



**The Winds  
of  
Change:**

**Generate  
Challenge,  
Promise,  
and  
Possibilities**

**ITAG Conference  
2010**

Airport Holiday Inn  
Des Moines, IA  
Oct. 18-19

**Welcome Teachers, Administrators,  
Parents and Friends of Gifted Children ...**

**2010 ITAG 38th Annual Conference  
Monday and Tuesday October 18 and 19, 2010**

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 18

7:45 – 8:45 a.m.	Registration, Continental Breakfast, Competition Center and Vendor Center open
8:45 – 10:00 a.m.	Welcome and Announcements Morning Keynote: Drs. L. Dennis Higgins and Elizabeth Nielsen, University of New Mexico
10:00 – 10:15 a.m.	Break – Vendor Center open
10:15 – 11:00 a.m.	Breakout Session #1
11:00 – 11:15 a.m.	Break – Vendor Center open
11:15 – 12:00 noon	Breakout Session #2
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	LUNCH – Vendor Center open - “Listen at Lunch” – music with Dr. Higgins
1:00 – 2:00 p.m.	Afternoon Keynote : Dr. George Betts, University of Northern Colorado
2:00 – 2:15 p.m.	Break – Vendor Center open
2:15 – 3:00 p.m.	Breakout Session #3
3:00 – 3:15 p.m.	Break - Vendor Center open
3:15 – 4:00 p.m.	Breakout Session #4
4:15 – 5:15 p.m.	Special optional offerings, interest groups, and performances
5:15 – 5:45 p.m.	ITAG Reception
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.	An evening for parents (ITAG Conference attendees welcome!) Drs. George Betts, Marcia Gentry, L. Dennis Higgins and Elizabeth Nielsen

### Monday Breakout Sessions – Early Childhood and Elementary

*Curriculum Compacting: A Getting Started Guide for Math*, Stacy Emrich and Ginger Dahms  
*Dancing with the Iowa Acceleration Scale*, Richard Safris  
*Discover Agatha's Feather Bed Book & Lesson Plan*, Kristin Simon and Susan Salterberg  
*Enrichment Clusters: Bringing Talent Development to all Teachers and Students*, Marcia Gentry, Ph.D.  
*Getting Started with Cluster Grouping*, Hollie Weber  
*Going Green with Lessons*, Kristin Simon and Susan Salterberg  
*Great Environmental Books*, Susan Salterberg  
*Identification of Pre-School Students*, Linda Moehring  
*Individualized Yet Structured Independent Projects: Creative and Fun!*, Mitzi Hetherington  
*Meeting the Needs of Advanced Readers*, Jenny Schiltz and Christie McConathy  
*Programming and Activities for PK-2*, Sonja Mennenga  
*Student Engagement: Energizing Genuine Enthusiasm for Learning*, Cynthia Sedam, Ph.D.  
*Wisdom through Illustrated Books*, Elizabeth Nielsen, Ph.D. and L. Dennis Higgins, Ed.D.

### Monday Breakout Sessions – Middle School

*Becoming Better Writers*, Kathy Wikert  
*Cracking the Millionaire Code*, Joanne Seymour-Kuster  
*Dancing with the Iowa Acceleration Scale*, Richard Safris  
*Discover Agatha's Feather Bed Book & Lesson Plan*, Kristin Simon and Susan Salterberg  
*Enrichment Clusters: Bringing Talent Development to all Teachers and Students*, Marcia Gentry, Ph.D.  
*Great Environmental Books*, Susan Salterberg  
*Individualized Yet Structured Independent Projects: Creative and Fun!*, Mitzi Hetherington  
*Meeting the Needs of Advanced Readers*, Jenny Schiltz and Christie McConathy  
*Night of the Notables: An Evening with the Stars*, Patricia Barglof  
*Student Engagement: Energizing Genuine Enthusiasm for Learning*, Cynthia Sedam, Ph.D.  
*Wisdom through Illustrated Books*, Elizabeth Nielsen, Ph.D. and L. Dennis Higgins, Ed.D.

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 18

### Monday Breakout Sessions – High School

*Academic Decathlon*, Harvey Kimble

*Cracking the Millionaire Code*, Joanne Seymour-Kuster

*Empowering Students: Informed and Purposeful Academic Planning*, Cappie Dobyns, Linda Telleen-Martens, Jayne Staniforth

*Minding the Gap: Working with Underachieving Secondary Students*, Cappie Dobyns and Linda Telleen-Martens

*Using National Competitions and the Internet in Mathematics Class*, Kate Degner

### Monday Breakout Sessions – General

*A Technological Solution for Math Students Who Need a Greater Challenge*, Stephen Kemble

*ALM: Images of Greatness, Who's Who in Your Community and Community Search*, Katha Williams

*Counseling Gifted Students*, Chris Still

*CPS Tools: Keys for the Future*, Mary Koester

*Creativity – The Reality Show*, Richard Safris

*Enrichment Clusters: Bringing Talent Development to all Teachers and Students*, Marcia Gentry, Ph.D.

