

# Canadian Research Centre on Inclusive Education

[www.inclusiveeducationresearch.ca](http://www.inclusiveeducationresearch.ca)

## Annual Report 2013



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## Canadian Research Centre on Inclusive Education Annual Report 2013

### About the Canadian Research Centre on Inclusive Education

The Canadian Research Centre on Inclusive Education, located in the Faculty of Education at the Western University, is a research association composed of faculty members, research associates, and graduate students across Canada who share an interest in inclusive education research.

In 2013, the Centre adopted the new logo in order to retain visual identity for Western University as a whole.



### **Mission**

The goal of the Centre is to encourage collaborative investigations of theories and practices in an effort to enhance the educational opportunities for *all* students with exceptionalities. The Centre is committed to sharing research findings and resources with academics, educators, families and community organizations.

### **Why inclusive education is important**

Classrooms singularly create possibilities for Canadian society to shape the values of the next generation. By including and valuing all members of the classroom, educators provide caring communities that appreciate the unique contributions and diversity of all people. The current mandate in all Canadian educational jurisdictions is to ensure equitable access to education for students through their regular grade placement in neighbourhood schools. While all Canadian educational jurisdictions recognize the critical contributions of classrooms to an inclusive society, each province and territory has evolved an approach to inclusive education that responds to its particular needs.

### **Message from the Director: The Year 2013**

This has been another busy year at the Centre. We were very focused on creating the synergy across the country. In July 2013, we officially changed our name to reflect the Canadian scope of our Centre.

The work of a number of our team members was published in a special issue of the *Canadian Journal of Education*. I was the guest editor for the issue "What Is Inclusive Education in Canada". It was the culmination of some good discussions around how we can move the agenda of inclusive education forward in Canada.

In the 2012 annual report, we indicated that we had submitted a grant application to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada's Partnership Grant Application. We were very disappointed that we were not awarded it as it was ranked with great promise at the letter of intent stage. We held our general meeting the day before the Canadian Society for the Study of Education

conference in Victoria, BC. At the meeting, we discussed plans to move forward and have submitted another letter of intent for the Partnership Grant. We all feel very committed to the cause and felt it was worth another try.

A great accomplishment was the new website. We have created it for the Canada-wide team of university and community partners: <http://www.inclusiveeducationresearch.ca/>

This year also saw the journal *Exceptionality Education International* move from the University of Alberta to Western. Our Centre has assumed responsibility for the journal. Current editors are Dr. Tim Loreman from Concordia University College of Alberta and me. Associate editors are Dr. Gabrielle Young and Dr. Sharon Penney from Memorial University in Newfoundland. We have had quite the adventure moving the journal and thank all of the former team for assisting us in this process. We could not have done it without their amazing support. Special thanks to Dr. Christina Rinaldi, Dr. Nikki Nosworthy and Dr. Holly Stack-Cutler. We have now published two issues and are well on our way to a third: <http://ir.lib.uwo.ca/eei/>

As always, we continue to provide development opportunities for local educators and graduate students through activities such as co-hosting the annual Coaching to Inclusion Conference, participation in research-related activities and events at Western's Faculty of Education, and adjudicating two annual graduate research awards. This past year, we had an exciting development. Working with our partners from Community Living Ontario, Inclusive Education Canada, the Ontario College of Teachers, the Ontario Ministry of Education and Drs. Sheila Bennett and Tiffany Gallagher from Brock, we hosted a 3-day symposium entitled "Meeting the Diversity Challenge". It was very successful and plans are in the works to continue to have the discussion of inclusive education with Boards of Education in Ontario.

We are very excited to continue our mandate in the coming year so that all students in Canada can experience an environment of belonging.

**Jacqueline Specht, Ph.D.**  
**Director**  
**Canadian Research Centre on Inclusive Education**

## **Our People**

### **Faculty and Staff at Western**

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Jacqueline Specht | Academic Director   |
| Elizabeth Nowicki | Western University Faculty Member                             |
| Grace Howell      | Centre Co-ordinator   |
| Sarah Cloutier    | Graduate Student Research Assistant (as of September 1, 2012) |

## **Research Associates at Post-Secondary Institutions**

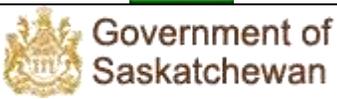
- Dr. Angèle AuCoin**, Professor, University of Moncton, New Brunswick
- Dr. M. Lynn Aylward** Associate Professor, Acadia University, Nova Scotia
- Dr. Sheila Bennett**, Professor; Brock University, Ontario
- Dr. Kim Calder Stegemann**, Assistant Professor; Thompson Rivers University, British Columbia
- Prof. Jenn deLugt**, Lecturer, University of Regina, Saskatchewan
- Dr. Carla DiGiorgio**, Associate Director, Curriculum Planning, Centre for Learning and Teaching, Dalhousie University, Halifax NS
- Dr. Tara Flanagan**, Assistant Professor, McGill University, Quebec
- Dr. John Freeman**, Professor, Queen's University, Ontario
- Dr. Tiffany Gallagher**, Associate Professor, Brock University, Ontario
- Prof. Anne Hill** (Retired, 2013) Fanshawe College, Ontario
- Dr. Nancy Hutchinson**, Professor, Queen's University, Ontario
- Dr. Jennifer Katz**, Assistant Professor, University of Manitoba
- Dr. Tim Loreman**, Professor, Concordia University College of Alberta
- Dr. Wanda Lyons**, Assistant Professor, University of Regina, Saskatchewan
- Dr. Kimberly Maich**, Assistant Professor, Brock University, Ontario
- Dr. Anne Marshall**, Professor, and Director, Centre for Youth and Society, University of Victoria, British Columbia
- Dr. Donna McGhie-Richmond**, Associate Professor, University of Victoria, British Columbia
- Dr. Jamie Metsala**, Professor, Mount St. Vincent University, Nova Scotia, Gail and Stephen Jarislowsky Chair in Learning Disabilities (appointed July 1, 2011).
- Dr. Elizabeth Nowicki**, Associate Professor, Western University, Ontario
- Dr. Sharon Penney**, Assistant Professor, Memorial University of Newfoundland
- Dr. Steve Sider**, Assistant Professor, Wilfrid Laurier University, Ontario
- Dr. Linda Siegel**, Professor, University of British Columbia
- Dr. Jacqueline Specht** (Associate Professor, Western University
- Prof. Roberta Thomson**, Course Instructor, McGill University, and LaSalle College, Quebec
- Dr. Scott Thompson**, Associate Professor, University of Regina, Saskatchewan
- Dr. Vianne Timmons**, President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Regina, Saskatchewan; President of the International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual Disabilities
- Dr. Jessica Whitley**, Associate Professor, University of Ottawa, Ontario
- Dr. Gabrielle Young**, Assistant Professor, Memorial University of Newfoundland

