

William Mefford Penrod

School of Education and Human Development
Department of Teaching and Learning
Louisville, Kentucky 40292
(502) 852-0557 (office)
wpenrod@louisville.edu (e-mail)
January 16, 2008

EDUCATION

- Ed.D.** 2000 University of Louisville
Major: Special Education (emphasis in Education of Students who are Blind or Visually Impaired)
- M.Ed.** 1984 Peabody College at Vanderbilt University
Major: Special Education (emphasis in the Teaching of Orientation and Mobility to students who are Blind or Visually Impaired)
- M.Ed.** 1979 University of Louisville
Major: Career Education (emphasis in Education of children with multiple disabilities, and children with visual impairments)
- B.S.** 1971 Murray State University
Major: Speech
Minor: Physical Education
Minor: Secondary Education
Minor: Military Science

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning, College of Education and Human development, University of Louisville, August 2001- present. Major responsibilities: Development and implementation of graduate level education courses designed to fulfill the endorsement requirements mandated by the Kentucky Department of Education as *Teacher of the Visually Impaired and Blind*; teach above mentioned graduate level courses; recruit students for the program; design and assist in the implementation of the State Improvement Grant funded University of Louisville *Orientation and Mobility* program; advise graduate student pursuing either of the above programs; provide input for the NCATE review; provide service to the field and community; and other duties as assigned by the department chair or the dean.

Specific courses taught include:

- Physical and psycho-social needs of students who are blind or visually impaired (VI)
- Literary Braille and Nemeth code (VI)

- Assessment procedures for low vision students (VI)
- Educational procedures for visually impaired students (VI)
- Basic Orientation and Mobility for teachers of the blind and visually impaired (VI)
- Student teaching (VI)
- Introduction to Orientation and Mobility (O&M)
- Advanced Orientation and Mobility I (O&M)
- Advanced Orientation and Mobility II (O&M)
- Practicum in Orientation and Mobility (O&M)
- Orientation and Mobility for preschool and multiply disabled (O&M)
- Internship in Orientation and Mobility (O&M)

Part-time Faculty, Department of Teaching and Learning, College of Education and Human Development, University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky 40292, 1986-2001. Major responsibilities: Teaching courses designed to meet the endorsement requirements mandated by the Kentucky Department of Education for *Teacher of the Visually Impaired or Blind*; consulting and course design for the University of Louisville *Orientation and Mobility* program funded through the state improvement grant (SIG); and teaching courses designed to fulfill the requirements as a *Certified Orientation & Mobility Specialist (COMS)*.

Specific courses include:

- Basic Orientation and Mobility for teachers of the visually impaired or blind (VI)
- Anatomy of the eye and common eye conditions (VI)
- Introduction to visual impairment and blindness (VI)
- Introduction to Orientation and Mobility (O&M)
- Advanced Orientation and Mobility I (O&M)
- Advanced Orientation and Mobility II (O&M)

Itinerant Teacher of the Visually Impaired/Blind and Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist (COMS), Jefferson County Public Schools, Ballard High School, 6000 Brownsboro Road, Louisville, Kentucky 40222, 1984-2001. Major responsibilities: Teaching visually impaired middle school and high school age children enrolled in the system; teaching Orientation and Mobility (O&M) to middle school and high school age children; providing initial and three-year assessments for visually impaired children; attending administrative and school-based admissions and release committee (ARC) meetings; designing and implementing goals and objectives determined by the ARC and included on the student's individualized education plan (IEP); and other duties as assigned.

Adjunct Faculty, University of Northern Colorado, *Distance Education Orientation and Mobility program*, 501 20th Street, Greeley, Colorado 80639. Major responsibilities: Teaching all required courses for certification as a certified orientation and mobility specialist (COMS) through the Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation and Education Professionals (ACVREP).

Specific courses include:

- Introduction to the profession of Orientation & Mobility
- Advanced methods O&M
- Practicum in O&M
- Internship in O&M

Occupational Work Experience Teacher (OWE), Jefferson County Public Schools, Churchill Park School, 435 Boxley Avenue 40292, 1975-1983. Major responsibilities: Teaching moderately and severely mentally disabled children work related skills necessary for gainful and semi-gainful employment; attend administrative and school-based ARC's; assist in the design and implementation of goals and supporting behavioral objectives in the student's IEP; active involvement in Special Olympics; coach school basketball team; coordinate CETA work study program; other duties as assigned.

