



The Insider

Life Span Institute at Parsons

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Patty Black Moore, Editor

Taking Stock: What we did last summer

Staff training: For two days last summer, LSI at Parsons faculty and staff participated in intensive software training presented by University of Kansas instructional technology training experts, Kim Glover and Kathy Pribbenow. Leading us through the intricacies of creating and using graphs and charts with Excel, Kim shared her knowledge and a good measure of patience with students using both PC and Mac platforms. Not to be outdone, Kathy taught us new and better ways to use the presentation software, PowerPoint. Features included a review of the basics and quickly moved on to importing data for charts, adding animation and transitions, modifying templates as well as ways to “tune up” our presentation skills. At the end of the second day, one learner commented that she would rather participate in a training like this one than attend a staff appreciation dinner. High praise, indeed, for Kim and Kathy. *In the picture (left): Colleen Eisenbart, Kathy Pribbenow, Peggy Gentry, Katie Hine and Debbie Moody.*



Training staff: The KITS Summer Institute 2009 was held for four days in June on the campus of the University of Kansas. Kansas Inservice Training System (KITS) staff planned and hosted the

Institute for a statewide audience of 50 early interventionists, special and regular educators, agency personnel, university professors, parents and others. Nationally recognized experts and family members shared their experiences and knowledge on evidence based practices for effective collaboration

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“Just the STATS”

Did you know?

The Communication of People with Mental Retardation Project has a 50-year history of study examining various aspects of communication and language development.

- ❖ The current research involves 17 scientists from six universities in the pursuit of effective strategies for enabling the communication abilities of infants, children and adults with, or at risk of, severe disability.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT



Consortium of Low Incidence Teacher Preparation Programs in Kansas Project (CLIPP)

This three-year grant received by David Lindeman, Ph.D. is funded by the Kansas State Department of Education. The grant dates are August 1, 2009 through July 31, 2012.



CLIPP will be composed of faculty from colleges and universities across Kansas who are committed to collaboratively support and enhance the development and delivery of teacher training programs to meet the standards for low incidence disabilities license(s). This project will solidify relationships and partnerships among participating teacher training programs in the effort to meet the needs of the state of Kansas for highly qualified teachers. These achievements will be realized through systemic change created at three levels: a) at the course level through the examination of course content to foster shared or common content across programs, b) at the college/university level through a shared curriculum design that will prepare students to meet the teaching standards and support collaboration between the low incidence disability teacher trainers, and c) at the state level through the examination, possible adoption, and development of courses designed to be delivered through a distance education consortium to allow students to access courses at any and all participating colleges or universities.

The goals of this proposal are to:

1. Strengthen the relationships of college and university faculty through the coordination of planning meetings to explore college and university partnerships;
2. Develop a network/infrastructure of professionals working together, as a state resource, to address the need for highly trained teachers of children with low incidence disabilities;
3. Examine potential models for partnerships that would support sharing of cost and revenue for courses shared across teacher training programs.

PROJECT NEWS

ATK Recognized at AT Reuse National Conference in Atlanta



Sara Sack, the director of Assistive Technology for Kansans (ATK), returned from the Assistive Technology (AT) Reuse National Conference held in September in Atlanta, Georgia

with her hands full... of awards. Dr. Sack laughs as she relates her conference experience. Interspersed among her five presentations, she collected awards. She says it was rather like “give a presentation, collect an award.”

Why all these awards, you may wonder? In

2007, ATK received a *Kansas Pollution Prevention Award* at a statewide conference that increased the program’s visibility in the state and provided new opportunities for partnerships. Recognizing the value of a national award to reward statewide partners and colleagues, ATK staff enthusiastically filled out the 2009 reuse award nomination forms provided by the conference.

Capping the experience of having nine of ATK’s Kansas partners and colleagues recognized at a national level, Sara received two unexpected awards. She received the *Visionary Award* for her efforts at the state and national level and Assistive Technology for Kansans received the *Above and Beyond Award* for providing technical assistance and sharing materials with other reutilization programs across the country.

Congratulations!

SAVE THE DATE - AUTISM CONFERENCE – November 6-7

Autism Across the Life Span Conference, November 6-7, 2009, at the Hilton Wichita Airport Executive Conference Center, providing Kansas families, rehabilitation professionals, service providers, and educators with current information on evidence-based practices in autism.