## Community Agencies and Organizations

Members of the national research team have partnered with these agencies and school boards to share information about current and proposed research projects, and to make presentations at professional development day workshops.

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|---|---|
| <p><b>Alberta Association for Community Living</b><br/>Bruce Uditsky, CEO<br/>11724 Kingsway Ave., EDMONTON, AB T5G 0X5<br/><a href="http://www.aacl.org">www.aacl.org</a></p>  |     |
| <p><b>Annapolis Valley Regional School Board</b><br/>Cynthia Giffen, Co-ordinator of Student Services<br/>121 Orchard St., BERWICK, NS B0P 1E0<br/><a href="http://www.avrsb.ca">www.avrsb.ca</a></p>   |     |
| <p><b>British Columbia Teachers' Federation</b><br/>Chalres Naylor, Senior Researcher<br/>100-550 West 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., VANCOUVER, BC V5Z 4P2<br/><a href="http://www.bctf.ca">www.bctf.ca</a></p>  |    |
| <p><b>Canadian Centre on Disability Studies</b><br/>Youn-Young Park, Senior Researcher<br/>56 The Promenade, WINNIPEG, MB R3B 3H9<br/><a href="http://www.disabilitystudies.ca">www.disabilitystudies.ca</a></p>  |   |
| <p><b>Community Living Ontario</b><br/>Kimberley Gavan, Director of Community Development<br/>240 Duncan Mill Rd. Suite 403, TORONTO, ON M3B 3S6<br/><a href="http://www.communitylivingontario.ca">www.communitylivingontario.ca</a></p>                                   |  |
| <p><b>Edmonton Public Schools</b><br/>Heather Raymond, Director, Inclusive Learning<br/>One Kingsway, EDMONTON, AB T5H 4G9<br/><a href="http://www.epsb.ca">www.epsb.ca</a></p>   |   |
| <p><b>Edmonton Regional Coalition for Inclusive Education</b><br/>Wendy Sauve, ERC Chair<br/>8048 – 15A Ave. NW, EDMONTON, AB T6K 4E2<br/><a href="http://sites.google.com/site/edmontonregionalcoalition/">http://sites.google.com/site/edmontonregionalcoalition/</a></p> |  |
| <p><b>Education Solutions Manitoba</b><br/>John Van Walleggham, Manager<br/>46 Ashland Ave., WINNIPEG, MB R3L 1K4<br/><a href="http://www.educationsolutionsmb.ca">www.educationsolutionsmb.ca</a></p>  |  |

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| <p><b>GRIT Program (Getting Ready for Inclusion Today)</b><br/>Barb Reid, Executive Director<br/>14930 – 114 Ave., EDMONTON, AB T5M 464<br/><a href="http://www.gritprogram.com">www.gritprogram.com</a></p>   |    |
| <p><b>Inclusive Education Canada</b><br/>Gordon Porter, National Director<br/>York University, 4700 Keele St. TORONTO, ON M3J 1P3<br/><a href="http://www.inclusiveeducation.ca">www.inclusiveeducation.ca</a></p>                                       |    |
| <p><b>London District Catholic School Board</b><br/>Terry Spencer, Research Officer<br/>5200 Wellington Rd. S., LONDON, ON N6A 4X5<br/><a href="http://www.ldcsb.on.ca">www.ldcsb.on.ca</a></p>  |    |
| <p><b>Manitoba Education</b><br/>Karen Priestley, Co-ordinator Program &amp; Student Services<br/>1181 Portage Ave., WINNIPEG, MB R3G 0T3<br/><a href="http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca">www.edu.gov.mb.ca</a></p>   |    |
| <p><b>Manitoba Teachers Society,</b><br/>Lia Baksina, Staff Officer<br/>McMaster House, 191 Harcourt St., WINNIPEG, MB R3J 3H2<br/><a href="http://www.mbteach.org">www.mbteach.org</a></p>  |    |
| <p><b>New Brunswick Department of Education &amp; Early Childhood Development</b><br/>Kim Korotkov, Specialist, Resource Teachers Unit<br/>250 King Street, Fredericton, NB E3B 5H1<br/><a href="http://www.gnb.ca">http://www.gnb.ca</a></p>            |  |
| <p><b>Newfoundland Department of Education,</b><br/>Jackie Fewer-Bennett, Consultant for Inclusive Education<br/>3rd Floor, West Block, 100 Prince Philip Dr.,<br/>ST. JOHN'S, NL A1B 4J6<br/><a href="http://www.ed.gov.nl.ca">www.ed.gov.nl.ca</a></p> |  |
| <p><b>Newfoundland &amp; Labrador Assoc. for Community Living</b><br/>Sherry Gambin-Walsh, Executive Director<br/>74 O'Leary Ave., ST. JOHN'S, NL A1B 3N7<br/><a href="http://www.nlacl.ca">www.nlacl.ca</a></p>   |  |
| <p><b>North Vancouver School District 44</b><br/>Julie Parker, Director of Instruction<br/>810 West 21<sup>st</sup> St., NORTH VANCOUVER, BC V7P 2C1<br/><a href="http://www.nvsc44.bc.ca/">www.nvsc44.bc.ca/</a></p>                                    |  |

