



THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

FPG CHILD DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

SHERYL-MAR NORTH
CAMPUS BOX 8040
CHAPEL HILL, NC 27599-8040
www.fpg.unc.edu

FPG. Advancing knowledge. Enhancing lives.

Early Intervention Training Center for Infants and Toddlers with Visual Impairments

CB # 8040 Chapel Hill, NC 27599-8040

Toll Free: 1-866-842-2237

Fax: 919-966-1786

Early Intervention Training Center for Infants and Toddlers With Visual Impairments: 2005 Activities

During 2005, the Early Intervention Training Center for Infants and Toddlers with Visual Impairments again focused on developing and disseminating content modules. The purpose of this five-year project located at the FPG Child Development Institute at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is to develop resources that will assist universities in preparing personnel to serve infants and toddlers with visual impairments and their families. It is funded through a cooperative agreement to Dr. Deborah Hatton from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs. Dr. Jane Erin at the University of Arizona is a major collaborator.

The *Family-Centered Practices for Infants and Toddlers With Visual Impairments* module was completed in December 2003 and disseminated throughout 2004. Details about field reviewers and field testing for this module can be found in the project update for 2003. The *Visual Conditions and Functional Vision: Early Intervention Issues* was published in September 2004. The *Developmentally Appropriate Orientation and Mobility* module was published in December 2004. Details about these two modules can be found in the project update for 2004.

The *Communication and Emergent Literacy* module was field reviewed during spring 2004 and field tested at the University of Arizona during summer 2004. The module was also field tested at North Carolina Central University during spring 2005. Multimedia CDs were published during summer 2005 and were disseminated in fall 2005. The authors of this module are Wendy K. Sapp, Ph.D., and Deborah D. Hatton, Ph.D.

During the summer of 2005, the *Assessment* module was field reviewed, and revisions were made in the fall of 2005. The authors of this module are Deborah Gleason, M.Ed., Anne C. Wheeler, Ph.D., Jeanne L. Murphy, M.A., and Deborah D. Hatton, Ph.D. Field reviewers include Jim Bickford, Portland State University; Virginia Bishop, Austin, Texas; Wendy K. Sapp, Cohutta, GA; Roseanne Silberman, Hunter College; Sandra Stirnweis, Foundation for Blind Children, Phoenix; and Annette Skellenger, Western Michigan University.

To obtain input about project activities and the assessment module from our university partners, we hosted a half-day session at the American Printing House for the Blind's Meeting of the Minds conference for university faculty in Louisville in May.

The project Listserv continues to be quite active with approximately 400 members from 40 states and 10 countries. To join the Listserv and be automatically enrolled, complete the form at <http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~edin/listserv/subscription.cfm>. The following topics have been addressed on the Listserv in recent months: autistic behavior in children with visual impairments, eye patching and other treatments for strabismus, cortical visual impairment, and emergent literacy (print versus braille). The project Web site at <http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~edin/> provides a list of proposed modules and proposed content for modules that are being developed.

For more information about the project, contact

Deborah Hatton, Ph.D.

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
CB # 8040, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-8040
Phone: 919-966-7186 Fax: 919-966-1786
Email: Deborah_Hatton@unc.edu