordinator*

ATK MEETS WITH TAVEE

Fulbright Visiting Scholar From Thailand

Sara Sack,
senior research
professor and
director of the

Assistive Technology for Kansans program welcomed Tavee Cheausuwantavee, associate professor and Fulbright Visiting Scholar, Ratchasuda College, Mahidol University, Thailand back to Kansas.

Dr. Cheausuwantavee presented his ABS Prosem lecture, *Community collaboration on disability activity: Dilemma or practical issue?* to colleagues on March 18 at the Dole Human Development Center, Lawrence. Earlier in the day he met with ATK staff and partners to talk about service delivery issues across cultures.



In the picture: (front row, left) Sidney Gray, North Central AT Access Site, Salina; Sara Sack, ATK director, Parsons; Sheila Simmons, ATK program coordinator, Parsons; Sharon Morton, ATK-KEE coordinator, Parsons; (back row) Tavee

Cheausuwantavee, director of the M.A. Program (Rehabilitation Services), Thailand; Meredith Funkhouser, case manager/care coordinator, Overland Park; Stuart Jones, Northeast AT Access Site, Topeka and not pictured, Patty Black Moore, ATK, Parsons.

Tavee's previous visit is archived in the March 2009 issue of The Insider
<http://www.parsons.lsi.ku.edu/~parsons/html/Newsletters/Archive.shtml>.

REMEMBERING ROBIN



Robin Bayless recently lost her battle with cancer. For the past 15 years at the University of Kansas Life Span Institute at Parsons, Robin served as project assistant for the Kansas Inservice

Training System (KITS). KITS is a grant project that provides training to special education providers of children who have disabilities from age birth to 5. She was the editor of the KITS newsletter; the go-to person if you wanted your materials to look great; and is given credit by many for having kept KITS running smoothly. She often said she enjoyed her work and considered the people she worked with family. She will be missed by her many colleagues, friends, and family who were touched by her work, her humor, and her love for others.

Visit the Life Span Institute (LSI) at Parsons website at <http://www.parsons.lsi.ku.edu>