Specific Courses taught include:

- Introduction to the world of work
- Introduction to office machines
- Job placement and supervision

Consultant and Private Contractor (Orientation & Mobility), Kentucky Department for the Blind and other Local Education Agencies (LEAs) across the state of Kentucky, which include but are not limited to Rowan county, Perry county, Fayette county, Maysville Public Schools, Fleming county, Grayson county, Calloway county, Livingston county, Western Kentucky Educational Cooperative, Buffalo Trace Regional Diagnostic Cooperative, Harlan county, Bell county, Floyd county, and others. Major responsibilities: Providing timely and accurate assessments; provide direct instruction in the area(s) of vision impairment and Orientation & Mobility, as needed; attend administrative and school-based ARCs; assist in developing IEPs and Section 504 remediation plans, as needed; other duties as requested.

Specific courses taught include:

- Basic Orientation & Mobility Methods
- Advanced Orientation and Mobility Methods
- Electronic Travel Aids

PUBLICATIONS

Smith, D. & **Penrod, W.** (in press). Adaptive technology. In Blasch, B.B., Wiener, W. & Welsh, R. (Eds.), *Foundations of orientation and mobility*, (3rd ed.). Vol. 1. New York: American Foundation for the Blind Press.

Penrod, W., Smith, D., Corbett, M. & Haneline, R. (in press). How to teach electronic travel aids and wayfinding devices. In Blasch, B.B., Wiener, W. & Welsh, R. (Eds.), *Foundations of orientation and mobility* (3rd ed.). Vol. 2. New York: American Foundation for the Blind Press.

Ender, K, Simmons, T.J., Bauder D.K., & **Penrod, W.** (2007). E-content and means for facilitating Universal Design for Learning. *Journal of Research on*

Technology.

Simmons, T. J., Bauder, D. K., Abell, M., & **Penrod, W.**, (2007/2008). Delivering the general curriculum: Pre-service teacher perspectives regarding a technological approach for students with moderate and severe disabilities. *Information Technology and Disabilities*.

Penrod, W., Bauder, D.K., Simmons, T., Belcher, L., & Corley, J.W. (2006). Efficacy of the UltraCane™: A product evaluation and pilot study to determine the efficacy of the UltraCane™ in outdoor environments. *Closing the Gap*, 25 (5), 1-6.

Penrod, W., & Blasch, B. (2005). Tooth fairies and the appropriateness of electronic travel devices for children. *Division of Visual Impairment Quarterly*, 51 (1), 23-25.

Penrod, W., Corbett, M., & Blasch, B.B. (2005). A master trainer class for professionals in teaching the UltraCane™ electronic travel device. *Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness*. 99 (11), 711-715.

Penrod, W., Hanley, C., & Matheson, L. (2005). A model for improving science teaching for students with visual impairments. *RE:view*, 37 (2), 53-60.

Penrod, W., & Simmons, T. (2005). An evaluation and comparison of the Handguide™ by Guideline™ and the Miniguide™ developed by GDP Research electronic travel devices. *Closing the Gap*, 23 (6), 22-24.

Penrod, W., & Petrosko, J. (2003). Spatial organization skills of the blind in large outdoor places. *RE:view*, 34 (4), 155-163.

WORKS IN REVIEW, REVISION OR SUBMITTED FOR PUBLICATION

Blasch, B.B., La Grow, S. & **Penrod, W.** (2007). Environmental analysis and classification for persons who are blind: A call for taxonomy. Manuscript submitted to *RE:view*.

Penrod, W., Bauder, D.K., Simmons, T., Brostek, D. & Matheson, L. (2007). The efficacy of secondary electronic travel aids. Manuscript submitted to *Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness*.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Penrod, W., Bauder, D.K., Simmons, T., Brostek, D. & Matheson, L. (2007). The efficacy of primary electronic travel aids.