Five overarching program strands—Community Living, Employment, Transition, Social Skills /Behavioral Supports, and Early Education—will offer both breadth and depth for anyone working with, caring for or caring about a toddler, school-age child, teenager, or adult with an Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Conference sponsors: Kansas Center for Autism Research and Training (K-CART) at the Life Span Institute at the University of Kansas, KU Life Span Institute at Parsons, the Center for Child Health and Development at the KU Medical Center and additional funding provided by the U.S. Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Department of Health and Human Services.

Online registration is available now at <http://www.continuinged.ku.edu/programs/autism/>. Scholarships are available for families.

Complete conference information is available at <http://www.kcart.ku.edu/autism-across-lifespan/index.shtml>

STAFF PROFILE

Roger Stanley, Counselor, M.S., Clinical Psychology
Pittsburg State University

I am a counselor with the Foster Care Treatment Project, also known as the Southeast Kansas Pilot Project to Replicate the Oregon Model of Intervention with Antisocial Youth Families. The Oregon model served foster parents exclusively, however, in Kansas we provide support for both foster parents and biological parents who have children with disruptive behaviors. We work with parents and their children providing an individualized, consumer driven, home based service.

My favorite thing about my work is the challenge of trying to figure out what causes a particular child's behavior and then giving parents tools they can use to effectively modify their own behavior which in turn changes their child's behavior. Funny how that works. Our parents become "mini" behavior analysts in their own right and are a key component to the success of the project. In fact, a good majority, nearly 78%

of the children we work with, increase their prosocial behaviors by improving the way they greet others, the ways they cope with disappointment as well as improved skills in taking turns, sharing, and waiting.



My wife, Brandy, and I have been foster parents for the past three years and this experience has often helped me to more quickly establish a connection with other foster parents. In addition to our foster children, we have two sons, Brady, 5 and Levi, 8 months. I also have my own mobile barbecue business and you can find me barbecuing at many of the area festivals during the summer. Along with spending time with my family, I'm a sports fan: baseball, PSU football and of course, KU basketball.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Southeast Kansas Recycling, in cooperation with the City of Parsons, the University of Kansas Life Span Institute at Parsons, K-State Research & Extension-Labette County, and Higher Calling Technologies sponsored the third Labette County E-Waste Collection on Saturday, September 19, 2009.

LSI at Parsons staff, Kathy Olson, Laura Hanigan and Patty Black Moore were among the volunteers who worked efficiently and quickly to unload computers, printers, keyboards, televisions,

microwaves, record players, cameras and more from owners determined to support responsible recycling. The Saturday event was the second one for Parsonians and the third for many of the volunteers and it showed.

More e-waste was collected at the event than expected. Chuck Delp, Southeast Kansas Recycling, Pittsburg, said that the Parsons event was the most successful one held this year as he studied the huge piles of e-waste and the shrinking semi-trailer space and shook his head at the excess of success.

PARSONS RESEARCH TEAM WELCOMES

Yusuke Hayashi

Postdoctoral Researcher
Ph.D., Psychology
West Virginia University

I recently joined the wonderful research team at Life Span Institute (LSI) at Parsons and am happy to have this opportunity to introduce myself.

I'm originally from Tokyo. Although I was a history major in my undergraduate work, I happened to take a course in behavior analysis, which completely changed my life later. After I obtained my B.A. in history, I got a job in the IT industry and became very interested in business consulting based on Organizational Behavior Management (OBM), which is an application of behavior analysis in business. After having been a happy workaholic (yes, I'm Japanese) for about three years, I decided to go back to grad school to receive formal training in OBM.

During my training at University of North Texas, however, Manish Vaidya, a former post-doc here at LSI, opened my eyes to the basic science of behavior. I then decided to pursue my Ph.D. in Psychology from West Virginia University, where I was involved in basic animal laboratory research on the

processes that Dean Williams is applying to the study of maladaptive behavior in individuals with intellectual disabilities (ID). Although my specialty throughout my graduate training was basic research in stimulus control, I also worked with children with autism and individuals with ID. I enjoyed working in both basic and applied fields.

Here at LSI, I work on two projects: Laboratory Models of Maladaptive Escape Behaviors (with Dean Williams) and Recombinative Generalization of Within-syllable Units in MR (with Kate Saunders). Given my strong interest in both basic and applied domains, I will dedicate myself to conducting translational research with individuals with ID during my post-doctoral training. Needless to say, LSI is well known for its excellence in translational research, so I'm very fortunate to be a part of the research team.