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| <p><b>Ontario College of Teachers</b><br/>Déirdre Smith, Manager, Standards of Practice &amp; Education<br/>101 Bloor St. West, TORONTO, ON M5S 0A1<br/><a href="http://www.oct.ca">www.oct.ca</a></p>                       |     |
| <p><b>Ontario Ministry of Education</b><br/>Zheng Xu, Education Officer<br/>14th Flr, Mowat Block, 900 Bay St., TORONTO, ON M7A 1L2<br/><a href="http://www.edu.gov.on.ca">www.edu.gov.on.ca</a></p>                         |    |
| <p><b>Pembina Hills Regional Division #7</b><br/>Robert McGarva, Director of Student Services<br/>5310 – 49 Street, BARRHEAD, AB T7N 1P3<br/><a href="http://www.phrd.ab.ca">www.phrd.ab.ca</a></p>                          |    |
| <p><b>Prairie South School Division 210</b><br/>Lori Meyer, Superintendent of Learning<br/>1075 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW, MOOSE JAW, SK S6H 1V7<br/><a href="http://www.prairiesouth.ca">www.prairiesouth.ca</a></p>           |     |
| <p><b>Provincial Integration Support Program BC</b><br/>Chris Jenkins, Program Co-ordinator<br/>1525 Rowan St., VICTORIA, BC V8P 1X4<br/><a href="http://www.pisp.ca">www.pisp.ca</a></p>                                    |    |
| <p><b>Saskatchewan Ministry of Education</b><br/>Tim Caleval, Executive Director, Student Achievement<br/>2220 College Ave., REGINA, SK S4P 4V9<br/><a href="http://www.education.gov.sk.ca">www.education.gov.sk.ca</a></p> |   |
| <p><b>Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation (STF)</b><br/>Gwen Dueck, Executive Director<br/>2317 Arlington Ave., SASKATOON, SK S7J 2H8<br/><a href="http://www.stf.sk.ca">www.stf.sk.ca</a></p>                                 |  |
| <p><b>Seven Oaks School Division</b><br/>Edie Wilde, Assistant Superintendent, Student Services<br/>830 Powers St., WINNIPEG, MB R2V 4E7<br/><a href="http://www.7oaks.org">www.7oaks.org</a></p>                            |  |

## Research Activities

### Research Grants Obtained by National Team

**Aylward, L. (2013).** *Acess Acadia Program: Inclusive post-secondary education program for diverse learners.* Department of Education, Post-Secondary Education Services Division, Special Projects Grant (2013-14). \$45,000.

**Aylward, L. (2013).** *Inclusive education in Malawi.* Harrison McCain Fund Visitorship Award. \$7,490.

- Aylward, L.** (2013). *Resilient rural girls: A strengths-based exploration of Nova Scotia community-based programs and supports*. Acadia 25:55 Internal Research Grant. \$4,421.
- Berg, D. H., & **Hutchinson, N. L.** (2009-2013). *The role of working memory in children's mental addition fluency*. Standard Research Grant, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. \$110,000.
- Craig, W., & Pepler, D. (2011-2015). *A societal approach to achieving healthy relationships and eliminating violence*. National Centres of Excellence Knowledge Mobilization Grant. **J. Freeman**, Co-investigator. \$1,600,000
- Flanagan, T.** (Principal Investigator). (2012-2013). *Quality of student life among Naskapi adolescents*. National Network for Aboriginal Mental Health Research. \$5,000.
- Flanagan, T.** (Principal Investigator), & Burack, J. A., Co-investigator. (2012-2014). *Promoting Integration: I pads in the special classroom*. Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport, Quebec. \$55,450.
- Flanagan, T.**, & Nadig, A. (Co-principal Investigators). (2011-2014). *A service delivery model to better support young adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders in the transition from school to the community*. Max Bell Foundation. \$154,300
- Flanagan, T.** (Principal Investigator). (2011-2013). *S.T.A.R.S: Supporting transitions for at-risk students*. Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport, Quebec. \$74,600
- Gallagher, T.** (2013). *Supporting Literacy Coaches as they Facilitate Teachers' Professional Learning*. Brock University Office of Research Services 4A Funding Support. \$1,000
- Gallagher, T.** & Fazio, X. (2013). *Digital Texts to Enhance Science Vocabulary and Comprehension*. SSHRC Insight Development Grant. \$59,939
- Marshall, E. A.** (2013). *Walking in two worlds for indigenous communities counsellors in training*. Counselling Foundation of Canada Grant. \$180,000
- McIvor, O. (2013). *NETOLNEW: One mind, one people: Working to understand and enhance Indigenous adults' contributions to reviving Indigenous languages in Canada*. SSHRC Partnership Development Grant. **E. A. Marshall**, Co-investigator. \$199,500
- McGhie-Richmond, D.** & Murphy, K. (2012-2013). *Integrating iPads within a universal design for learning framework to support pre-service teachers' instructional planning for diversity*. Learning and Teaching Centre Development Grant. University of Victoria. \$5,312
- Minnes, P., **Hutchinson, N. L.**, Ouellette-Kuntz, H., Perry, A., Loh, A., Weiss, J., Cornish, K., Isaacs, B., Naschen, J., Dionne, C. Versnel, J., & Villeneuve, M. (& 10 collaborators). (2009-2013). *Health, education, and learning practices promoting social inclusion of children with developmental disabilities*. Research grant for Emerging Teams, Canadian Institutes for Health Research. \$899,814
- Nowicki, E.** (2013). *Students, parents and teachers' insight into intellectual and learning disabilities, social exclusion and inclusion*. Research Western SSHRB Bridge Grant. \$13,999.

