

# National Curriculum Network Conference 2005

## Keynote Speakers

**Richard Paul**, Foundation for Critical Thinking

Tuesday, March 8



As Director of Research and Professional Development at the Center for Critical Thinking and Chair of the National Council for Excellence in Critical Thinking, Dr. Paul is an internationally recognized authority on critical thinking, with six books and over 100 articles on the subject. He has written books for every grade level and has done extensive experimentation with teaching tactics and strategies, devising, among other things, novel ways to engage students in rigorous self-assessment. Dr. Paul has received four degrees, numerous honors, and has given lectures on critical thinking at many universities in both the United States and abroad, including Harvard, the University of Chicago, the University of Illinois, and the universities of Puerto Rico, Costa Rica, British Columbia, Toronto, and Amsterdam. He has taught beginning and advanced courses in critical thinking at the university level for over 20 years. His views on critical thinking have been canvassed in the *New York Times*, *Education Week*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, *American Teacher*, *Reader's Digest*, *Educational Leadership*, *Newsweek*, and *U.S. News and World Report*.

**Rena Subotnik**, American Psychological Association

Tuesday, March 8



Dr. Rena F. Subotnik serves as the Director of the Center for Psychology in Schools and Education, and oversees the Esther Katz Rosen Center for Gifted Education Policy (CGEP), which she helped create and design. Dr. Subotnik was Professor of Education at Hunter College and research/curriculum consultant to Hunter's laboratory schools for gifted children from 1986-2001. She has been awarded numerous research and training grants. She currently serves on the editorial boards of *Roeper Review*, *Gifted Child Quarterly*, and the *Journal for Secondary Gifted Education*. She is author of *Genius Revisited: High IQ Children Grown Up* (1993), and co-editor (with Karen Arnold) of *Beyond Terman: Contemporary Longitudinal Studies of Giftedness and Talent* (1994), (with Karen Arnold and Kathleen Noble) *Remarkable Women: Perspectives on Female Talent Development* (1997), and the second edition of the *International Handbook of Research on Giftedness and Talent* (2000) (with Kurt Heller, Franz Monks, and Robert Sternberg). She was just elected to the board of the National Association for Gifted Children, which in 2002 awarded her the Distinguished Scholar Award.

**Joyce VanTassel-Baska**, College of William and Mary

Wednesday, March 9



Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska is the Jody and Layton Smith Professor of Education and executive director of the Center for Gifted Education at the College of William and Mary, where she developed a graduate program and a research and development center in gifted education. She has worked as a consultant on gifted education in over 40 states and for key national groups, including the U.S. Department of Education, National Association of Secondary School Principals, and American Association of School Administrators. She is past president of The Association for the Gifted of the Council for Exceptional Children, and President-Elect of the National Association for Gifted Children. She is currently co-principal investigator on two federally funded research grants to scale up curriculum development work. Dr. VanTassel-Baska has published widely, including six recent books and over 160 monographs, book chapters, and articles in refereed journals, and she serves as the editor of *Gifted and Talented International*.

## Featured Speakers

**Ann Robinson**, University of Arkansas- Little Rock



Ann Robinson is Professor of Education and founding Director of the Center for Gifted Education at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She is the former editor of *Gifted Child Quarterly*. Currently, Ann serves as the Finance Secretary on the NAGC Board of Directors. An enthusiastic state advocate, Ann is the current president of the Arkansas Association of Gifted Education Administrators and the president-elect of Arkansans for Gifted and Talented Education. Her research interests include teacher and administrator preparation and professional development in gifted education, the role of the gifted learner in cooperative learning groups, the use of children's biography to differentiate the curriculum, program evaluation, and the knowledge base in gifted education. Ann has held visiting appointments at Cambridge University and at Brunel University near London where she has undertaken archival research for a case study of an 18th century prodigy.

**Del Siegle**, University of Connecticut



Dr. Del Siegle is an associate professor of educational psychology in the Neag School of Education at the University of Connecticut where he is a teaching fellow. Prior to earning his Ph. D., Del worked as a gifted and talented coordinator in Montana. He is currently on the Board of Directors of the National Association for Gifted Children and the Association for the Gifted. In 2001 he was named NAGC Early Leader. He writes a technology column for *Gifted Child Today*. Del's research interests include web-based instruction, motivation of gifted students, and teacher bias in the identification of students for gifted programs.

**Michael Thompson**, San Juan, Puerto Rico



Michael Thompson is on the Board of Directors of NAGC, is past President of the Indiana Association for the Gifted, the editor of *Our Gifted Children* magazine (since 1994), the creator of the Classic Words vocabulary software, and the author of articles and language arts books for gifted students. His publications include *The Word Within the Word* vocabulary series (also now published in China by Guangxi University), *The Magic Lens*, *Grammar Island*, *Grammar Voyage*, *Grammar Town*, *Building Language*, *Classic Words*, *Classics in the Classroom*, *Thinkers*, *The Heart of the Mind*, and *Caesar's English*. Michael Thompson has been a classroom teacher of English, Spanish, or history since 1969, and is currently an instructor in Northwestern University's Letterlinks program, offered by the Center for Talent Development. He and his wife Myriam now live in San Juan, Puerto Rico, where he teaches a class in writing for publication for personnel at the FILIUS Institute of the University of Puerto Rico president's office.