Penrod, W. (2007). Project INSIGHT: A collaborative effort to improve successful transition of visually impaired students to post-secondary placements in Kentucky.

TECHNICAL MANUALS

Terlau, T. & **Penrod, W.** (2005). K Sonar Instruction Manual: Version 1. Copyright © American Printing House for the Blind (APH). All rights reserved.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Brooks, A. & **Penrod, W.** (2006, November). Contemporary Research on Electronic travel devices in the United Kingdom and the United States and a call for reclassification. Paper presented at the International Orientation & Mobility Conference 12 in Hong Kong, China.

Blasch, B.B. & **Penrod, W.** (2006, July). Orienteering for persons who are blind. A three-hour activity and discussion session presented at the International Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER) in Snowbird, Utah.

Penrod, W., Blasch, B.B., & Bozeman, L. (2006, July). The UltraCane™. A twelve-hour workshop presented at the International Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER) in Snowbird, Utah.

Blasch, B.B., Brooks, A. & **Penrod, W.** (2005, April). The UltraCane™ electronic travel device master trainers class. Presented at the South African Guide Dog School in Capetown, South Africa.

Blasch, B.B., Corbett, M. & **Penrod, W.** (2004, November). The UltraCane™ electronic travel device master trainers class. Presented at the University of Louisville.

Penrod, W., (2004, March). A review and comparison of the Handguide™ and the Miniguide™ electronic travel devices. Paper presented at the 9th Annual International Conference on Technology and Persons with Disabilities at California State University at Northridge (CSUN) Conference.

Penrod, W. (2003, April). Spatial organization skills of the blind in large outdoor places. Paper presented at the International Mobility Conference 11, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Terlau, T., & **Penrod, W.** (2003, December). New electronic mobility devices for persons who are blind. Poster session presented at the National Mobility Conference, New Orleans, LA, December 12, 2003.

Penrod, W., (2003, September). A comparison of electronic travel aids. Meeting of the Minds Conference, American Printing House for the Blind (APH), Louisville, Kentucky, September 8, 2003.

LOCAL, REGIONAL AND STATE CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Penrod, W. (2007, June). Electronic Travel Aids and the college campus. This was a two-hour presentation to high school students who are blind or visually impaired high school students who plan on attending college. This effort was part of project INSIGHT at Morehead State University in Morehead, Kentucky. Project INSIGHT is a collaboration between the University of Louisville, Morehead State University, Kentucky School for the Blind, Kentucky Office for the Blind, and the Big East Educational Cooperative.

Penrod, W. (2005, November). New electronic travel devices for persons who are Blind. This was a four-hour presentation to orientation and mobility instructors employed by the Kentucky Office for the Blind at that organization's annual Conference held at General Butler State park.

Terlau, T., **Penrod, W.** (2005, September). Introducing the Kay Sonar Device™. electronic travel device. This was a two day presentation to orientation and mobility instructors in Eugene, Oregon sponsored by the Oregon chapter of the Association for the Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER) and the American Printing House for the Blind (APH) September 22-24, 2005.

Penrod, W. (2005, September). Walking with a person who is blind. Anchorage School. This was a two-hour presentation to fifty students, teachers, parents and paraprofessionals who will be assisting with Special Olympic Track and Field events at the Kentucky School for the Blind. September 1, 2004.

Penrod, W. (2004, September). Education at the University of Louisville. Cherokee