**Sider, S. (2013).** *Case Studies of School Leadership in Inclusive Schools.* Wilfrid Laurier University Short-Term Research Grant. \$5,000

**Specht, J. (Principal Investigator),** with 23 Co-investigators across Canada. (2012-2013). *Borrowing from Architecture: Universal Design for Inclusion and Learning.* SSHRC Partnership Grant, Letter of Intent. \$19,980

**Specht, J. (Principal Investigator).** (2012-2013). *Graduating teachers: are they ready for the inclusive classroom?* Western University Faculty of Education Research Committee. \$1,555

### **Publications by National Team**

**Aylward, M.L. (2013).** Access Acadia: An inclusive post-secondary education program in Nova Scotia. Canadian Association for Educational Psychology *Dialogic/Dialogique v 1(1).*

**Bennett, S., & Dworet, D.,** with Weber K. (2013). *Special education in Ontario Schools (7th ed.).* Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON: Highland Press.

**Bennett, S. & Gallagher, T.L. (2013)** High school students with intellectual disabilities in the school and workplace: Multiple perspectives on inclusion. *Canadian Journal of Education.* 36(4), 96-124.

Benson, F.J., **Flanagan, T., & Fovet, F. (2013)** When real world learning encounters barriers. A catalyst for change in service provision. *Communiqué, 14,* 15-16.

Ciampa, K. & **Gallagher, T. L. (2013).** Getting in touch: Facilitating the use of the iPod touch in the elementary classroom. *Computers in Schools, 30 (4),* 309-328. doi: 10.1080/07380569.2013.846716

Ciampa, K. & **Gallagher, T. L. (2013).** Professional learning to support elementary teachers' use of the iPod touch in the classroom. *Professional Development in Education, 39(2),* 201-221. doi:10.1080/19415257.2012.749802

Currie, H. & **Sider, S. (2013).** Single fathers and their daughters: Working as a team. *Canadian Journal of Family and Youth, 5(1),* 65-89. Access at: <http://ejournals.library.ualberta.ca/index.php/cjfy/article/view/18948/14683>

Davidson, K., & **Nowicki, E.A. (2013).** An exploration of the utility of a knowledge utilization framework to study the gap between reading disabilities research and practice. *Alberta Journal of Educational Research, 53,* 330-349.

Fazio, X. & **Gallagher, T. (2013).** Morphological levels of science content vocabulary: Implications for science-based texts in elementary classroom. *International Journal of Science and Mathematics Education.* doi: 10.1007/s10763-013-9470-4

**Gallagher, T. & Bennett, S. (2013).** School supported workplace transition for students with ID: Why inclusive principles/principals matter! *International Journal for Leadership in Learning.* 1(1), 1-25. <http://ijll.journalhosting.ucalgary.ca/index.php/ijll/article/view/213/pdf>

- Gaudreau, N., Royer, É., Frenette, É., Beaumont, C. & **Flanagan, T.** (2013). Classroom behavior management: The effects of in-service training on elementary teachers' self-efficacy beliefs. *McGill Journal of Education*, 48, 359-382.
- Hutchinson, N. L.** (2013). *Inclusion of exceptional learners in Canadian schools: A practical handbook for teachers* (4th ed.). Toronto, ON: Prentice Hall.
- Katz, J.** (2013). *Resource teachers: A changing role in the Three Block Model of Universal Design for Learning*. Winnipeg, MB: Portage & Main Press.
- Katz, J.** (2013). The Three Block Model of Universal Design for Learning (UDL): Engaging students in inclusive education. *Canadian Journal of Education*, 36(1), 153-194..
- Killoran, I., Zaretsky, H., Jordan, A., **Smith, D.**, Allard, C., & Moloney, J. (2013). Supporting teachers to work with children with exceptionalities. *Canadian Journal of Education*, 36(1), 240-270.
- Maich, K.**, Hall, C. & **Sider, S.** (2013). Learning people skills: Social literacy for people with autism spectrum disorders. *Education Canada* (53)2, 21-23. Access at: <http://www.cea-ace.ca/education-canada/article/learning-people-skills>
- Marfull-Jensen, M., **Flanagan, T.** & Ossa, C. (2013). Calidad de vida de las personas con discapacidad. *Revista Iberoamericana de Educación*, 63, 51-62.
- Marshall, E.A.**, Stewart, S.L., Popadiuk, N., & Lawrence, B. (2013) Walking in multiple worlds. Successful school-to-work transitions for Indigenous and cultural minority youth. In G. Tchibozo (Ed.), *Cultural and social diversity and the transition from education to work*. (pp.185-202). Rotterdam, Netherlands: Springer.
- McGhie-Richmond, D.**, Irvine, A., **Loreman, T.**, Cizman, J., & Lupart, J. (2013). Teacher perspectives on inclusive education in rural Alberta, Canada. *Canadian Journal of Education*, 36(1), 195-239.
- McGhie-Richmond, D.**, & Sung, A. N. (2013). Applying Universal Design for Learning to instructional lesson planning. *International Journal of Whole Schooling*, 9(1).
- Nowicki, E.A.** & Brown, J. (2013). 'A kid way': Strategies for including classmates who find learning difficult. *Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, 51, 253-262.
- Nowicki, E.A.**, Brown, J., & Stepien, M. (accepted). Children's structured conceptualizations of the causes of learning difficulties. *Journal of Mixed Methods Research*, 8, 69-82.
- Nowicki, E.A.**, Brown, J., & Stepien, M. (accepted). Children's thoughts on the social exclusion of peers with intellectual or learning difficulties. *Journal of Intellectual Disabilities Research*.
- Sider, S.** (2013). *Leadership éducationnel en Haïti: Perspectives des leaders scolaires*. St. Jacobs, ON: Profider Publications.
- Sider, S.** & Ashun, M. (2013). "My classroom is a bigger place": Examining the impact of a professional development course on the global perspective of experienced teachers. *Canadian and International Education* 42(1). Accesss at: <http://ir.lib.uwo.ca/cie-eci/vol42/iss1/3/>

