August 13, 2010

Dear Dr. Barrilleaux,

Please see the attached annual report for the Jimmy and Glenny Lee Buquet Endowed Professorship – Dyslexia & Related Learning Disorders.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Chauvin

Approved:

Dr. J. Steven Welsh, Ph.D., Acting Dean
As the recipient of the Jimmy and Glenny Lee Buquet Endowed Professorship, I developed the following four goals for the 2009-10 academic year: to provide a source of information on dyslexia to the public, to collaborate with professors in the college of education to better prepare teacher candidates to work with students with dyslexia, and to develop a more accurate, teacher-friendly method of screening students for dyslexia in Louisiana's K-12 schools.

Goal 1: Provide Information to the Public
This year we hosted our 2\textsuperscript{nd} Annual "Unmasking Their Potential" conference at Nicholls State University as a means of providing up-to-date information on dyslexia and related learning disorders to parents, teachers, and students. A nationally known keynote speaker delivered a powerful message to the audience of approximately 175 attendees. Afterward, attendees participated in four different breakout sessions where they were able to select topics of interest. A review of the conference evaluations and registration forms reveals that there is indeed a need for events like this in different parts of the state. Therefore, I am planning to host the same conference in Ruston, LA so that we might reach parents and teachers who were unable to attend the Thibodaux conference.

Goal 2: Prepare Future Teachers
In an effort to help prepare future teachers for working with students with dyslexia, I taught classes in three different sections of undergraduate education courses. In one class I presented the administration and scoring of DIBELS. In two other classes I presented characteristics of dyslexia and techniques for remediation. I have worked closely with teacher candidates to provide assistance to students enrolled at the MAX Charter School.

Goal 3: Develop Dyslexia Screening Process
After years of training teachers to screen for dyslexia, I realized that many students were continuing to be un-identified because the screening process was too cumbersome for many teachers, and many teachers truly did not know what they were looking for. Therefore, I developed a streamlined process for screening students in the K-12 school setting in order to help schools comply with the requirements of State Department of Education's Bulletin 1903. This process was shared with the statewide dyslexia task force and will be introduced at two statewide trainings in September 2010 – one in Monroe and one in Thibodaux.
In the 2010-2011 academic year, I plan to continue to further develop each of the 3 goals described above. I will also work more closely with the director of the MAX Charter School to further prepare teachers to teach students with dyslexia and related disorders. The goal is to provide model classrooms where visitors can see firsthand how to successfully provide for the needs of this unique group of students.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as the Jimmy and Glenny Lee Buquet Endowed Professor. I will continue to strive for excellence in education for all students with dyslexia and related learning disorders.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Chauvin