As a person who grew up in Tokyo, I would say that life in Parsons is a little bit different from my other experiences thus far. As long as there is good research and some Asian food, however, I'm confident that I can live anywhere in the world. Indeed, I like Parsons much better than I thought. I enjoy fishing and not having traffic jams.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Dean Williams, Ph.D., Parsons Research Center, was selected to serve on the Advisory Board of the Biobehavioral Measurement Core of the Kansas Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Center (KIDDDRC), University of Kansas. For more information about the Biobehavioral Measurement Core, visit their home page at <http://www2.kumc.edu/siddrc/bmc/>.

NEW GRANT AWARDS ANNOUNCED

Dave Lindeman received a new three-year grant, Consortium of Low Incidence Teacher Preparation Programs in Kansas Project (CLIPP), funded by the Kansas State Department of Education for FY 2009-2012.

Dave Lindeman received a new two-year grant, Sustained Training for the Kansas Infant/Toddler System (STKITS), funded by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment for FY 2009-2011.

Sara Sack received a new three-year grant, Inclusive Community Gardens: Food, Exercise, Friends, and Maybe Money, funded by the U. S. Department of Education for FY 2009-2012.

Sara Sack received a new one-year grant, Assistive Technology (AT) Vodcast Library, funded by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment for FY 2009-2010.

PROJECT NEWS

KANSAS EQUIPMENT EXCHANGE

Sharon Morton, Kansas Equipment Exchange coordinator, shares KEE program information at the Northeast Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Expo in Hiawatha on September 22. Sharon also traveled to Lawrence in September to the Kansas Occupational Therapy Association (KOTA) Conference and reports enthusiastic interest by conference attendees in the KEE durable medical equipment reuse program.



KANSAS COLLEGE OF DIRECT SUPPORT



Kansas continues to provide national leadership in the development of careers for direct support professionals.

Kathy Olson, administrator of the Kansas College of Direct Support online training, recently announced that the first three direct support staff to become nationally certified by the National Alliance of Direct Support Professionals are employed by TARC in Kansas. TARC is a not-for-profit service organization in the Topeka area that supports people with disabilities, a charter member of Kansans Mobilizing for Workforce Change (KMFC) and a supporter of the online College of

Direct Support funded by the Kansas Department of SRS. The newly certified staff completed a rigorous training process that included developing and submitting portfolio work samples, 3,000 on-the-job hours, as well as 200 instructional hours using the College of Direct Support. KMFC arose from an earlier KU grant focused on the recruitment and retention of the direct support workforce.

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with families. One enthusiastic participant had this to say, “I wanted to let you know how incredibly impressed I was with the (KITS) Summer Institute that was held this week in Lawrence. The organization and facilitation were incredible and the speakers and information disseminated were absolutely amazing!”



In the picture: Staff Training: Cynthia Huebner, with KU staff trainer, Kim Glover (center) and Alan Engels.



Research presented in Oslo: In August, Kate Saunders, senior scientist, talked about her research in a presentation, “Instructional Programming and the Stimulus Control of Early Reading Skills” at the Association of Behavior Analysis International (ABAI) 5th International Conference in Oslo, Norway. About the experience, Dr. Saunders said, “It was exciting presenting at a truly international conference, and seeing how widespread Behavior Analysis is becoming. Close to 30 countries were represented. The other speakers in my symposium were from Brazil, doing work similar to what I am doing, but with Portuguese-speaking children!”

ATK attended an international conference in Italy: Sara Sack, Assistive Technology for Kansans (ATK) director, attended the 10th Association for the Advancement of Assistive Technology in Europe (AAATE) Conference in Florence, Italy. On her return, Dr. Sack brought the international perspective to the Assistive Technology (AT) Reuse National Conference in Atlanta, Georgia and said, “Discussions with national and international policy makers on how technology can help solve global issues of an aging population and the need to increase productivity/independence at home, work, and school have given us new insights and renewed our passion to ensure that people have access to technology and training that meets their needs.”



At the Life Span Institute at Parsons, sometimes we teach, sometimes we’re taught, sometimes we share our knowledge with others, and sometimes we listen and learn. That’s what we did last summer.

NEW PUBLICATION

Doughty, A. H., & Saunders, K. J. (Fall 2009). Decreasing errors in reading-related matching to sample using a delayed-sample procedure. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*. 42, 717-721.