- Specht, J.** (2013). Introduction to the special issue: What is inclusive education in Canada? *Canadian Journal of Education*, 36(1), 1-2.
- Specht, J.** (2013). School inclusion: Are we getting it right? *Education Canada*, 53(2), 16-19.
- Specht, J.** (2013). Mental health in schools: Lessons learned from exclusion. *Canadian Journal of School Psychology*, 29, 43-55.
- Timmons, V.** (2013). *IASSIDD*: Are we practising knowledge translation effectively? *Journal of Policy and Practice in Intellectual Disabilities*, 10 (3), 99-101.
- Timmons, V.** (2013). Aboriginal students' perceptions of post-secondary success initiatives. *Canadian Journal of Native Studies*, 33(1), 231-237.
- Timmons, V.** (2013). Foreword. In T. Long & King, S. (Eds.), *In the vaults: Art from the MacKenzie Art Gallery and the University of Regina Collections*. Regina, SK: University of Regina Press.
- Timmons, V.** (2013). *Progress, pride and frustration: Fulfilling the promise of inclusive education*. Canadian Association of Educational Psychology (CAEP) Dialogic, Vol. 1, 6-8.
- Timmons, V., & Ouellette-Kuntz, H.** (2013). *Foreword*. In L. Taggart, & W. Cousins (Eds.), *Health promotion for people with intellectual disabilities*. Maidenhead, UK: Open University Press and McGraw-Hill Education.
- Villeneuve, M., Chatenoud, C., **Hutchinson, N.L.**, Minnes, P., et al. (2013). The experience of parents as their children with developmental disabilities transition from early intervention to kindergarten. *Canadian Journal of Education*, 36(1), 4-43.
- Whitley, J.**, Smith, D., & Vaillancourt, T. (2013). Promoting mental health literacy among educators: Critical in school based prevention and intervention. *Canadian Journal of School Psychology*, 28(1), 56-70. 20pp.

### **Presentations by National Team at Conferences**

- Aylward, M. L.** (2013). *Access Acadia: An inclusive post-secondary education program*. Presentation at the International Association of Special Education thirteenth biennial conference, Vancouver, BC.
- Bennett, S., Gallagher, T. L., Servos, J., & Donato, K.** (2013, November). *Does inclusion make a difference? Young adults with intellectual disabilities transitioning from school into community*. Presented at the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) 57nd annual provincial conference, Niagara Falls, ON.
- Bennett, S. & Specht, J.** (2013, November). *The Inclusion Check List and Discussion: Inclusive education as evidence-based educational practice*. Presented at Meeting the diversity challenge: Can schools be both effective and inclusive within a special education context? London, ON Canada.
- Benson, F.J., Fovet, F., & **Flanagan, T.** (2013, June). *Easing transitions from program to field for students with disabilities*. Paper presented at the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education conference, Sydney, NS, Canada.

- Benson, F.J., Fovet, F., & **Flanagan, T.** (2013, June). *When passage for Universal Design encounters roadblocks: Navigating the thorny issue of field placements*. Paper presented at the conference of the Canadian Association of College and University Student Services, Montreal, QC.
- Benson, F.J., Smith, N.G., & **Flanagan, T.** (2013, May). *Making teacher training programs and field experiences safe spaces for minority sexual identity student teachers: Impacts on program architecture*. Paper presented at Centre de Recherche Interuniversitaire sur la formation et la Profession Enseignante, Montreal, QC.
- Calder-Stegemann, K.** (2013, June). Inclusive practices in a semi-rural BC school district: Perspectives of educators and administrators. Paper presented at the annual congress of the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences, Victoria BC.
- Flanagan, T.**, Marfull-Jensen, M., & Ossa, C. (2013, June). *Post-secondary inclusion in Chile: Notes from the field*. Paper presented at the conference of the Society for Disability Studies, Orlando, FL.
- Fovet, F., Benson, F.B., & **Flanagan, T.** (2013, May). *Sisyphus' task? Accommodating emerging clientele in professional degree paths: Navigating the challenges of practicums and real-world evaluations*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Canadian Society for Studies in Education, Victoria, BC.
- Gallagher, T. L.**, Fazio, X. & Ciampa, K. (2013, December). *Readability of science-based texts: Comparing literacy readers, trade books and on-line periodicals*. Paper presented at the Literacy Research Association (LRA). Dallas, TX.
- Katz, J. & Specht, J.** (2013, October). Canadian Research Centre on Inclusive Education. Presented at the International Congress of Educational Sciences and Development. Santander, Spain
- MacCormack, J. W.** (2013, June). *Using Crick & Dodge's Social Information Model to re-frame autism research*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Canadian Society for the Study of Education, Victoria, BC.
- Marshall, E.A.**, Stewart, S., Coverdale, J., Popadiuk, N. & Butler, K. (2013, October). *Walking in multiple worlds. Educational and work transitions for cultural minority and Indigenous emerging adults*. Paper presented at the 6<sup>th</sup> Conference on Emerging Adulthood, Chicago, IL
- Marshall, E.A.**, Lawrence, B., Roche, T., & Poje, S. (2013, June). *Teaching Community-engaged research methods: A mixed methods study*. Presentation at the Canadian Educational Research Association Conference, Victoria, BC.
- Marshall, E.A.**, Stewart, S. L., Popadiuk, N, & Begoray, D. (2013, January). *Successful transitions from secondary school for cultural minority, Indigenous and international students*. Presentation at the Hawaii International Conference on Education, Honolulu, HI.
- McGhie-Richmond, D., Specht, J., Loreman, T., Aylward, L., Bennett, S., Gallagher, T., Katz, J., Lyons, W., Metsala, J., Mirenda, P., Thompson, S., Young, G., Copfer, S., Gregory, K., & Cloutier, S.** (2013, June). *New teachers' self-efficacy for teaching in diverse and inclusive classrooms: A Canadian snapshot*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Canadian Society for the Study of Education, Victoria, BC.

