

THE IRIS CENTER



IDEA '04 and Research
for Inclusive Settings

FAST FACTS

MAY 2011

IRIS-CENTRAL

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ABOUT THE IRIS CENTER

The IRIS Center is a national center that aims to provide high-quality resources for college and university faculty and professional development providers about students with disabilities. IRIS seeks to obtain this goal by providing free, online, interactive training enhancements that translate research about the education of students with disabilities into practice.

THE ORIGINAL PROJECT

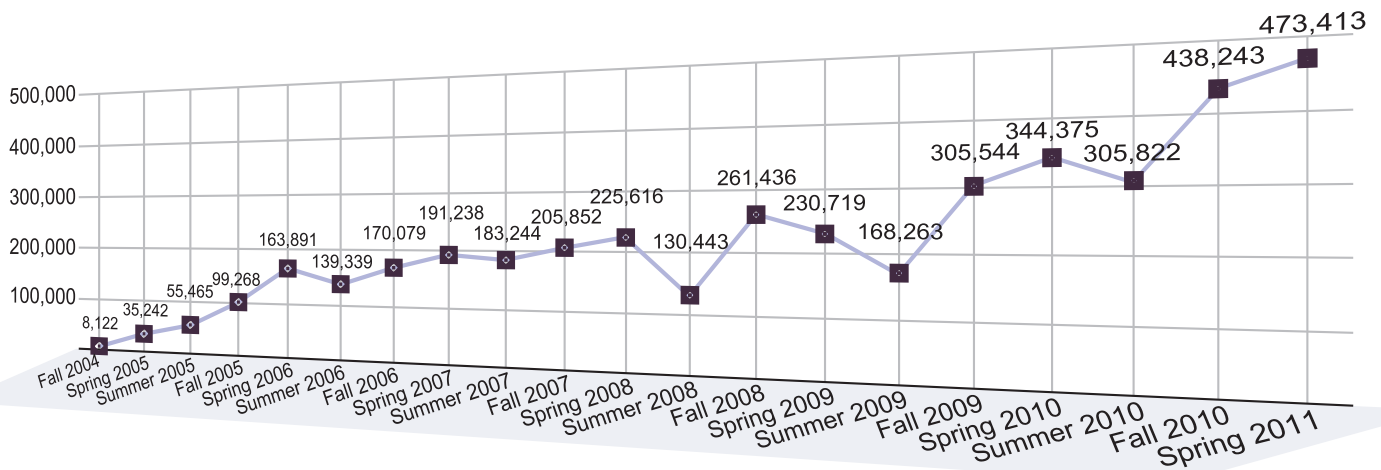
The IRIS Center for Faculty Enhancement (IRIS-I) began in 2001 and focused on incorporating the How People Learn theory into its training enhancements to facilitate the translation of research into practice. Housed at Vanderbilt University, the Center was funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) to serve college faculty in the preservice preparation of general education teachers, school leadership personnel, school nurses, and school counselors.

IRIS TODAY

In 2006 the IRIS team was awarded a second consecutive grant to continue and expand the successful work of IRIS-I. Funded for an additional five years by OSEP, the IRIS Center for Training Enhancements (IRIS-II) was awarded to Vanderbilt University and its new partner, Claremont Graduate University. The goal of IRIS-II is to serve college and university faculty who are preparing the next generation of school personnel, including special education professionals, as well as to serve professional development providers who conduct inservice training for practicing educators.

The IRIS Center for Training Enhancements' funding period is from 10/1/06 to 9/30/11.

VISITS TO IRIS WEB SITE BY SEMESTER



Use of the IRIS Web site has grown from the fall of 2004, when the site had 8,122 users, to the spring of 2011, when it had 473,413.

- Number of visitors to the IRIS Web site in 2010: 1,043,272
- Average duration of visit: 22 minutes, 16 seconds
- Average number of pages viewed per visit: 14.1

Although international visitors constitute only a small proportion of our total, it is interesting that the native language for half of the countries in our Top Ten for 2010 is not English.

RESOURCES ACCESSED, 2010

RANK	RESOURCE	# OF VISITS
1	Modules	446,936
2	Case Studies	72,927
3	Information Briefs	71,457
4	Activities	30,911
5	Module Outlines	19,745
6	IRIS Media Search Tools	5,595
7	Film Search Tools	4,804
8	Web Resource Directory	3,315
9	Online Dictionary	2,235

RANK	COUNTRY	# OF VISITS
1	United States	668,509
2	Canada	13,546
3	Singapore	5,456
4	Japan	2,798
5	Mexico	2,192
6	China	1,321
7	Australia	1,243
8	Iran	1,114
9	United Kingdom	1,058
10	Philippines	982

MOST REQUESTED MODULES, 2010

RANK	RESOURCE	# OF VISITS
1	RTI (Part 1): Overview	46,927
2	Addressing disruptive and noncompliant behavior (Part 1)	24,768
3	Who's in charge? Developing a comprehensive behavior management system	22,798
4	Classroom assessment (Part 1)	21,608
5	Functional behavioral assessment	18,622
6	What do you see? Perceptions of disability	17,835
7	Cultural and linguistic differences	17,438
8	RTI (Part 2): Assessment	15,581
9	You're in charge! Developing your own comprehensive behavior management system	14,791
10	RTI (Part 3): Reading instruction	13,744

