2001-2011

What have we learned?

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.

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

"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

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

SOLUTIONS START WITH A CULTURAL SHIFT

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

Research in Disabilities Education Synthesis Project (RDE-SP).
Principal Investigators:
Cynthia Shuman & Jan Middendorf

LESSONS LEARNED

Practical tips and resources for STEM disabilities education

To bring helpful hints and tips for postsecondary classrooms, this brochure has some quick snapshots of what researchers found useful throughout the decade of 2001-2011 when working with students with disabilities in postsecondary STEM education.

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.stemedhub.org/groups/iashub
- *Journal of Postsecondary Education and Disabilities* (JPED)
- Sevo, R. *Basics about Disabilities in Science and Engineering Education.* free at www.lulu.com
- McGuire, J.M. & Scott, S.S. (2006). Universal design for instruction: extending the Universal Design paradigm to college instruction. *Journal of Postsecondary Education and Disability, 19*:2, 124-132.
- Brown, Steven E. (2008). Breaking barriers: the pioneering disability students services program at the University of Illinois, 1948-1960. In Tamura, E. (Ed.), *The history of discrimination in U.S. education: marginality, agency, and power.* New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 165-192.

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