

## ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTORS



A team of professionals, representing postsecondary institutions from twenty states throughout the United States, gathered in collaborative meetings and online and telephone conferences to help develop and test the professional development content and strategies included in these materials. Their continuous involvement in the *AccessCollege* project assured that project products have applicability nationwide. *AccessCollege* is funded by the U.S. Department of Education (grant #P333A050064), through DO-IT (Disabilities, Opportunities, Internetworking, and Technology) at the University of Washington.



*AccessCollege* staff and team members:

- develop and deliver professional development and technical assistance using multiple delivery systems.
- validate campus accessibility indicators and use pre-post checklists to document institutional changes in policies, procedures, and practices that lend to campuses that are more inclusive of students with disabilities.
- prepare content to be published in a book on universal design in postsecondary education, as well as distribute training videos, publications, and web resources to train faculty and staff on applications of universal design.
- improve the accessibility of activities and products of professional organizations.

Project methods will result in postsecondary institutions and professional organizations that are more inclusive of people with disabilities. Ultimately, *AccessCollege* will increase the success of individuals with disabilities in postsecondary education and careers.



### **AccessCollege Staff**

DO-IT staff members who work on the *AccessCollege* project include:

Sheryl Burgstahler, Director  
Michael Richardson, Manager  
Rebecca C. Cory, Evaluation/Research Coordinator  
Marvin Crippen, Technology Specialist  
Elizabeth Moore, External Evaluator  
Rebekah Peterson, Publications Coordinator  
Lisa Stewart, Project Coordinator  
Linda Tofle, Editor

### **AccessCollege Team**

*AccessCollege* team members are listed below.

Alice Anderson  
Technology Access Program Coordinator  
Division of Information Technology  
University of Wisconsin–Madison  
Madison, WI  
Partner: Madison Area Technical College,  
Madison, WI

Beatrice Awoniyi  
Assistant Dean of Students  
Director of Student Disability Resource Center  
Florida State University  
Tallahassee, FL  
Partner: Tallahassee Community College  
and Florida A&M University, Tallahassee,  
FL

Meryl Bernstein  
Director, The Center for Academic Support  
Johnson and Wales University  
Providence, RI  
Partner: Community College of Rhode  
Island, Warwick, RI

Sharon Bittner  
Director, Academic Support Services  
Des Moines Area Community College  
Ankeny, IA  
Partner: Iowa State University, Ames, IA

Barbara Brown  
Academic Counselor  
Kodiak College  
Kodiak, AK  
Partner: University of Alaska, Anchorage

Deborah Casey-Powell  
Assistant Dean of Student Services  
Green River Community College  
Auburn, WA

Adele Darr  
Director, Disability Resource Center  
Arizona State University  
Tempe, AZ  
Partner: South Mountain Community  
College, Phoenix, AZ

Tim Dailey  
Director of Disability Services for Students  
Southwestern Oregon Community College  
Coos Bay, OR  
Partner: University of Oregon, Eugene, OR

Jim Gorske  
Assistant Dean of Students/Director of  
Disability Resource Center  
University of Florida  
Gainesville, FL  
Partner: Greenville Technical College,  
Greenville, SC

Pam Griffin  
General Disability Services Coordinator,  
Disability Services & Resources  
University of Minnesota—Duluth  
Duluth, MN  
Partner: Fond Du Lac Tribal and  
Community College, Cloquet, MN



Grace T. Hanson  
Director of Disabled Student Services  
Mt. San Antonio College  
Walnut, CA  
Partner: California State University—Long  
Beach, Long Beach, CA

Dyane Haynes  
Director of Disability Resources for Students  
University of Washington  
Seattle, WA  
Partner: Seattle University, Seattle, WA

Elaine High  
Learning Disabilities Specialist  
Virginia Walker  
Cognitive Disabilities and Brain Injury /  
Student-Athlete Liaison  
Resource Center for Persons with  
Disabilities  
Michigan State University  
East Lansing, MI  
Partner: Kalamazoo Valley Community  
College, Kalamazoo, MI

