Research in Disabilities Education

The Research in Disabilities Education Synthesis Project (RDE-SP) looked at a decade in NSF RDE studies to determine common challenges and their solutions, best practices and the lessons learned from a decade of funded projects.

What have we learned?

More information about the RDE Synthesis Project is found at...

http://oeie.ksu.edu/rde-sp/

“This program has been a great resource not purely in terms of research funding but primarily in terms of creating a community of researchers focused on supporting the needs of students with disabilities.” RDE Principle Investigator

SOLUTIONS START WITH A CULTURAL SHIFT

- Adopting the socio-cultural model of disability
- Examining our language
- Adopting the principles of Universal Design for Learning

Research in Disabilities Education Synthesis Project (RDE-SP).

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Quick Guide

Teaching students with disabilities in STEM

From researchers to you, here are a few quick hints to help you in the classrooms and labs:

• Accommodations for students with disabilities benefit all students
• Use inclusive tools in the lab and class regularly
• Promote self-advocacy within your students
• Seek disability training for your departments and colleges with feedback
• Keep a close relationship with your office of student disability services or student access center
• Establishing and maintaining collaborative relationships with the disabilities community and education network pays off for student success in education and careers
• Seek /provide professional development and support in Universal Design for Learning (UDL)
• Provide quality mentoring

Resources

• Campus Access Centers
• DO-IT at the University of Washington
  • www.washington.edu/doit/RDE/
  • www.washington.edu/doit/Faculty
• Council for Exceptional Children www.cec.org
• University of Connecticut, Center on Postsecondary Education and Disability (2010) www.facultyware.uconn.edu
• Beyond Rigor Website www.beyondrigour.org
• Special Education / disability studies faculty
  • Association for Higher Education and Disabilities (AHEAD) www.ahead.org
• The Center for Assistive Technology and Environmental Access (CATEA) http://catea.gatech.edu/
• National Center on UDL http://www.cast.org
• Institute for Accessible Science www.stemehub.org/groups/iahub
• Journal of Postsecondary Education and Disabilities (JPED)
• Sevo, R. Basics about Disabilities in Science and Engineering Education. free at www.lulu.com