

# SRI International

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September 1998

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION ELEMENTARY LONGITUDINAL STUDY (SEELS)**

### **PROPOSED MEMBERSHIP AND PLANS FOR ADVISORY PANEL**

**SRI Project 3421**

SEELS is being designed under Task Order 6 to SRI International and the Research Triangle Institute under the Office of Special Education Programs' Initiative to Link Research and Practice to Improve Results for Individuals with Disabilities.



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## SPECIAL EDUCATION ELEMENTARY LONGITUDINAL STUDY (SEELS) Advisory Panel Membership and Work Plan

In commissioning a design for the Special Education Elementary Longitudinal Study (SEELS), the Office of Special Education Programs sought technical support for design activities from an advisory panel composed of researchers with outstanding experience in large-scale research, including issues related to sampling, measurement and instrumentation, logistics, and analysis.

### Advisory Panel Members

SRI International proposed the advisory panel members, all of whom were approved by OSEP and have agreed to lend their expertise to the SEELS design work. These advisors and other panel participants are listed below.

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Numbers</b>
TA	Lizanne DeStefano	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign	236 Education Building 1310 S. 6th Street Champaign, IL 61820-6990	bus: 217-333-8520 bus fax: 217-244-0538 destefan@uiuc.edu
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PO = Project officer

TA = Technical advisor

PD = Project co-director

PS = SRI project staff

## Work Plan

Given the limited amount of time advisors have to offer and for which they can be reimbursed within the budget of the design task (a total of 3 days each), we do not plan to convene the group in person. Rather, we propose to gather their ideas and draw on their expertise through three extended conference calls (i.e., 2 to 3 hours) at key points in the design process. We will prepare materials as background to each call and will provide an agenda for using the time together effectively. We propose the following points in the design phase for calls. The purpose of each call and the materials to be reviewed before the calls are described briefly:

- Month 2.25 (late October, 1998; 2 hours). This meeting will consider in broad strokes the major components of the design: conceptual issues, timeline, sample, data collection approaches, student assessment. This conversation may surface issues that the design team had not considered to date and will provide a preview of positions and ideas that should be accounted for in subsequent work. Background materials will provide a detailed overview of design issues.
- Month 3.5 (early December, 1998; 3 hours). This meeting will consider in greater depth issues of timeline, data collection approach, and sampling as input to the deliverables for subtask 4, due at month 4. Materials that outline current thoughts on these components of the study and pose specific questions for consideration will be distributed to members in advance of the conference call. The group also will review the input of the task force, as contained in the summary of task force proceedings (deliverable for subtask 3).
- Month 7.5 (early April, 1999; 3 hours). This meeting will focus on instrumentation and data collection procedures, in advance of submitting draft instruments (subtask 8, month 8.5). The most current drafts of instruments will be distributed before the call, along with an outline of issues to be considered.

In addition to preparation for and participation in these meetings, advisors will be asked to provide written comments on the following products, which will reflect their input from the conference calls:

- Draft project timeline and data collection, sampling, and data analysis plans (during month 5).
- Draft instruments (during month 9).

Written comments provided by advisors will be shared with OSEP and incorporated into the final versions of these products.