*Favorable Winds of Change: The New Invent Iowa Program Model*, Clar Baldus, Ph.D.

*The Future Me Program*, L. Dennis Higgins, Ed.D.

*Future Problem Solving for Beginners*, Paula Lawson-Moore

*Gifted Musicians – How Do They Do That?* Rosanne Malek

*Gifted Students with Asperger's Syndrome: Overview of Characteristics, ID and Gifted Programming*, Terry Friedrichs, Ph.D., Ed.D.

*Introduction to The Autonomous Learner Model for the Gifted and Talented*, George Betts, E.d.D.

*Just the Basics – Beginning in Gifted Education*, Kathy Paul

*Meeting Affective Needs: The Often Overlooked Component*, Arlene DeVries

*Moral Courage: In Depth Exploration*, Elizabeth Nielsen, Ph.D. and L. Dennis Higgins, Ed.D.

*Read 'N Rap and Relationships*, Doreen Underwood and Gail Heninger

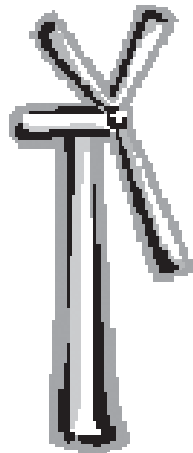
*Social Networking Success*, Karla Duff

*TAG, You're IT! G/T Endorsement Q & A Session*, Laurie Croft, Ph.D.

*Take 10 & 2 Page Spread: Strategies for Enrichment*, Kari Staack and Sarah Cooper

*Twice Exceptional Learners*, Elizabeth Nielsen, Ph.D.

**Competition Center - Representatives from various GT competitions will be available during registration and lunch/break sessions in the Vendor Center to answer questions and hand out competition information.**



## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19

7:30 – 8:15 a.m.	Registration, Continental Breakfast, Competition and Vendor Center Open
8:15 – 9:30 a.m.	Announcements and Awards Tuesday Keynote, Marcia Gentry, Purdue University
9:30 – 9:45 a.m.	Break – Vendor Center open
9:45 – 10:30 a.m.	Breakout Session #5
10:30 – 10:45 a.m.	Break – Vendor Center open
10:45 – 11:30 a.m.	Breakout Session #6
11:30 – 11:45 a.m.	Break – Vendor Center open
11:45 – 12:30 p.m.	Breakout Session #7
12:30 – 1:15 p.m.	LUNCH - Competition and Vendor Center open
1:15 – 2:30 p.m.	“A Legacy of Promise: Wisdom to Guide the Future” Drs. George Betts, Marcia Gentry, Nicholas Colangelo and other distinguished surprise guests – don’t miss this amazing final session!

### Tuesday Breakout Sessions – Early Childhood and Elementary

*Dancing with the Iowa Acceleration Scale*, Richard Safris  
*Meeting Affective Needs Using Biblio-therapy*, Doreen Underwood  
*Total School Cluster Grouping: A Research-Based Model for Improving Student Achievement, Identification Equity, and Teacher Practices*, Marcia Gentry, Ph.D.  
*Using Form and Function: A Unifying Theme of Science and Animal Adaptations to Make Creative Inventions and Innovations*, Audrey C. Rule, Ph.D., and Jean S. Schneider, Ed.D.

### Tuesday Breakout Sessions – Middle School

*Dancing with the Iowa Acceleration Scale*, Richard Safris  
*Dreams Need Doing – Future City 4000*, Jean Oberbroeckling  
*Generating Electricity in Winds of Change*, Michael Blair & Noreen Wantate-Nsereko  
*Hitting the Wall*, Chris Schultz  
*HyperStream – A Partnership of Iowa’s Technology Professionals and Iowa’s Schools*, Tamara Kenworthy  
*Meeting Affective Needs Using Biblio-therapy*, Doreen Underwood  
*Mock Trial*, Paul Nelson and Tony Voss  
*National History Day*, Tony Voss and Casey Dunley  
*The Scholastic Competition for Creative Writers and Artists*, Clar Baldus, Ph.D.  
*Total School Cluster Grouping: A Research-Based Model for Improving Student Achievement, Identification Equity, and Teacher Practices*, Marcia Gentry, Ph.D.  
*Underachievement*, Cappie Dobyns and Linda Telleen-Martens  
*Using Electronic Educational Plans for College and Career Planning*, Brenda Rush  
*Using Form and Function: A Unifying Theme of Science and Animal Adaptations to Make Creative Inventions and Innovations*, Audrey C. Rule, Ph.D., and Jean S. Schneider, Ed..D.

