

VITA

Gerald M. Connolly

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Career Objectives

- To promote the use of technology by educational personnel in meeting the needs of students with disabilities
- To utilize my skills in defining technology solutions for students who encounter disability related obstacles at school, in the community, at work or at home

Educational Background

- M.A. in Vocational Preparation for Special Needs Students, University of Washington, 1982
- Certification in Elementary and Special Education, Seattle University, 1979
- B.A. in Music (magna cum laude), Seattle University, 1977
- Continuing coursework in instructional technology and assistive technology

Work Experience

- *Director*, Special Education Technology Center, Ellensburg, WA, 2005 - present
- *Technology Specialist*, Special Education Technology Center, Ellensburg, WA, 1995 - 2005
- *Special Education/Transition Teacher*, White River High School, Buckley, WA, 1994-95
- *Special Education Teacher*, Gault Middle School, Tacoma, WA, 1992-94
- *Special Education Teacher*, McIlvaigh Middle School, Tacoma, WA, 1979-92

Statewide/Regional Conference Presentations

- *Literacy Tools for Students with Learning Disabilities*
Washington State School Psychology Conference, 2005
- *Assistive Technology for Students with Severe and Profound Disabilities*
Severe/Profound Summer Institute, Yakima WA, 1998 through 2005
- *Topics in Assistive Technology*
Assistive Technology Summer Institute, Central Washington University, 1996 through 2005
- *Technology Tools for Reading and Writing*
Summer Corrections/Alternative Ed. Conference, Western Washington University, 1999
- *Technology for Students with Learning Disabilities*
Council for Exceptional Children State Conference, Central Washington University, 1998
- *Technology for Transition: Building Bridges to Independence*
W.A.V.E.S.N.P. State Conference, 1997, 1998
- *Overview of Assistive Technology*
N.C.C.E. Western Regional Conference, Portland OR, 1997
- *Technology for Transition: Building Bridges to Independence*
IDEAS Conference, Spokane WA, 1996, 1997

National/International Conference Presentations

- *Reading and Writing Tools for Students with Learning Disabilities*
Closing The Gap, Minneapolis MN, 2000

Repertoire of Workshop Presentations

- Overview of Assistive Technology
- Overview of Assistive Technology for Students with Severe and Profound Disabilities
- Technology Tools for Reading and Writing
- Accessing Text Electronically
- Technology for Transition: Building Bridges to Independence
- Online Helplines: AT Support on the Internet
- Introduction to Adaptive Switches
- Introduction to Alternate Computer Input
- Creating a Reading Machine Using Optical Code Recognition and Text-to-Speech Software
- Concept Mapping with Inspiration Software
- Accessing the Curriculum: IntelliKeys and Overlay Maker
- Adapting the Curriculum with IntelliTools Classroom Suite
- Advanced Applications of IntelliTools
- Speech Recognition with NaturallySpeaking Software

Other Accomplishments

- Developed and implemented new secondary transition program (including assistive technology component) for the White River School District
- Authored Chapter 2 maxi-grant and created *Partners In Sound*, a music technology program for inclusion of students with special needs in the Tacoma School District
- Designed modified music curriculum and created the *McIlvaigh Chime Ensemble* for inclusion of students with special needs in the Tacoma School District
- Authored several vocational training grants and subsequently implemented classroom and community based work training programs

Professional Memberships and Activities

- International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) member
- State Leaders of Assistive Technology in Education (SLATE) member
- Easter Seal Society, volunteer assistive technology mentor

References

Educational Placement Office
Seattle University
Seattle, WA 98122-4460
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