PRESENTATIONS AND TRAININGS



KANSAS

- Goosen, M. (2009, August). *Aligning the curriculum with the Kansas Early Learning Document*. Inservice training at Maize, KS.
- Hornback, M. (2009, July). *Developing a partnership agreement between Head Start and district special education*. Inservice training at Liberal, KS.
- Hornback, M. (2009, July). *Least restrictive environment*. Inservice training at Salina, KS.
- Hornback, M. (2009, August). *Early childhood outcomes drift training*. Inservice training at Garden City, KS.
- Hornback, M. (2009, August). *Least restrictive environment*. Inservice training at Salina, KS.
- Hornback, M. (2009, August). *Least restrictive environment and memorandum of understanding*. Inservice training at Salina, KS.
- Lindeman, D. P., Page, K., Rinkel, P., & Hornback, M. (2009). *Kansas inservice training system: Initiatives and services*. Four posters presented at the 2009 Annual Kansas Department of Education (KSDE) Leadership Conference, Wichita, KS.
- Miksch, P. (2009, July). *Autism evaluation*. Inservice training at Hutchinson, KS.
- Miksch, P. (2009, July). *IFSP assessment*. Inservice training at Marysville, KS.
- Miksch, P. (2009, July). *New network support*. Inservice training at Salina, KS.
- Miksch, P. (2009, July). *Updates to evidence based practice*. Inservice training at Junction City, KS.
- Miksch, P. (2009, August). *Evidence based practice, assessment, and the IFSP*. Inservice training at Oakley, KS.
- Miksch, P. (2009, August). *New network support*. Inservice training at Leavenworth, KS.
- Miksch, P. (2009, August). *New network support*. Inservice training at Abilene, KS.
- Miksch, P. (2009, August). *Social emotional*. Inservice training at Garden City, KS.
- North J., Ayres, C., Smith-Birk, T., Hastings, C., Miksch, P., & Newton, J. (2009, August 24). *Part C regional meeting*. Regional training at Topeka, KS.
- North J., Ayres, C., Smith-Birk, T., Hastings, C., Miksch, P., & Newton, J. (2009, August 25). *Part C regional meeting*. Regional training at Garden City, KS.
- North J., Ayres, C., Smith-Birk, T., Hastings, C., Miksch, P., & Newton, J. (2009, August 26). *Part C regional meeting*. Regional training at Newton, KS.
- Rinkel, P. (2009, August). *Effective instructional strategies for young children with autism spectrum disorders*. Inservice training at Topeka, KS.
- Rinkel, P. (2009, August). *Highly qualified teachers for autism spectrum disorders and least restrictive environments*. Inservice training at Topeka, KS.
- Rinkel, P. (2009, August). *Roles and responsibilities*. Inservice training at Lawrence, KS.
- Rinkel, P. (2009, August). *Using curriculum based assessments to improve our practice*. Inservice training at Kansas City, KS.
- Rinkel, P. (2009, August). *Using curriculum based assessments to improve practices*. Inservice training at Kansas City, KS.
- Rinkel, P., Miksch, P., & Pope, E. (2009, August). *Surviving and thriving with change: Evidence based practice system of primary provider approach to teaming*. Inservice training at Wellington, KS.
- Sack, S. (2009, August). *Assistive Technology for Kansans Overview: Barriers to Accessing Assistive Technology in Kansas*. Disability Rights Center, Topeka, KS.

REGIONAL

Olson, K. M. (2009, September). *Dual Diagnosis: Characteristics and Skills of an Exemplary Direct Support Professional*. Invited workshop for the Nebraska Division of Behavioral Health, Nebraska Division of Developmental Disabilities, and the Nebraska Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities, Omaha, NE.



NATIONAL

Sack, S. (2009, September). *AT Reuse: What It Really Means*.

Presented at the National AT Reuse Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Sack, S. (2009, September). *Creative Collaborations with Third Party Partners*. Presented at the National AT Reuse Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Sack, S. (2009, September). *Future of AT Reuse Programs*.

Presented at the National AT Reuse Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Sack, S. (2009, September). *Return on Investment, Budget Development, and Measuring AT Reuse Outcomes*. Presented at the National AT Reuse Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Sack, S., & Kniskern, J. (2009, September). *National AT Partners in AT Reuse: Who Are Our National Partners and Are "We" Collectively Ready to Partner?* Facilitators for Planning for the Future: Strategic Work Group Session presented at the National AT Reuse Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Windholz, J. (2009, September). *Matching Persons to Equipment*. Presented at the National AT Reuse Conference, Atlanta, GA.

INTERNATIONAL

Saunders, K., Baynham, T., Schmidt, A. C., Stein, M. N. (2009, August). *Instructional Programming and the Stimulus Control of Early Reading Skills*. Symposium presentation at the 5th International Conference of the Association of Behavior Analysis International, Oslo, Norway.



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