### Tuesday Breakout Sessions – High School

*Academic Decathlon*, Harvey Kimble  
*Generating Electricity in Winds of Change*, Michael Blair & Noreen Wantate-Nsereko  
*Gifted Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Students: Needs and Educator Responsibilities*, Terry Friedrichs, Ph.D., Ed.D., Nicholas Pace, Ph.D., and Karla Quandt  
*HyperStream – A Partnership of Iowa’s Technology Professionals and Iowa’s Schools*, Tamara Kenworthy

**Tuesday Breakout Sessions – High School Continued**

*Mock Trial*, Paul Nelson and Tony Voss

*National History Day*, Tony Voss and Casey Dunley

*The Scholastic Competition for Creative Writers and Artists*, Clar Baldus, Ph.D.

*Total School Cluster Grouping: A Research-Based Model for Improving*

*Student Achievement, Identification Equity, and Teacher Practices*, Marcia Gentry, Ph.D.

*Using Electronic Educational Plans for College and Career Planning*, Brenda Rush

**Tuesday Breakout Sessions – General**

*Anti-intellectualism: The Politics of being Smart*, Nicholas Colangelo, Ph.D.

*The Care and Feeding of the G/T Teacher*, Mary Schmidt

*Categorical Funding 101 – What You Need to Know to Protect Yourself and Your District*, Presenter TBA

*Creativity – The Reality Show*, Richard Safris

*Future Problem Solving for Beginners*, Paula Lawson-Moore

*Gifted Students with Asperger's Syndrome: Overview of Characteristics, Identification, and*

*Gifted Programming*, Terry Friedrichs, Ph.D., Ed. D.

*Harnessing the Power of Collaboration Teams*, Mary Schmidt

*The National Institute for Twice Exceptionality*, Claire Whiteman, Ph.D.

*Plan for Pre-assessment*, Kathy Paul

*Raising the Financial IQ of Students and Teachers*, Sally Beisser, Ph.D., and Joanne Seymour-Kuster

*Readers' Theatre: An Active and Fun Instructional Tool*, Margaret Caldwell

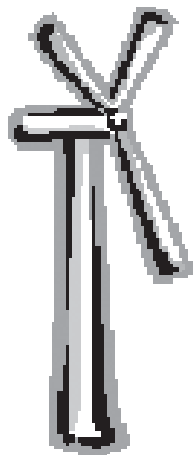
*Response to Intervention (RTI) + the Autonomous Learner Model = the 21st Century Lifelong Learner*, George Betts, Ed.D.

*Technology Isn't Enough: Structuring Your Gifted Program to Fully Utilize Digital Learning*, Evan Abbey

*Total School Cluster Grouping: A Research-Based Model for Improving*

*Student Achievement, Identification Equity, and Teacher Practices*, Marcia Gentry, Ph.D.

***Competition Center - Representatives from various GT competitions will be available during registration and lunch/break sessions in the Vendor Center to answer questions and hand out competition information.***



## FEATURED KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



**George Betts, Ed.D.**, is a Professor of Special Education in the area of gifted and talented education at the University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, Colorado, and a former teacher and facilitator at Arvada West High School in Arvada, Colorado. He has been a professor and director of the Center for the Education and Study of the Gifted, Talented and Creative, as well as director of the Summer Enrichment Program (SEP) since 1978. Dr. Betts is an internationally acclaimed speaker and consultant helping schools, districts, states and national organizations implement and refine programs for the gifted and talented. He has worked extensively in the United States, Canada, Germany, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, and Taiwan. He is currently serving his sixth three-year term on the executive board of the National Association for Gifted Children. Betts is a featured speaker at the annual International Conference on the Autonomous Learner Model. He received the 1990-91 Distinguished Service Award from NAGC and he was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Colorado Association for Gifted and Talented in 1996. He lives with his wife, Donni, in Greeley, Colorado.

**Marcia Gentry, Ph.D.**, is an Associate Professor of Educational Psychology and Research Methodology and the Director of the Gifted Education Resource Institute at Purdue University. Her research interests include student attitudes toward school on constructs including Appeal, Challenge, Choice, Interest, Enjoyment, Meaningfulness and Self-Efficacy, and the connection of these attitudes toward learning and motivation; the use of gifted education pedagogy as a means of improving learning and teaching; the use of cluster grouping and differentiation to meet the needs of gifted and talented students while helping all students achieve at high levels; the use of non-traditional settings for talent development such as Career and Technical Education; the development and recognition of talent among underserved populations including students with diverse cultural backgrounds and children who live in poverty; effects of test-driven school climates on student learning and teacher practices; and limitations to currently practiced methods of identifying gifted children.