Melissa Locher  
Coordinator for Disability Services  
Missouri Southern State University  
Joplin, MO  
Partner: Crowder Community College,  
Neosho, MO

Rodney Pennamon  
Director of Disability Services  
The Margaret A. Staton Office of Disability  
Services  
Georgia State University  
Atlanta, GA  
Partner: Georgia Perimeter College,  
Clarkston, GA

Patricia Richter  
Coordinator, Services for Americans with  
Disabilities  
Office of Human Diversity  
Kutztown University  
Kutztown, PA  
Partner: Lehigh Carbon Community College,  
Schnecksville, PA

Sharon Robertson  
Assistant Director of Student Success Center  
University of Tennessee at Martin  
Martin, TN  
Partner: Middle Tennessee State University,  
Murfreesboro, TN

Rosezelia Roy  
Coordinator, Students with Disabilities  
Program  
Virginia State University  
Petersburg, VA  
Partner: J. Sargeant Reynolds Community  
College, Richmond, VA

Audrey Annette Smelser  
Counselor/Disability Specialist  
Student Support Services  
National Park Community College  
Hot Springs, AR  
Partner: Henderson State University,  
Arkadelphia, AR

Al Souma  
Counselor, Disability Support Services  
Seattle Central Community College  
Seattle, WA  
Partner: Seattle University, Seattle, WA

Suzanne Tucker  
Coordinator, Disability Resource Office  
Southern Connecticut State University  
New Haven, CT  
Partner: Gateway Community College,  
New Haven, CT



## **Building Capacity**

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Linda Walter  
Director, Disability Support Services  
Seton Hall University  
South Orange, NJ  
Partner: Raritan Valley Community College,  
Somerville, NJ

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



DO-IT (Disabilities, Opportunities, Internetworking, and Technology) at the University of Washington has, since 1992, worked to increase the successful participation of individuals with disabilities in postsecondary education and employment. It sponsors projects that promote the use of assistive technology and the development of accessible facilities, computer labs, electronic resources in libraries, web pages, educational multimedia, and distance learning programs. DO-IT is a collaboration of Computing & Communications and the Colleges of Engineering and Education at the University of Washington. Primary funding for DO-IT is provided by the National Science Foundation, the State of Washington, and the U.S. Department of Education. More information about DO-IT initiatives and projects, including *AccessCollege*, can be found at <http://www.washington.edu/doit/>.

In 1999, the U.S. Department of Education Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE) funded *DO-IT Prof* (grant #P333A990042) to create professional development materials and train faculty and academic administrators nationwide to more fully include students with disabilities in their courses. In 2002, OPE funded *DO-IT Admin* (grant #P333A020044), which expanded *DO-IT Prof* efforts to train student service administrators and also staff. Project team members further identified the critical need to systematically change policies, procedures, and practices in order for both universal design and reasonable accommodations to be embraced at an institutional level.

*AccessCollege* (grant #P333A050064) continues to offer and refine the successful professional development and resources for faculty and administrators of earlier projects. It complements them with the identification, validation, and application of campus accessibility indicators (DO-IT, 2007) to document institutional change toward more accessible courses and programs. *AccessCollege* also supports *The Center for Universal Design in Education* at <http://www.washington.edu/doit/CUDE/>.

Much of the content for this publication is duplicated in other publications, training materials, and web pages published by DO-IT (e.g., Burgstahler, 2002, 2005, 2007 & DO-IT, 2007). Most can be found at the comprehensive website <http://www.washington.edu/doit/>. Permission is granted to copy these materials for educational, noncommercial purposes provided the source is acknowledged. Although the materials were developed with funding from the U.S. Department of Education, the contents express the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of the Department of Education, and you should not assume their endorsement.

*AccessCollege* is a Model Demonstration Project of the Office of Postsecondary Education in the U.S. Department of Education. The purpose of these projects is to develop innovative, effective, and efficient teaching methods to enhance the skills and abilities of postsecondary faculty and administrators working with students who have disabilities. Links to all of the Model Demonstration Projects are at <http://www.ed.gov/programs/disabilities/awards.html>.



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