- Dare, L., & **Nowicki, E.** (2013, November). Why accelerate? *Words from the WISE*. Poster presented at the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), Niagara Falls, ON.
- Porter, G., Specht, J. & Bennett, S.** (2013, November) *Making Change Happen: some considerations based on theory and practice*. Presented at Meeting the diversity Challenge: Can schools be both effective and inclusive within a special education context? London, ON Canada.
- Porter, G., Specht, J. & Bennett, S.** (2013, November). *The Steps Forward: wrap up session to identify next steps both at a personal and systemic institutional level*. Presented at Meeting the diversity challenge: Can schools be both effective and inclusive within a special education context? London, ON Canada.
- Smith, D.** (2013, June). *Democratic dialogue as a process to inform public policy: Re-conceptualizing special education qualification courses*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Canadian Society for the Study of Education, Victoria, BC.
- Specht, J.** (2013, September). *Everyone belongs on my school*. Presented at the St. Francis Elementary School Council Event. Guelph, ON Canada (invited).
- Specht, J.** (2013, September). *Everyone has the Right to Successful Quality Education*. Presented at the Annual Meeting of Community Living Ontario. London, ON Canada.
- Specht, J.** (2013, May). *Success in school: It takes a community*. Presented at the Wellington Catholic District School Board Parent Involvement Committee Conference. Guelph, ON Canada (Invited)
- Specht, J.** (2013, February). *What we know from research about inclusion and accommodating students with diverse learning needs*. Panel discussion with Dr. Sheila Bennett, presented at Meeting the Challenge: Accommodation and Inclusion, Toronto ON. (invited)
- Specht, J.** (2013, February). *Inclusive education: It's all about relationships*. Presented at the Let's Talk Education Series. Faculty of Education, Western University, London, ON Canada (invited)
- Specht, J. & Bennett, S.** (2013, November). *Inclusion Look-fors: How do we know if your school or classroom is inclusive?* Presented at Meeting the Diversity Challenge: Can schools be both effective and inclusive within a special education context? London, ON Canada.
- Specht, J. & Bennett, S. & Porter, G.** (2013, November). *Making Inclusion a Reality: the Path Forward in Canadian Schools*. Presented at Meeting the diversity challenge: Can schools be both effective and inclusive within a special education context? London, ON Canada.
- Specht, J., Gallagher, T., Bennett, S. & Donato, K.** (2013, November). *What does research tell us about inclusive practice?* Presented at Meeting the diversity challenge: Can schools be both effective and inclusive within a special education context? London, ON Canada.
- Taylor, C. E., **Hutchinson, N. L.**, Ingersoll, M., Dalton, C. J. , Dodds, J. Godden, L. Versnel, J. Chin, P. & **de Lugt, J.** (2013, June). *At-risk youth find work hope in work-based education*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Canadian Society for Studies in Education, Victoria, BC.

**Young, G.D. & Specht, J.** (2013, June). *Examining the impact of assistive technology on students with learning disabilities and strategies to support its use*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Canadian Society for the Study of Education, Victoria, BC.

### **Graduate Student Research Supervision by National Team\***

\*Team members are thesis or dissertation supervisors of graduate student work in progress at their universities, unless otherwise noted.

#### **AuCoin, Angela, Université de Moncton, NB**

Vautour, Charlyne. *Comprendre l'expérience vécue des adolescentes et adolescents de Kent Nord qui éprouvent des défis en lecture et écriture*. Programme doctoral en éducation (Doctoral program in education). Dr. AuCoin, codirectrice du projet de thèse.

Therriault, Crystine Louise. *Soutenir les élèves du secondaire en minorité sexuelle: un outil pour les enseignants francophones du Nouveau-Brunswick*. Maîtrise en enseignement, mention enseignement-ressource (Master's program in Education).

#### **Aylward, Lynn, Acadia University, NS**

AbiHanna, Rola. *Out of place: Exploring the first-year migration experiences of newcomer families to Nova Scotia*. Inter-university Doctoral Program in Educational Studies.

Armstrong, Elaina. (2013). *Collaboration as a response to teaching in the inclusive classroom: The perspectives of three elementary teachers*. M.Ed., St. Francis Xavier University, Nova Scotia. Dr. Aylward, external examiner of thesis.

Bruce, Cynthia. *Negotiating accommodations: Exploring the experiences of disabled university students and university faculty in Nova Scotia*. Inter-university Doctoral Program in Educational Studies.

Kowalyk, Cindy. (2013). *An accessible math resource portal*. M.Ed. Project in Education.

#### **Bennett, Sheila, Brock University, ON**

Bork, Poling. *Selective mutism*. Ph. D. dissertation.

Lacharite, Monique. Ph. D. dissertation.

Servos, Jennifer. *Inclusion and learning disabilities*. M. Ed. thesis.

Uttamingsingh, Jason. *Attention deficit hyperactive disorder*. M. Ed. thesis.

#### **Flanagan, Tara, McGill University, QC**

Aguilera, Carla. *SQOL & First Nations*. M.A. School Psychology.

Batool, Asma. *Disability and cross-cultural issues*. Ph.D. Human Development.

Budd, Jillian. *Autism and on-line technology*. M.A. School Psychology.

Dansereau, Francesca. *Autism spectrum disorders and online communication*. Ph.D. Human Development.

Dupasquier, Marina. *Parent perceptions and inclusive education*. Ph.D. School Psychology.

- Jalali-Kushki, Yasaman. *Immigration and disabilities*. Ph.D. Human Development.
- Malik, Arzoo. *Post-secondary inclusion and developmental disabilities*. M.Ed. Inclusive Education.
- Marfull, Marisol. *Cross-cultural and disability*. Ph.D. Human Development.
- Pereira, Liane. *Experiences and voices of at-risk youth*. Ph.D. Human Development.
- Plante, Audrey Kabis. *Self-determination and at-risk youth*. M. Ed. Inclusive Education.
- Saxe, Amanda. *Sexuality and developmental disabilities*. Ph.D. Human Development.
- Sobel, Hailey. *Teacher perceptions and transitions*. Ph.D. School Psychology.
- White, Keeley. *Transitions and Autism spectrum disorders*. Ph.D. School Psychology.

**Freeman, John**, Queen's University, ON

- Bradshaw, Lorayne. *Understanding the benefits of alternative school programs*. Ph.D. dissertation.
- Gillis, Ed. *Helping teachers and administrators understand the needs of at-risk adolescents*. M. Ed. project.
- MacCormack, Jeffrey . *The role of perseverative interests for young children with autism*. Ph.D. dissertation.
- Rombough, Kate. *Promoting resiliency for young males at risk of incarceration*. M. Ed. thesis.
- Sheldon, Erin. *A guide to Angelmann's syndrome for teachers and parents*. M.Ed. thesis.

