Gifted Development Center a service of
The Institute for the Study of Advanced Development

President’s Report
May 18, 2011

The following is a list of accomplishments of the Institute for 2010. They have been organized according to categories in our mission statement for submission to the Internal Revenue Service.

Statement 8: Study and Support of Giftedness

1. In January, Steven Haas, Director of the Visual-Spatial Research Project, was inducted into the Colorado Association for Educators of the Gifted, Talented and Creative. Steve conducts ongoing research on visual-spatial learners, particularly in culturally diverse populations.
2. Linda Silverman and Betty Maxwell developed a Teacher Checklist for Recognizing Twice Exceptional Children, used in training teachers in Lake Forest, Illinois in February.
4. Our Board Retreat was held April 24th, under the guidance of organizational development consultant, Nancy Cebula. Plans were made to expand the work of ISAD to meet the needs of gifted adults.
5. The Core Group of the Annemarie Roeper Method of Qualitative Assessment met on August 29th, in Oakland, California, at which time Annemarie Roeper named Anne Beneventi as her successor as Director.
7. On November 9th, in conjunction with Denver MENSA, Gifted Development Center sponsored a presentation by Willem Kuipers and Mechel Ensing-Wijn, from The Netherlands, on adults with extra intelligence and extra intensity.
8. Bobbie Gilman, Co-Chair of the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) Assessments of Giftedness Special Interest Group, began work on a position statement for NAGC. Now, as chair, she co-authored an article for NAGC’s journal, Parenting for High Potential, on the impact of Response to Intervention legislation on gifted and twice exceptional children.
9. The National Consortium of Schools for the gifted, a national support group for directors of schools for gifted children, created by GDC/ISAD, held its fifth annual meeting in Atlanta, Georgia on November 11th. ISAD maintains and updates a national listing of schools for gifted children.
10. In November, Julie Rodriguez emailed letters to 86 department chairs/administrators of universities and colleges offering programs in gifted education with the Call for Manuscripts for Advanced Development attached. Nancy Miller also solicited manuscripts at the National Association for Gifted Children convention in Atlanta.
11. Bobbie Gilman, Kathi Kearney and Linda Silverman began organizing a visit to Don Hammill in Austin to take place in January. His company purchased the Stanford-Binet Intelligence Scales, from Riverside Publishing, and they wanted to provide input in the development of the next edition.

13. Pearson, publishers of the Wechsler scales, requested that the Gifted Development Center participate in item trials for the *Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence, Fourth Edition* (WPPSI-IV).

14. Bobbie Gilman and Linda Silverman were invited by Pearson to create items for consideration for the *Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children, Fifth Edition* (WISC-V).

15. Our two websites [www.gifteddevelopment.com](http://www.gifteddevelopment.com) and [www.VisualSpatial.org](http://www.VisualSpatial.org) continue to provide a wealth of information to the public. The Visual-Spatial Resource website was completely reconstructed by Julie Rodriguez.

16. The Gifted Development Center Speakers’ Bureau continues to disseminate information concerning issues of giftedness in children and adults.

17. We are continuing to offer outreach services and testing globally. We maintain our connection with the Tokyo Children’s Academy, and tested children in California in 2010. The Board approved a proposal to expand our testing services in Nebraska, Iowa, Texas and Florida.

18. PG Retreat, an organization founded by the Gifted Development Center, which has now become a nonprofit in its own right, conducts an annual family conference in Colorado Springs over July 4th week-end. Bobbie Gilman, Betty Maxwell and Linda Silverman are frequent participants.

**Statement 9: Training in Gifted Assessment and Teaching Strategies**

19. Claudia Winkler, doctoral candidate in the clinical program of Professional Psychology at the University of Denver, continued her training with us on assessment of the gifted.

20. Alia Mulder-Rossi, another doctoral candidate in the Psy. D. program at DU joined us for an externship during the fall semester. Externs allow us to provide low cost testing for admission to the Hope Academy, a preschool for disadvantaged gifted children.

21. Katrina Katen, Ph.D., licensed psychologist, contacted the Center in fall, requesting training in the assessment of gifted children. Katrina participated in group supervision.

