



OMNIE

Ohio's Comprehensive Approach in the Recruitment and Retention of School-Based Speech Language Pathologists

Nada Allender, M.A., CCC-SLP
Project Coordinator
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Ohio Master's Network Initiatives In Education

Agenda

- Background
- SPARC
- Educational Opportunities
- Financial Incentives
- Professional Development
- Miscellaneous Activities
- Possible Future Initiatives

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Background

- Original Purpose (1998) Distance learning M.A. for Bachelor level school-based SLPs
- Steering Committee
 - 12 Higher Education Institutions
 - Ohio Department of Education/Office for Exceptional Children
 - State SLP Supervisory & Audiology Network
- Funding – U.S. DOE State Improvement Grant
- New Direction (2002) - Recruitment, Retention, Professional Development

SPARC

Speech Pathology & Audiology Recruitment Campaign

■ Materials

- DVD – Don't Miss the Bus 'Communication Happens in Schools'
- Recruitment PowerPoint
- Binder of supporting literature
- Give-away items promoting career awareness

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SPARC

■ High School Level

- Meetings with guidance counselors
- Binder and DVD for library 'Careers' section
- Yearly contact with district administrators
- "Project Inspire" – School based SLPs conducting recruitment activities

SPARC

■ College and University Level

- Direct annual contact with undergraduates, first and second year graduate students
- Meetings with advisors and career counselors

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Educational Opportunities

- Tuition reimbursement for ODE licensure requirements
- Web-based ‘Public School Issues’ course
- 10 Web-based undergraduate prerequisite courses
- Collaborative DL Master’s degree

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Financial Incentives

- 'Project Inspire'
- Scholarships for graduating SLPs
- District sign-on bonuses

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Professional Development

- Multimedia language-literacy DVD
- Web-based professional development language-literacy courses
- Courses offered for graduate credit

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Miscellaneous Activities

- Recruitment booth at OSSPEAC and OSLHA conventions
- OMNIE website – <http://www.omnie.org>
 - Job Opportunities
 - Positions Wanted
 - Professional Updates

Possible Future Initiatives

- Loan forgiveness
- Salary supplements
 - Increased starting salary
 - Stipends for CCC
- Funding for graduate programs
 - Increase capacity
 - Support for graduate assistantships

Contact Information

Nada Allender, M.A., CCC-SLP
OMNIE Project Coordinator
1898 White Chapel Cir. NW
Uniontown, OH 44685

W: (330) 699-4019

F: (330) 699-4146

E-mail: nada@ameritech.net

Web: <http://www.omnie.org>

Nada Allender
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