MOST DOWNLOADED CASE STUDIES, 2010

RANK	RESOURCE	# OF VISITS
1	Effective room arrangement	10,032
2	Encouraging appropriate behavior	8,659
3	RTI: Progress monitoring	7,089
4	Norms and expectations	5,451
5	Comprehension and vocabulary	5,193
6	Fluency and word identification	4,419
7	RTI: Data-based decision making	4,393
8	Algebra (Part 1)	4,085
9	Early reading	3,786
10	Fostering student accountability	3,604

IRIS WEB SITE USERS

For greater accessibility and ease of use, the IRIS Web site has no log-in or password requirements. Although we are unable to identify specifically who visits the site, we do have several alternate means of data collection.

Since August 2009, 5,137 visitors have clicked on an optional link to give us more detailed feedback on our modules. These data appear to indicate that faculty, school leaders, and professional development providers are using IRIS Modules to provide training to college students and practicing teachers.

SURVEY RESPONDENTS	NUMBER	PERCENT
College student	2868	55.8
Experienced teacher	933	18.2
New teacher	667	13.0
Other (e.g., paraprofessional, related service provider)	411	8.0
College faculty	135	2.6
School leader	74	1.4
PD provider	49	1.0
Total	5137	100

Three hundred and seventy-three colleges or universities link to our site. A breakdown by type of degree offered is in the table below.

TYPE OF DEGREE	# OF IHES
2 year degree	14
4 year degree	318
Both 2 and 4 year degrees	41
Total	373

The number of visitors to the IRIS Web site has increased substantially in only a few short years. The visits for just the first four months of 2011 represent a 128% increase from the 2005 total, and nearly match the total from 2006.

VISITS BY YEAR

YEAR	# OF VISITORS
2005	207,705
2006	499,567
2007	580,334
2008	617,515
2009	704,526
2010	1,043,272
2011 (Jan. - Apr.)	473,413

An optional link on all of our modules allows users to rate the Usefulness, Relevance, and Quality of the resources.

RESPONDENT		RATINGS		
		Usefulness	Relevance	Quality
College student	Mean	4.35	4.36	4.31
	STDV	.863	.875	.876
	N	2858	2839	2856
New teacher	Mean	4.31	4.37	4.33
	STDV	.833	.815	.793
	N	665	665	667
Experienced teacher	Mean	4.23	4.33	4.22
	STDV	.883	.850	.902
	N	930	931	933
School leader	Mean	4.42	4.53	4.47
	STDV	.702	.687	.602
	N	74	74	74
College faculty	Mean	4.54	4.51	4.48
	STDV	.846	.829	.907
	N	134	134	134
PD provider	Mean	4.33	4.29	4.22
	STDV	.875	.849	1.159
	N	49	48	49
Other	Mean	4.38	4.31	4.41
	STDV	.891	.987	.865
	N	392	391	393
Overall	Mean	4.33	4.36	4.31
	STDV	.864	.869	.871
	N	5102	5082	5106

IRIS FACULTY TRAINING SEMINARS

Number of Seminar events since 2008: 25

Number of states with participants at IRIS events: 38

Number of IRIS Seminar participants since 2008: 625

Number of colleges and universities represented: 217

FEEDBACK ON TRAINING SEMINARS AND IRIS MODULES

Sample feedback from IRIS Faculty Seminar participants:

"I see the applicability of IRIS to the courses I teach. Prior to the seminar I did not fully understand how I could use it in my courses other than as supplemental information. I now feel I could build a course around the content of the material." –*College faculty, October 2010*

"I was totally amazed by what the Iris Center had to offer. The materials were incredible, and the presenters were knowledgeable and passionate about what they were presenting. It was an extremely well spent 2 days!" –*College faculty, January 2011*

"Relevance and universality of the topics; very useful to all levels of teaching—grad and undergrad...; presenters were down to earth and well informed—worked well with one another; listened to questions and relieved apprehensions of the audience. Thank you." –*College faculty, March 2011*

Sample feedback from online module links:

"This module was very helpful. I really liked how it included written sections, relevant photographs, audio clips, and video clips. Sometimes we read about concepts and approaches to education without really understanding what these things look like when put into practice. With this module (the first I have completed), I came to understand the concepts I had already read in a related section of my text much more thoroughly. Thank you for creating this program!" –*College student, Cultural and Linguistic Differences module, January 2010*

"I like the audio clips—it was great to supplement all the text with those. I like the format of the module, how it is in multiple pages, that way, I'm not scrolling endlessly. There is good material in this UDL module and it is very accessible and interesting. I liked the "feedback" that came from the various activities throughout." –*College student, UDL module, March 2011*

"I think this would be extremely helpful to a new teacher, and a good refresher even for frustrated veteran teachers." –*Experienced teacher, Who's In Charge? behavior management module, March 2011*

"I think this module is very helpful to instructional leaders who may not have the answer to many situations [that] occur in the public school setting. This is the best resource for principals, teachers, and parents." –*School leader, RTI Assessment module, July 2010*