22. In March, Kim Boham, gifted coordinator in Omaha, Nebraska, began training with us on the assessment of the gifted and continued throughout the year, visiting monthly.

23. On February 12th, Linda Silverman conducted training on teaching strategies with visual-spatial learners and social-emotional needs of the gifted with the staff of the Avery Coonley School in Downers Grove, Illinois.

24. On February 23rd, Linda Silverman conducted a day-long teacher training institute for the Jefferson County Public Schools in Golden, Colorado, on “The Universal Experience of Being Out-of-Sync.”

25. April 26th, 28th and 30th, Linda Silverman presented day-long workshops on meeting the needs of visual-spatial learners to teachers in Grand Rapids, Bay Cities and Novi, Michigan.

26. Linda Silverman and Elizabeth Mika were invited by the Lake Forest School District in Illinois on June 22nd to present a full-day workshop on twice-exceptional learners, Dabrowski’s theory, the emotional needs of the gifted and the profoundly gifted.

27. On August 13th, Linda Silverman conducted a full-day staff training for Broomfield Academy on Dabrowski’s Theory.

28. The Gifted Development Center organized a symposium on Qualitative Assessment at Helios New School in Palo Alto, on August 28th, in honor of Annemarie Roeper. Participants included Dr. Patricia Gatto-Walden, Dr. Ellen Fiedler, Dr. Linda Silverman, Anne Beneventi and Barbara Hutton.

**Statement 10: Research**
29. In January, Julie Rodriguez was hired to enter data in our SPSS program. Her work is supervised by Frank Falk, Director of Research.
30. Kim Boham, gifted facilitator, conducted research on visual-spatial learners in the Millard Public Schools in Omaha, Nebraska.
31. Frank Falk and Nancy Miller discussed the validity of the construct of Overexcitability (OE) and the measurement of OE at the Ninth International Congress on Dabrowski’s Theory in St. Charles, IL, July 22nd.
32. Two new studies employing the Overexcitability Questionnaire (OEQ-II) were presented at the Ninth International Congress on Dabrowski’s Theory: “A Comparison of Overexcitabilities of Artistically Gifted and Non-Gifted Middle and High School Students in Korea,” by Young-Ah Kim, Ph.D., and “Developing Arabised Image of the Overexcitabilities Questionnaire (OEQ-II) (based on Dabrowski’s theory) and Measuring Effectiveness of Identifying Gifted Students in Middle Stage of Kuwait” by Thamer Fahed Almutairi, Ph.D.
34. Frank Falk and Linda Silverman, with the assistance of Julie Rodriguez, collected data comparing adolescent self-reports and parental reports of Overexcitability. Their proposal for NAGC was accepted by the Research and Evaluation Division, and they presented on November 13th in Atlanta, Georgia.
35. Nancy Miller analyzed 100 articles published in the first 12 volumes of Advanced Development Journal, and presented her findings on types of articles published, dominant themes, and authorship characteristics (gender and affiliation). She and Linda Silverman submitted a proposal to NAGC, which was accepted, and they presented these findings at the NAGC Convention in Atlanta in November.
36. Bobbie Gilman, Kathi Kearney, Linda Silverman, Nancy Robinson, and John Wasserman analyzed the ideal attributes of intelligence tests for the gifted. NAGC hosted their presentation as part of their invited signature series in Atlanta on November 13th. The handout was disseminated to all testing companies.
37. Shelagh Gallagher was invited to submit a grant proposal on behalf of ISAD to analyze our rich data base of over 6,000 cases.

