

Ms. Margaret Sullivan, College of Education
October 1, 2011 – July 31, 2012



The Working with the Experts (WWE) project supports the Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Service's (BEESS) need to increase the State's capacity to recruit, prepare/develop, and retain highly qualified personnel in Florida who provide instructional and related services to children with disabilities.

The WWE Project is responsible for three primary initiatives:

- (1) Delivery and statewide leadership support for the Working with the Experts program for Occupational and Physical Therapists.
- (2) Delivery and statewide leadership support for professional development and communication initiatives with IHE faculty preparing teachers to serve students with disabilities.
- (3) Facilitate development of a state personnel development plan and Florida's proposal for the next State Personnel Development Grant.

Project objectives for the WWE project include the following:

Objective 1: Increase the awareness and knowledge of school-based related services personnel on current and emerging ESE initiatives and best practice in educationally relevant therapy through the implementation of evidenced-based professional development activities via provision of the Working with the Experts program for Occupational and Physical Therapists.

Objective 2: Increase the awareness and knowledge of IHE faculty members on current and emerging ESE and FDOE initiatives (including Florida's Race to the Top activities), provide professional content driven by the IHE faculty needs assessment and facilitate an exchange of information between faculty and BEESS.

Objective 3: Coordinate and contribute to the development of Florida's state personnel development plan and application for the new five year SPGD proposal.