**Hutchinson, Nancy**, Queen's University, ON

- Clausen, April. *Autism, Asperger's Syndrome and episodic memory*. Ph.D. dissertation. Dr. Hutchinson, co-supervisor.
- Dalton, C. J. *Sharing burdens of communication: Managing hearing loss and classroom inclusion*. Ph.D. dissertation.
- deLugt, Jenn. *Students who struggle: What learning to read means*. Ph.D. dissertation.
- Dods, Jenn. *Understanding teacher candidate and nursing student behavioural intentions to support mental health: An application of the theory of planned behaviour*. Ph.D. dissertation.
- Matheson, I. (2013). *Students' beliefs about learning and intelligence: An examination of academic stream, gender, learning disabilities status, and achievement*. M.Ed. thesis.
- McIsaac, Emily. *Multiple perspectives on transition into Kindergarten for children with disabilities*. M. Ed. thesis.
- McNeely, M. (2013). *Insider perspectives: How being a teacher with a disability affects practice*. M.Ed. thesis.
- Robinson, Kyle *Multiple perspective case study of inclusion in one Ontario secondary school*. M. Ed. thesis.
- Young, Anna. (2013). *Considering leadership in Ontario schools? A workshop for aspiring leaders*. M. Ed. thesis.

**Katz, Jennifer**, University of Manitoba

- McGowan, Sharlene. Ph.D. dissertation. Dr. Katz, co-supervisor.

**Marshall, Anne**, University of Victoria, BC

- Austin, M. *Supporting cultural identity for Aboriginal children in elementary schools*. M. A. thesis.
- Loverso, T. Ph. D. dissertation, University of Alberta. Dr. Marshall, external examiner.
- Rostam, H. Ph. D. dissertation, University of British Columbia. Dr. Marshall, external examiner.
- Spowart, P. *Young native men's work experiences*. M. A. thesis.

**McGhie-Richmond, Donna**, University of Victoria, BC

- Barker, Laurissa. M.Ed. thesis.
- Blundon, Pat. Ph.D. dissertation.
- Bedell, Julie. M.Ed. thesis.
- Fallan, Karen. M.Ed. thesis.
- Gibson, Misha. M.A, thesis.
- Graves, Kim. M.Ed. thesis.
- Halbert, Jennifer. M.A, thesis.
- May, Sarah. M.A, thesis.
- Murphy, Karen. M.A, thesis.
- Oxley, Amanda. M.Ed. thesis.
- Speagle, Molly. M.Ed. thesis.
- Sung, Andrew. Ph.D. dissertation.
- White, Renee. M.Ed. thesis.

**Nowicki, Elizabeth**, Western University, ON

- Feliban, Huda. (2013). *Elementary students' beliefs about the causes of learning difficulties in Canada and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: A cross-cultural comparison*. M. Ed. thesis.
- Dare, Lynn. (2013). *The social inclusion of gifted adolescents*. M. Ed. thesis. Recipient of the Joseph-Armand Bombardier CGS Master's Scholarship.
- Lopata, Joel. *Neurological correlates of creativity*. Ph. D. dissertation.

**Penney, Sharon**, Memorial University of Newfoundland

- Croke, C. *Perceptions of students with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and the Impact Inclusive education has on their educational experience*. M. Ed. thesis.
- Furlong, R. *An investigation of the development and implementation of Pathway 4 alternate courses in social skills training for students with autism*. M. Ed. thesis.
- Maclsaac, B. *Toward the integration of education and school- based behavioural supports: the B.E.S.T. program in northern Nova Scotia*. Ph.D. dissertation.

McDonald, C. *Teachers' attitudes toward inclusion in Newfoundland*. M.Ed. in Counselling Psychology.

Snow, C. A. *Qualitative study on the perspective of teachers on the inclusion of students with autism spectrum disorder in Nova Scotia classrooms*. M. Ed. thesis.

Sooley-Dyke, G. *Perceptions of early career teachers regarding inclusion*. M. Ed. thesis.

Worthman, J. (2013). *Parental attitudes towards inclusion*. M. Ed. thesis.

**Sider, Steve**, Wilfrid Laurier University, ON.

Khan, Faraz. M.Ed. thesis.

Shalan, Hend. Ph.D. dissertation.

**Specht, Jacqueline**, Western University, ON

Gibson, Michelle. (2013). *Demystifying epilepsy: Teachers' implementation of a stigma-reduction resource*. M.Ed. thesis.

Gregory, Karen. *Individual education plan (IEP) development for children with developmental disabilities in Ontario's schools: A narrative journey*. Ph.D. dissertation.

Meek, Fiona. *Mental health training for adult education teachers*. M.Ed. thesis.

**Thompson, Scott**, University of Regina, SK

Ferguson, Tammy. Ph. D. dissertation, Educational Psychology.

Kokorudz, Shelley. Ph.D. dissertation, Curriculum and Instruction. Dr. Thompson, co-supervisor.

Cutting, Cambri. *Young elementary students' perceptions on disability and difference*. M. Ed. thesis. Curriculum and Instruction.

Shearer, Rana. *Plan B strategies: A qualitative inquiry of high schools' contingency plans for targeted school violence*. M.Ed. thesis. Dr. Thompson, co-supervisor.

**Young, Gabrielle**, Memorial University of Newfoundland

Careen, Christine. *Examining the use of iPads to support learning*. M.Ed. thesis.

O'Quinn, Helen. *Examining inclusive education practices*. M.Ed. thesis.

## **Inclusion Activities at Western University**

### **February 12, 2013: “Inclusive Education: It’s all about relationships”**



As part of the Complimentary Speaker Series at Western’s Faculty of Education Jacqueline Specht addressed an audience of educators, parents, teacher candidates and graduate students about how to create inclusive communities that promote academic success. By including all students, caregivers can create communities that appreciate the unique contributions and diversity of all people, and help everyone feel that they belong.

