

In 2002, our Center at UCLA launched the *National Initiative: New Directions for Student Support*. We began with a national Summit and followed this (in 2003) with

several regional Summits to raise awareness and create readiness for change. In 2003 we also began a targeted set of state Summits (these have occurred in 13 states to date)

Then, in 2005, we added strategies not only to enhance dissemination but to encourage and support diffusion as we provide indepth follow up for those places indicating readiness to move forward in developing a comprehensive new directions approach. To date, this work has included providing (1) Leadership Institutes for district teams and (2) onsite capacity building with specific state departments of education and districts.

In 2006, encouraged by the growing success of the New Directions initiative, the Center at UCLA established a public-private collaboration with Scholastic, Inc. as part of Scholastic's Community Affairs *Rebuilding for Learning* initiative. In 2007 and the first part of 2008, Scholastic has been (1) preparing a handbook based on our work related to addressing barriers to learning and teaching and re-engaging students and (2) developing a special website. In the last part of 2008, we will begin to conduct a series of Leadership Institutes beginning in the Gulf states and also for national and state superintendents/ administrators associations, Council of Chief State School Officers, etc.

Over 2007 and 2008, we increased our outreach to district superintendents/leaders and began to focus on higher education's role in personnel preparation for educators.

*Superintendents Initiative.* With respect to district leaders, widespread outreach mailings were sent including a range of brief resources and with follow up materials sent to those who responded. As of August, 2008, the focus on connecting with superintendents will be expanded into a formal *Superintendents Initiative*. The initiative will be inaugurated with national distribution of a Center report entitled: *Transforming School Improvement to Develop a Comprehensive System of Learning Supports: What District Superintendents Say They Need to Move Forward*.

*Higher Education Initiative.* With respect to higher education's role in personnel preparation for educators, July 2008 inaugurated a *Higher Education Initiative*. This began with a first Leadership Institute for Higher Education Personnel Preparation and with national distribution of the report entitled: *Preparing All Education Personnel to Address Barriers to Learning and Teaching* – online at

<http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/preparingall.pdf>

In addition to policy makers, a key audience for this report is deans, department chairs, and faculty in personnel preparation and leadership programs, district personnel responsible orientation/induction, inservice, and continuing education.

Each year, the Center has continued to produce resources and tools for those ready to move in New Directions for Student Support (e.g., see the online toolkit at <http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/summit2002/resourceaids.htm> )