**L. Dennis Higgins, Ed.D.**, works directly with twice-exceptional students in the Albuquerque Public School System in self-contained, full-day sessions. He authored and implements a comprehensive, three year cycled curriculum designed to meet their social/emotional needs, gifted education, special education and academic needs. He works as a consultant for twice exceptional programs to many school districts across the nation. Dr. Higgins serves as co-coordinator for New Mexico's Technology SPOTLIGHT project – a project that connects gifted children from the state of New Mexico with enriched classes and mentors via internet and on-line services. He is former coordinator for the Albuquerque Public Schools Summer Programs for the Gifted and Talented and former president of Albuquerque's parent organization for gifted children. He served as the Chairperson of the Futures Studies Division for the National Association for Gifted Children, is a former faculty member of the Texas Governor's Honors Program, a summer program for highly gifted high school students in Texas, and the Summer Enrichment Program in Colorado. He has authored and coauthored numerous articles, two chapter books and has produced several music and video recordings that focus on twice-exceptional

children. He has contributed and consulted on the joint CEC/NAGC "Twice-Exceptional Dilemma" document. His program is featured in the PBS Television Special, "A Chance to Read" for the syndicated program Reading Rockets. In 2006, Dr. Higgins was inducted into the Kansas Music Hall of Fame for his national contributions to children's music. In 2007, he was awarded the New Mexico Golden Apple for Excellence in Teaching for his service to the Albuquerque School District. In 2008, he was awarded the Albuquerque School District Teacher of the Year. He was most recently honored by the New Mexico Autism Society for his work with children with Asperger Syndrome. He is recognized as a Southern Methodist University School of Education and Human Development Distinguished Lecturer.

**M. Elizabeth Nielsen, Ph.D.** is an Associate Professor of Special Education at the University of New Mexico (UNM) and serves as the coordinator for the Gifted Education Teacher Training Program. Dr. Nielsen has served as a UNM College of Education Assistant Dean for Research and is the recipient of the Burlington Foundation Faculty Achievement Award for Excellence in Teaching. Since 1985, Dr. Nielsen has focused much of her university work and research on the unique populations of gifted learners with learning disabilities. She has published numerous articles and textbook chapters regarding these twice-exceptional students. Additionally, she has been a keynote speaker at various state conferences and has made over fifty presentations at national, regional, and local conferences and has assisted in the production of nationally disseminated audio and video recording on this topic. She has been the principal investigator for two university and public school district collaborative projects focused on gifted students with disabilities. Dr. Nielsen has served as a reviewer for several gifted education/special education journals and is an active member of the National Association for Gifted Children's Special Population Division. Dr. Nielsen holds B.S. and M.A. degrees in Education from the University of Louisville. Her Ph.D. is in Educational Psychology from Purdue University.



## HOTEL INFORMATION

- Host Hotel Information:** Airport Holiday Inn, 6111 Fleur Drive, Des Moines, IA 50321  
Phone: (515) 287-2400, Web site: [www.holidayinn.com/dsm-airport](http://www.holidayinn.com/dsm-airport)  
A block of rooms has been reserved for us at \$85.00 plus 12% tax. Please call 800-248-4013 to make reservations. Please ask for the ITAG room block. The deadline is September 27, 2010. Parking is free at the hotel. Directions to the Airport Holiday Inn can be found at [www.holidayinn.com/hotels/us/en/des-moines/dsmap/hoteldetail#Directions](http://www.holidayinn.com/hotels/us/en/des-moines/dsmap/hoteldetail#Directions)  
The Des Moines Visitor's Bureau will provide city maps at the conference.  
Please visit the Des Moines Visitor's Bureau web site at: [www.seedesmoines.com/](http://www.seedesmoines.com/)
- Registration Information:** Please submit one registration per person. The registration form and brochure may be duplicated. Registration form is enclosed. No changes or refunds will be made after **October 8, 2010**. Cancellations made before **October 8, 2010** will result in a \$25.00 fee deducted from the refund. Please return the registration form by **October 8, 2010**.
- Registration Questions:** Kristina Sickles or Corinne Brightman  
Phone: 515-681-0173 or 515-225-2323  
Fax: 515-327-5050  
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### 2010 Conference Committee:

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*\* Denotes 2010 Conference Co-Chairs*



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