- Chapter of the Order of De Molay This was a one-hour presentation to twenty members and guests concerning post-secondary options at the University of Louisville and other educational institutions. September 20, 2004.
- Penrod, W.** (2004, September). Walking with a person who is blind. Anchorage School. This was a two-hour presentation to fifty students, teachers, parents and paraprofessionals who will be assisting with Special Olympic Track and Field events at the Kentucky School for the Blind. September 1, 2004.
- Penrod, W.** (2003, November). Visual Acuity, Legal Blindness, Low Vision, and Interpreting the Eye Report. American Printing House for the Blind sponsored raining session for persons who submit data for Federal Quota. November 4, 2003.
- Penrod, W.** (2003, March). Distance Education and VI/O&M Certification Programs at the University of Louisville. Maryland State Association for the Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired Annual Conference, Ocean City, Maryland. March 14-15, 2003.
- Penrod, W.** (2003, February). Visual Acuity, Legal Blindness, Low Vision, and Interpreting the Eye Report. American Printing House for the Blind sponsored training session for persons who submit data for Federal Quota. February 26, 2003.
- Penrod, W.** (2002, March). Teacher Preparation and Availability for Kentucky's Visually impaired Children. Kentucky Chapter of the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired Annual Conference, General Butler State Park, March 29, 2002.
- Penrod, W.** (2001, November). Teacher Preparation for Students with Visual Impairments at the University of Louisville: A Commitment to Braille Literacy. American Council of the Blind (ACB) of Kentucky Annual Conference, Louisville, Kentucky, November 10, 2001.
- Penrod, W.** (2001, October). Anatomy of the Eye and Common Eye Disorders/Diseases. Preview Institute Conference in Ashland, Kentucky, October 3, 2001.
- Penrod, W.** (2001, September). The Importance of Braille Literacy and Teacher Preparation. Regional Lions Club Meeting, Fern Creek, Kentucky, September 11, 2001; Monthly meeting Fern Creek Lions Club, Fern Creek, Kentucky, September 13, 2001; Monthly meeting of the Downtown Lions Club, Louisville, Kentucky, September 18, 2001.

Penrod, W. (2001, September). The Transitioning Teacher Preparation Program for Students who are Blind or Visually Impaired at the University of Louisville, National Federation of the Blind of Kentucky Annual Conference, Louisville, Kentucky, September 8, 2001.

Penrod, W. (2001, September). The University of Louisville's Teacher Preparation Program for Students with Visual Impairments, National State Directors of Special Education Kentucky Conference, Louisville, Kentucky September 7, 2001.

Grants

National Committee for Leadership in Visual Impairment (NCLVI). The first ever invited grant from the US Office of Special Education Programs designed to address the upcoming shortage of leadership personnel with earned doctorates in visual impairment. A total of twenty-five fellowships were awarded to the fifteen universities that comprised the NCLVI. The University of Louisville received two fellowships for three years each. This resulted in \$40,000 in tuition and stipends for each of the fellows for three years. \$240,000.

State Improvement Grant (SIG) from the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE). Negotiated by Dr. Thomas Simmons this grant provides the University of Louisville partial funding for tuition for state residents who are pursuing Certification as Orientation & Mobility Specialist (COMS) through the Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation & Education Professionals (ACVREP). \$0,000 annually.

Preparation of Special Education Related Services and Results for Children with Disabilities. Submitted to US Department of Education in August, 2005. Amount requested was \$249,000 per year for five consecutive years starting July 1, 2006. Not Funded.

Preparation of Special Education Related Services and Early Intervention Personnel to Serve Infants, Toddlers, and Children with Low Incidence Disabilities. Submitted To US Department of Education on February 14, 2003. Amount Requested is \$249,809.00 per year for five consecutive years starting July 1, 2003. Not Funded.

American Printing House for the Blind (APH). Researching the Efficacy of the Accessible Textbook Initiative Collaboration (ATIC) for users with low vision. Bauder, D., Penrod, W., Simmons, T., & Reynolds, M. A. (2003). \$10,800. Funded.

SERVICE

Editorial Work

- Lacey, G. & Rodriguez-Losada, D. (2006). The evolution of Guido: A smart Walker for the blind. *Transactions on Neural Systems & Rehabilitation Engineering*. (Reviewer).
- Ross, D. & Blasch, B. B. (2005). Evaluation of three indoor orientation aids for veterans experiencing severe vision loss. *Journal of Rehabilitation Research and Development*. (Reviewer).
- Mancil, R., Mancil, G., King, E., Legault, C., Munday, J., & Blasch, B.B. (2004). Improving nighttime mobility in persons with RP and night blindness: A comparison of two low vision mobility devices. *Journal of Rehabilitation Research and Development* (Reviewer).
- Gaunet, F. & Briffault, X. (2004). Exploring the functional specifications of a localized wayfinding verbal aid for blind pedestrians. *Human-Computer Interactions*. (Reviewer).

