

Louisiana

Low Incidence Disabilities Consortium



Louisiana Tech
University



LSU Health
Science Center
Human
Development
Center



University of
New Orleans



Funded by
Louisiana
Department of
Education

Contact
Information:
lalidc@uno.edu
(504) 280-6609
(v/tty);

(504) 280-1400 (fax)

What's Happening in Low Incidence

Vol. 1 No.1

April 2009

Welcome to the first issue of What's Happening, the newsletter to spread news and information about current happenings in areas of vision impairments, blindness, hard of hearing and deafness, autism, significant disabilities, and deaf-blindness.

In this issue ... About LA_LIDC, Summer Institute 2009, professional development opportunities, news from around the state, and personalities.

You are invited to submit articles, news, and calendar events. Send them to lalidc@uno.edu with newsletter as the subject.

Jeri Woodson
Editor

LA-LIDC

What:

LA-LIDC is a collaborative partnership among educational agencies, organizations, families, and other state and national resources.

Who:

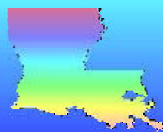
The current partners include La Tech, HDC, UNO, and LDOE.

Why:

LA-LIDC is dedicated to ensuring that all educators are continuously provided effective preparation and professional development so students with low incidence disabilities have access to high quality education.

How:

During the fall and spring semesters or fall, winter, and spring quarters, innovative, dynamic multi-media technology is utilized to ensure statewide accessibility of coursework and professional development. During the summer, Institutes are held at each university to provide face-to-face contact between faculty members and students as well as providing the opportunity to meet new cohort members.



Summer Institute 2009

Louisiana Tech

EDCI 584 O&M for Teachers of Blind Students

Teaches basics of efficient, independent, non-visual travel; movement for young blind children; multi-handicapped blind children and contemporary philosophical issues.

University of New Orleans

Significant Disabilities

EDSP 6030 Health and Physical Considerations for Severe Disabilities

An overview of educational considerations for students with special needs related to physical disabilities and/or health care. Emphasis on adaptation of curriculum and setting to meet the identified health and safety needs of learners with physical and multiple disabilities. Overview of positioning and handling techniques as well as safety and health care procedures including suctioning, seizure management, and gastrostomy tube feeding.

EDSP 6900 Practicum Severe / Profound Handicapped

Field work, observations, seminars, lectures, and/or empirical research projects in programs that provide services for individuals with severe profound handicapping conditions.

Deaf / Hard of Hearing Education

EDSP 6480 Curriculum Development for Deaf

Utilization of curricular and language theories and principles of deaf education to create or choose a practical sequence of learning activities for deaf and hard of hearing students. Includes methods of teaching basic subjects to deaf students.

EDSP 6945 Practicum Hearing Impaired

Field work, observations, seminars, lectures, and/or empirical research projects with hearing impaired children or adults in an academic or rehabilitation setting.

Vision Impairments

EDSP 4830G Mobility Training for the Visually Impaired

Concepts and techniques involved in orientation, mobility, and daily living skills for individuals with a visual impairment.

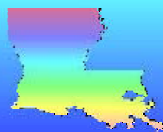
EDSP 6980 Practicum in Visual Impairment

The course consists of supervised field work, observations, seminars, lectures, and/or empirical research in the area of visual impairment.

Autism

EDSP 6220 Effective Instructional and Support Strategies for Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders – II

Prerequisite: EDSP 6210 or Consent of the Department. This course will be a combination of Internet Video Conference and attendance at the LASARD Autism Institute.



Professional Development Opportunities

Cradle to Career: the ABCs of Blindness Conference

Thursday April 23 and Friday April 24, 2009

Holiday Inn West, 5555 Financial Plaza, Shreveport, LA

Sponsored by the Institute on Blindness and the Louisiana Center for the Blind

Contact: Dr. Ruby Ryles rryles@latech.edu

Managing Macular Degeneration: Treatments, Tips, & Tools to Make Life Easier

Friday April 24, 2009 10:00 am – 12:30 pm

Lighthouse for the Blind, 123 State St., New Orleans, LA

Presenters: Dr. Shehab A. Ebrahim of the Retina Institute; Deborah Bennett, LOTR and Jenice Heck, LOTR of the Lighthouse for the Blind

Free, but limited seating 504-897-3456 or 1866-222-2229

Third Annual Human Development Center Institute

April 22-23, 2009

Hampton Inn, 1201 Convention Center Blvd., New Orleans, LA

<http://www.hdc.lsuhs.edu/hdcinstitute/index.html>

Autism Summer Institute

June 22- 25, 2009

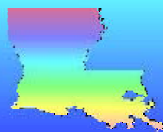
Hampton Inn, 1201 Convention Center Blvd., New Orleans, LA

Sponsored by the LA Autism Spectrum and Related Disorders Project (LASARD)

<http://www.hdc.lsuhs.edu/ASI2009/>

Looking Ahead

- LA State Autism Chapter Conference
 - November 6-7, 2009, Lafayette, LA
 - www.lastateautism.org or 1-800-955-3760



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- AER Regional Conference: COMA's O&M Conference within a Conference
 - November 13-15, 2009, Cleveland, OH
 - <http://aerbvi.org/>
- Getting in Touch With Literacy
 - November 12-15, 2009, Costa Mesa, CA
 - <http://www.gettingintouchwithliteracy.com/index.htm>

News from Around the State

From *The Advocate* Wednesday March 18, 2009 Baton Rouge, LA

LSVI possibly moving to LSD campus

The Louisiana School for the Visually Impaired (LSVI) may be moving to the campus of the Louisiana School for the Deaf (LSD). Gov. Jindal stated that the move will save the state over \$4 million every year, beginning with the new year in July.

Liz Moore, interim director of the Special School District, in a letter to parents noted that the schools will keep their own identities and staff, sharing transportation, food service, business offices, maintenance, and other similar support type services. Dormitories and classroom buildings will be separate, with LSVI using buildings that are currently not in use at LSD. (Ms. Moore's letter can be viewed in the March 2009 *On Eagle's Wings* LSD newsletter at <http://www.lalsd.org/files/newsletter0309rev1.pdf>.)

Before the move can become more than a possibility, both the BESE board and the legislature have to approve this action.

Personalities

From *The Advocate* Sunday April 5, 2009 Baton Rouge

Prep Notables: **Terrell Summers**, former Class C state champion from La. School for the Deaf (LSD) in both the long jump and triple jump will be competing this August in Taipei, Taiwan for the United States in the Deaf Olympics. Coaching the jumps and hurdles USA team will be LSD coach **Chip Stirling**. They will be attending training camps in Austin, Texas prior to leaving for Taiwan. Deaf Olympians must raise their own funds for the competition. If you would like to assist Terrell in making this special trip, contact Coach Stirling at cstirling@lalsd.org.