

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**LITERACY RESEARCH AND STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IS THE FOCUS OF THE
INSTITUTE ON DISABILITY'S SECOND ANNUAL *RESEARCH TO PRACTICE SERIES***

DURHAM - The Institute on Disability at the University of New Hampshire welcomes researchers to share cutting-edge findings that directly impact practices and services related to persons with disabilities and their families, policymakers, professionals, community members, and educators.

The second annual series, entitled *Literacy Research and Students with Disabilities*, features new research on issues such as early literacy, effective reading and writing instruction for young children, literacy supports for students with disabilities, and presumptions of competence.

Presenters and topics for the second annual series include:

Elizabeth Sulzby, Ph.D., from the University of Michigan, will present *All Children Can Be Readers and Writers: Implications of Current Research on Emergent Literacy* on October 31, 2003.

Douglas Fisher, Ph.D., from Interwork Institute, San Diego State University, will present a by-invitation-only session on *Supporting Literacy Learning for High School Students with Disabilities and A Conversation about High School Restructuring that Supports Inclusive Education for All Students* on October 31, 2003.

Leigh Zoellick, M.Ed., a Ph.D. Candidate in Education at UNH, will speak about *Early Literacy and Children with Disabilities* on November 13 and December 11, 2003.

Ruth Wharton-McDonald, Ph.D., and Associate Professor of Education at UNH, will present on *Effective Writing and Reading Instruction for Young Children* on January 15, 2004.

Gretchen Hanser, M.Ed., OTR-L, and a Ph.D. Candidate in Education at UNH, will discuss *Literacy Supports for Students with Learning Disabilities* on January 30, 2004.

Douglas Biklen, Ph.D., from Syracuse University, will present on *What it Means to Presume Competence: Lessons from Research on Autism* on February 5, 2004.

To register, visit www.iod.unh.edu.

The Institute on Disability's mission is to promote the inclusion of people with disabilities into their schools and communities and to advance knowledge about disability and best practices. The Institute works with students and faculty, conducts statewide training, participates in grant-funded model demonstration projects, conducts research and engages in collaborative partnerships with other statewide organizations that are committed to improving the lives of persons with disabilities and their families.

The Institute on Disability, together with the Division of Genetics and Child Development Children's Hospital at Dartmouth, and the Department of Pediatrics at Dartmouth Medical School; the Institute for Health, Law, and Ethics at Pierce Law Center; and the Center on Community Economic Development and Disability at Southern New Hampshire University comprise New Hampshire's University Center for Excellence on Disability (UCED).

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The Institute on Disability at the University of New Hampshire, is a University Center for Excellence on Disability, established in 1987 with a mission to promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities into their communities.