Grants Reviewed

- Soede, M. (2006). Study on the effect of innovative Electronic Mobility Aids (EMA) on participation of visual impaired and blind persons. ZonMw, the Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development

National Professional Boards/Organizations

- Member, **National Educational Association**, 1975-present
- Member, **Association for the Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER)**, 1983-present; Chair, **Publications Committee**, 2006-present; Member, **University Review Committee (Orientation & Committee)**, 2006-present.
- Member, **Southeastern Orientation and Mobility Association**, 1984-present
- Committee Member, **Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation Professionals, Continuing Education Committee**
- Committee Member, **Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation Professionals (ACVREP), Job Task Analysis Committee** (Ad Hoc committee to redesign the National Certification Test for persons aspiring to become Certified Orientation & Mobility Specialists.)

State Professional Boards/Organizations

Committee Member, **Crowe's Chase Advisory Board (At Large), Kentucky Department Of Education (3 year term).**

Committee Member, **Environmental Education Center** (formerly, Crowe's Chase), **Kentucky State University.**

Committee Member, **Stakeholder's group, Region III, Kentucky School for the Blind/Kentucky School for the Deaf, Kentucky Department of Education (Ad Hoc).**

Committee Member, **Stakeholder's group, Personnel Preparation, Kentucky School for the Blind/Kentucky School for the Deaf, Kentucky Department of Education (Ad Hoc).**

Committee Member, **Stakeholder's group, Closing the (Achievement) Gap for the Kentucky School for the Blind/Kentucky School for the Deaf, Kentucky Department of Education (Ad Hoc).**

Member, **Kentucky Education Association, 1975-present**

Member, **Kentucky Association for the Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (KAER), 1987-present**

Member, **Kentucky State Advisory Board for the Education of Visually Impaired Children, 2001-present**

Treasurer, **Kentucky Association for the Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (KAER), 1987, 2001, 2002, 2003.**

Local Professional Organizations/Schools

Member, **Jefferson County Teachers Association, 1975-2003**

College of Education and Human Development

Member, **Standards and Admissions Committee, College of Education and Human Development, 2002-present.**

Member, **Curriculum Committee, College of Education and Human Development, University of Louisville, 2002-2004.**

Member, **College of Education and Human Development Alumni Council,**

2003-2006.

Member, **NCATE Standard IV Diversity Committee**, 2004-present (Ad Hoc).

Department of Teaching and Learning

Member, **Personnel Committee**, Department of Teaching and Learning, College of Education and Human Development, 2003-2004.

Member, **Special Education Program Committee**, Department of Teaching and Learning, 2003-present.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

National Education Association
 Kentucky Education Association
 Jefferson County Teachers Association
 Association for the Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired
 Kentucky Association for the Education and rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired
 Southeastern Orientation and Mobility Association
 State Directors of Special Education
 Council for Exceptional Children

TEACHING CREDENTIALS (Kentucky)

Secondary Education (Life)

Speech
 Physical Education
 Visually Impaired/Blind

Middle School (Life)

Speech
 Physical Education
 Visually Impaired/Blind

Director, Special Education (Administrative)

Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist (COMS)

HONORS AND AWARDS

I was nominated for the University of Louisville Delphi Center “Faculty Favorite” award (2005). This award selected 400 nominees that 761 students identified “...as the faculty member that most made a difference in their growth and learning.”

The University of Louisville Disability Resource Center “*Carl Cox Lifetime Achievement Award*” (2005) acknowledging my thirty-year career dedicated to serving children and adults who are disabled.

Disability Awareness Awards “*Certificate of Recognition*” (2002) was awarded for my service to University Of Louisville students with disabilities. Specifically, this award recognized my efforts to bring “reasonable accommodation” into university classrooms and make the university campus more accessible to persons with disabilities.

The Kentucky Chapter of the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired “*Touching Lives*” (2001) award for my effort in bringing a distance education Orientation and Mobility (O&M) program to the Commonwealth of Kentucky through the University of Northern Colorado. This process was a two-year effort that resulted in the state now having seven more competent and certifiable O&M specialists serving blind and visually impaired children.