### **June 14, 2013: Graduate Student Research Awards**

The **Inclusive Education Graduate Research Award**, sponsored by the **Canadian Research Centre on Inclusive Education** and funded by Foundation Western, is presented annually to up to three graduate students in education at Western. To be eligible for the award, a student must undertake a research project that is part of the thesis/dissertation requirement for the completion of the program, and the research proposal must address an issue that is related to the inclusion of children with special learning needs. The Centre for Inclusive Education presented the **2013 Graduate Research Award** to Sarah Copfer, **Lynn Dare**, and **Christina Yarmol** These students were acknowledged at Western’s Faculty of Education Awards Ceremony on June 14, 2013. They each received a certificate, and a cash award of \$750.



In 2013, the **Jessica Jean Campbell Coulson Award** sponsored by the **Canadian Research Centre on Inclusive Education** and established by Foundation Western was presented to a graduate student who is conducting research in the area of Special Education. This award is funded by Mr. David R. Campbell (BA '38) in memory of his daughter, who was an exemplary special education teacher. Congratulations again to **Sarah Copfer** for her research proposal, “*Investigating the provision of student support and accommodation for students with learning disabilities (LD) in Canadian post-secondary institutions.*” She received a certificate and a cash award of \$1,000 at the Awards Ceremony. For more detailed information about Sarah’s proposal, please visit:

[http://www.edu.uwo.ca/Inclusive\\_Education/grad\\_research.asp](http://www.edu.uwo.ca/Inclusive_Education/grad_research.asp)

**Sarah Copfer**

### **October 25, 2013: Coaching to Inclusion Conference**

On Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013, the 16th annual **Coaching to Inclusion Conference** with the theme of *Inclusive Inquiry in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Classroom* was held in London at the Best Western Lamplighter Inn. This one day event is an annual collaboration between the **Canadian Research Centre on Inclusive Education** and the **Coaching to Inclusion Committee**.

Approximately 125 educators from the South Western Ontario region attended. Keynote speaker this year was Kerri Steel, District Principal, Student Support Services, Qualicum School District, BC. She provided many

resources and video-taped examples of resources for Gradual Release of Instruction and Response to Intervention, and literacy and numeracy instruction. To facilitate greater access and to reduce paper, participants received “take-away” resources electronically following the conference.

During the conference, **Champion of Inclusion Awards** were presented to nine educators from school boards in southwestern Ontario. This award is given to educators who are nominated by their school boards and who exemplify and inspire best practices in inclusive education. Each recipient was presented with an Inukshuk . The Inukshuk is used to represent the ideal of cooperation among people and the aboriginal belief that ‘together we can do even greater things’.



### Symposium, November 27-29, 2013



This three-day symposium focused on inclusive educational practice from a legal and human rights perspective as well as school improvement and ensuring student success in learning. Sessions explored the challenges and opportunities that face every school and district in Canada. Customized sessions provided opportunities for individual participants to work in school-board based teams to explore and address challenges in their working environment. Participants interacted with the symposium team and each other to develop strategies for moving forward.

#### Can schools be both effective and inclusive within a special education context?

The 9-0 ruling by the Supreme Court of Canada (SOC) in the Moore vs B.C. case has created a new reality for District and School Education Leaders in Canada. The decision breaks new ground in compelling appropriate accommodation to meet the education needs of students with disabilities. There are a number of important aspects to the decision. The symposium featured:

- Human Rights and the Supreme Court of Canada decision in Moore vs B.C.
- The inclusion mandate for schools, and what research tells us about inclusive practice
- Assessing and building school and classroom practices that make inclusive education work
- “Strengthening Inclusion, Strengthening Schools” – connecting school improvement to inclusive practices
- Inclusive education through the lens of parents and students with disabilities

- Building an “Action Plan” to strengthen inclusion in your school, district and community
- Roles and staff functions in inclusive schools
- Dialogue and problem solving with colleagues

## **Promotional Activities**

**New Web Site:** This past year, the Centre’s web site was re-imagined to reflect the mandate of the Canadian Research Centre on Inclusive Education. There is now information about the education and community partners from across Canada, and detailed descriptions of the research project strands.

Visit the new site at [www.inclusiveeducationresearch.ca](http://www.inclusiveeducationresearch.ca)

## **Plans for the Future**

**Conference 2014:** The Centre will be partnering once again with a number of school boards in southwestern Ontario to host the Coaching to Inclusion conference and the Champion of Inclusion Awards in October. Dr. Donna McGhie-Richmond, professor of education at the University of Victoria BC and a research associate of the Centre, will be the keynote speaker. Educators from participating school boards will present a series of workshops covering several topics on inclusive education.

**Newsletters:** The Centre is investigating the potential for more interactive dissemination of information relating to current issues in inclusion through weblogs or wikis.

**Accessible Web Site:** The research co-ordinator worked with our web site designer, Murray Clark, to ensure that the content on the site is accessible by people who may be using a screen reader or other alternative devices with their internet browsers. In 2013, we continued to upgrade the web site to serve as a model of the accessibility standards as set by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C). These standards include features that enable easier navigation around the web site, selection of desired text size, access to descriptions of images on the pages, and the ability to see or hear definitions of acronyms. The site is the primary means of communication for the Centre, providing access to electronic copies of the newsletter, upcoming conference notices, and application forms for the research awards, along with links to other relevant sites. The site may be viewed at [www.inclusiveeducationresearch.ca](http://www.inclusiveeducationresearch.ca)

**National Advisory Board:** The Centre will create an advisory board and continue to build the national structure of the Canadian Research Centre on Inclusive Education.

**Research Funding for National Projects:** The national team will maintain contact through electronic media such as Skype and teleconference meetings to move forward with securing additional research funding such as SSHRC grants that will allow us to continue to work together.

**Courses on Inclusion for Members of the Community:** There is a need for people other than teachers to learn about inclusion. In the coming year, we will discuss plans with several stakeholders to develop a short program of courses that could be offered to the general public. These could be delivered locally and/or nationally.