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Center for Persons With Disabilities

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CPD SALUTES EMPLOYEES WHO GO THE DISTANCE

April 5, 2011 by JoLynne Lyon

Cora Price, Curt Phillips, George Wootton and Ginger Payant have all reached their 10-year mark at USU.

Irene Welch has been at USU for 20 years. Kelly Smith and Shauna Crane have been here for 25.

Utah State University recently recognized seven CPD employees for passing employment milestones. We’re happy to say most of their collective years at USU were spent here at the CPD. Good job, everyone!

George Wootton (10 years)

George grew up in Eastern Massachusetts, completed a BA in Sociology at Hobart College in 1979. He completed nursing school in 1984, has worked in many clinical areas in a nursing capacity. He received his MS in nursing at the University of Utah and became certified as a nurse practitioner in 1997. He worked in family practice settings until 2006. In 2000, he started working half time at the CPD seeing children and adolescents, providing focused mental health evaluations, medication and case management services. In 2001, he started a mental health program evaluating and treating adults. In 2006, he came to the CPD full time. At the CPD he was involved in URLEND 2007-08 and 2009-10. He has been involved in the interdisciplinary service teams and has been on the planning committee for developing the autism spectrum disorder interdisciplinary evaluation clinic which is just beginning. As an employee of the CPD, he spends one day weekly providing mental health services at Bear River Mental Health in Logan. In January-February, 2010, he went to Haiti following the earthquake to provide emergent medical services in Port-au-Prince. He is married to Jenny and has two teenage children, Rachel and Dylan.

Curt Phillips (10 Years)

Curt was born in California. He attended Allan Hancock Community College and earned a B.S. in Exercise Science in 1995 from Brigham Young University, and a Master of Physical Therapy from UC San Francisco/San Francisco State University in 1997. Curt is currently a student in the Disability Disciplines Doctoral Program at Utah State University. He is a Physical Therapist in the Up to 3 Early Intervention Program housed at the CPD.

Cora Price (10 years)

Cora Price is a Research Associate in the Research and Evaluation Division of the Center for Persons with Disabilities. She has been associated with R&E since 1994 when she was a graduate student. She assists with project design; data collection, database management and data structuring; and qualitative and quantitative analysis. Experience includes: Star Communities Coordinator for Champions for Inclusive Communities; Data Administrator/Coordinator for many projects, including a federally funded, 7-year, multi-site study of the effects of using a wraparound service model for children with SED and their families; Evaluation of Implementation Phase of the the K-3 Plus Project for New Mexico’s OEA; and Using Technology for Emergent Literacy and Language (UTELL). Current projects include Start Smart K-3 Plus. As an ARRA-funded I3 project, this is a 5-year study of effects of adding 25 days to the school year for children in grades K-3 in New Mexico. Another current project is Promoting Effective Engagement, Communication, and Self-regulation with English language learners (PEECSE), a Head Start Innovation project.
Training and specialties include advanced coursework in Quantitative Methodology, Qualitative Methodology, Statistical Analysis, Sociology, and Database Management.

**Ginger Payant (10 years)**

Ginger received her Bachelor’s Degree in Social Work with a Minor in Child Development at Utah State University in 1970. Since that time she has held various positions, including Director of the Sunshine Preschool in McCall, ID; Order/Contracts Administrator for Hewlett-Packard Co. in Bellevue, WA; and Office Manager for LIFESPAN Mental Health in Logan, Utah. Since returning to Utah State, in 2001, she has worked for the National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management (NCHAM) and for the Center for Persons with Disabilities. Ginger has had the opportunity to work on several projects funded through the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, as well as an Emergency Preparedness Special Initiative Federal Grant funded through the Administration for Children and Families.

Ginger’s current role is TBI Specialist on the Utah Traumatic Brain Injury Implementation Partnership grant at the CPD. She serves on The Utah Brain Injury Council and is chairman of the Education and Training subcommittee, as well as facilitator of the Cache Traumatic Brain Injury Workgroup.

**Irene Welch (20 years)**

Irene offers administrative support for the National Children’s Study and the Research and Evaluation Division. She provides administrative support to the Director and several professional staff members and the several projects that are under their direction. Her duties include helping with poster presentations, reports, grants, transcribing, correspondence, and filing. She helps oversee project and travel reimbursements, dissemination of articles, parent payments, etc. She has been with USU since September, 1990.

**Kelly Smith (25 years)**

Kelly has served as the information specialist at the CPD for 25 years. She is a USU graduate with a degree in Communications. Kelleen’s duties at the CPD include a wide range of information management and dissemination activities. She chairs the CPD web committee, manages the National Information Reporting System (NIRS) for ADD, and works closely with Administration in a variety of development communication activities. She is responsible for the CPD Annual Report and Executive Summary, as well as numerous other print and electronic information items. In addition, she also provides graphics and photography services for CPD projects.

**Shauna Crane (25 years)**

Shauna Crane is the Program Coordinator and Information Specialist for Technical Assistance for Excellence in Special Education (TAESE). She serves in a management role as Program Coordinator, managing the daily affairs of the center, coordinating work between the program staff and support staff, and supervising support staff, including recruitment and hiring efforts. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in education.