Statement 11: Presentations; Publications; Dissemination of Information

38. Two invited articles by Linda Silverman were published in The Encyclopedia of Giftedness, Creativity and Talent: “Visual-Spatial Learners” and “Asynchrony.”
39. Linda Silverman was invited to write an article on “asynchronous development” for the Handbook for School Counselors Serving Gifted Students. This definition of giftedness, established by ISAD, is now recognized in Encyclopaedia Britannica, the National Association for Gifted Children website, authors from several countries, and the majority of books written by psychologists and counselors of the gifted.
40. In 1989, Betty Maxwell and Linda Silverman authored an article on “Inner Conflict as a Path to Higher Level Development in Women.” This article was selected by the MENSA Research Journal in 2010 to be reprinted in MENSA Research Journal: The Best of MRJ.
41. Australian Gifted Support Centre Newsletter (AGSC Update) posted Linda Silverman’s “Myths about the Gifted” on the AGSC website June, 2010.
42. Global Visions published “From Worry to Wonder to Wonderment” by Linda Silverman, an article that was also posted on the Gifted Development Center website.
43. On February 10th, Linda Silverman presented on “Perfectionism” to parents at the University Primary School at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
44. On February 11th, Linda Silverman presented to parents at the Avery Coonley School in Downers Grove, Illinois.
45. A television crew from South Korea interviewed Linda Silverman and Julie Rodriguez on February 24th for a documentary on Human Personality that aired April 12th-14th.
46. On February 22nd, Linda Silverman presented to parents for the Jefferson County Association for Gifted Children in Golden, Colorado, on the special issues of gifted girls.
47. Images, the Michigan Alliance for Gifted Education Newsletter, published an article about Linda Silverman’s work with visual-spatial learners before her presentations in Michigan.
48. Bobbie Gilman was the first speaker for the new Boulder Gifted Parent Support Group, presenting “Optimizing Gifted Advocacy by Parents and Schools: How to Ensure Meaningful Options, Even in Difficult Times” on April 26, 2010.
49. Bobbie Gilman presented “How to Optimize Parent Advocacy—at Westgate and Beyond” on May 4, 2010 at Westgate Community School. She had previously helped the school’s director with the application process for this charter school for the twice exceptional.
50. Bobbie Gilman presented “‘My Teacher Changed My Life!’ Being That Wonderful Teacher of the Highly Gifted and Twice Exceptional” to Westgate Community School staff on May 7, 2011.
51. On May 11th, Linda Silverman presented to parents for the Colorado Virtual Academy on “Allowing Your Child to Reach for the Stars.” A new article was developed on this topic.
52. Frank Falk, Nancy Miller, Michael Piechowski and Linda Silverman were invited to present at the Dabrowski International Congress in St. Charles, Illinois July 21st–25th. The consensus of the attendees was that the next Congress, in the summer of 2012, will be held in Denver.
53. August 6th, Linda Silverman met with Linda Brody at the Center for Talented Youth at The Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland, to discuss assessment of the gifted and possible collaboration.
54. On August 31st, Linda Silverman presented to parents at Baywood Learning Center in Oakland, California, about Dabrowski’s Theory.
55. On October 18th, Linda Silverman presented to parents at Broomfield Academy in Colorado on visual-spatial learners. Bobbie Gilman, Michael Davis, Steve Haas and Helen McVicar were also in attendance and participated in the Question and Answer session.
56. Steve Haas and Linda Silverman’s proposal was accepted for the NAGC Convention in Atlanta, Georgia. They presented on creative teaching strategies for visual-spatial learners to 50 teachers, administrators and parents on November 12th.
59. Kim Boham was invited to submit a proposal on the work of the Gifted Development Center to be presented at the Nebraska Association for the Gifted state conference in February, 2011.
60. Betty Maxwell is continuing to work on a book with Crystal Punch, entitled Picture This! See Yourself Teaching Visual-Spatial Learners.

Scholarships and Pro Bono Services

61. $21,658 was given in 2010 for scholarships, plus $8,026 in discounts. In addition, the staff contributed hundreds of hours in pro bono consultation for clients with limited means. Linda Leviton, on the West Coast, contributed approximately 8 hours per week writing responses to emails, blogs and posts asking questions about giftedness and twice exceptional testing, as well as...
offering pro bono presentations on giftedness, assessment, personality and learning style. Betty Maxwell, Bobbie Gilman and Linda Silverman have also done considerable pro bono work.

We continue to be on the forefront of assessment practices, research, training, publications and presentations in the field of gifted education.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Silverman, Ph.D.
President