

**Special Interest
Articles:**

- Brag and Steal Information
- Membership Increase.
- David Mitchell named Administrator for IVRS.

**Officers and Board
Members:**

President:

Matt Bruinekool

President-Elect:

Gary Johnson

Vice President:

Jeffrey Morgan

Secretary:

Mary Ott

Board Members:

Jay Brewer

Keri Osterhaus

Mike Williams

Jamie Corwin

Lois Staff

Jessica Schneider

David Mitchell selected as Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services Administrator

DES MOINES, Iowa (May 5, 2011) – Jason Glass, State Director of the Iowa Department of Education, has announced that David Mitchell has been named Administrator for Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services. Glass said Mitchell “has spent the last 11 years here at IVRS and so is well equipped to move into this new leadership role.”

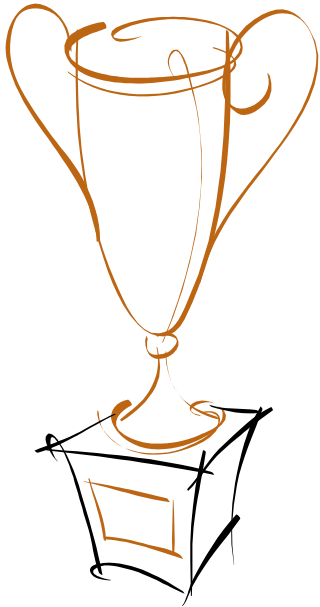
While at IVRS Mitchell served as Assistant Bureau Chief, Administrative Consultant and Supervisor for East Central Area Office. Prior to joining IVRS, Mitchell worked in rehabilitation services in Central Iowa for nearly 20 years in both the public and private sectors serving as a community services administrator, rehabilitation consultant, branch manager and vocational counselor.

Mitchell received his Master of Science Degree from Drake University in Counseling and Personnel Services and earned his undergraduate degree from Iowa State University in Social Work and Industrial Administration. Mitchell is a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) through the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification.

A member of the Iowa Rehabilitation Association, Mitchell is a past president and is a current member of the National Rehabilitation Association. He is a past member of the Iowa Association of Service Providers in Private Rehabilitation and the Central Iowa Job Placement Network, serving as Co-Chair in 1987. The Rehabilitation Services Administration, Region VII, gave Mitchell the Distinguished Service Award and he received the College of Education Alumni of the Year Award from Drake University in 2005. In 2003 Mitchell was presented with the Iowa Golden Dome Award for Leader of the Year and in 1989 Mitchell was given the Bill Donohue Memorial Award in recognition of excellence for outstanding achievement in the placement of Iowans with disabilities by the Job Placement Division of the Iowa Rehabilitation Association.

Mitchell has given numerous presentations at conferences in the Midwest on rehabilitation, job placement, transition and employment issues.

THE 2011 CHUCK WOOD MEMORIAL AWARD



There are many people with disabilities who have attained high levels of independence, self-reliance, and self-sufficiency in their communities. We would like to recognize their efforts and achievements. If you know someone who fits this description, please consider him or her for nomination for the Chuck Wood Memorial Award. In theory, this award is given annually at the IRA awards banquet, but we have had no nominees for the past two years. Let's do something about that.

If you have a nominee, please gather the nominating materials (see enclosed application form) and send them to Jonathan Ice, Iowa Department for the Blind, 411 3rd St SE, Suite 700, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401-1837. Deadline is Sept. 2, 2011. If you have questions, call 319-365-9111, or e-mail at jonathan.ice@blind.state.ia.us.



We need your help!!

If you have topics or issues that you would like to have addressed in our newsletter please do not hesitate to ask. Also, if you have articles upcoming events that you would like to have added to the newsletter, we would appreciate your contribution.

Please contact Jessie Schneider at: jessica.schneider1980@hotmail.com with any of your comments or questions.



i have a plan.TM
IOWA

Powered by Iowa College Aid

Career Development in the 21st Century 2.0

Iowa College Aid and Iowa Department of Education are teaming to bring you the latest information in career development for your students. We are pleased to offer the 2nd annual Career Development in the 21st Century class as part of Heartland AEA 11's Professional Development Program. The purpose is to provide participants with knowledge and best practices for implementing career development and I Have A Plan IowaTM into the classroom. Particular focus will be on 21st century skills and career and education planning. Workplace and college program tours are included as an option.

Class Dates: August 1 & 2, 2011 (If you are attending the class for credit, you will also be required to attend two webinars which will be scheduled at a later date.)

Class Times: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Class Location:

FFA Enrichment Center
Des Moines Area Community College
1055 SW Prairie Trail Parkway
Ankeny, IA

Credits: Drake Graduate - 1 (Pending) LR - 1 CEU-NU - 0 SA - 0

Learning Goals or Targets:

- * Participants will understand and apply career development strategies and how to implement those strategies with their students K-12 and beyond.
- * Participants will learn how to effectively use I Have A Plan IowaTM to facilitate the career development of their students.

Course Content/Syllabus:

- * Large group sessions on economics, job opportunity, future careers potential and training/education options
- * Smaller group sessions with a variety of educational strands for the different educators
- * Hands on workshop (computer lab): focused on the components and tools available in I Have A Plan IowaTM (IHAPI)
- * "Round Table" sharing: educator facilitators sharing their experiences on how they

problem-solved or implemented a strategy to facilitate career development or the completion of IHAPI Guide ways

* Tours: workplace and program tours to provide real world context to the career and educational opportunities in the different Career Clusters

* Resource Tables: a variety of career resources will be available for workshop participants

Educator Strands:

* Content Area Teachers

* School Counselors

* Special Education Teachers

* Career and Technical Education Teachers and Coordinators

* School Administrators

* Community College/Post-Secondary Institution Instructors or Counseling Staff

Registration Deadline: July 15, 2011

[Register Now](#)

Enter Heartland Activity number: SI012699111201

Cost: There is no cost to attend if you do not wish to receive credit. The cost is \$25 for license renewal and \$100 for Drake graduate credit.

If you have a program or experience you would like to share or present, please complete a [proposal form](#).

For questions or more information, contact Iowa College Aid at 877-272-4456.

Iowa College Student Aid Commission
877-272-4456

WANTED: A FEW GOOD WOMEN (OR MEN)

Well, IRA isn't the U.S. Marines, but like that storied group, we are seeking a few good people who would be able and willing to serve as officers and board members on next year's IRA board – i.e., we are looking for **future leaders**. As I am now IRA's past president, it is my role to seek nominees for the following positions: president-elect, vice-president, treasurer, and 3 board members.

Fortunately for me, the hardest to fill position already is spoken for. Jeffrey Morgan has said he will run for **president-elect** in 2011. However, if you want to give him some competition, he has said he will welcome that.

I invite any of you to consider the other positions that will be open. The **Vice-president** serves a one-year term, and is responsible for filling in for the president if (s)he is not available for meetings or other essential duties. Although this is not in the official job description, the past two vice-presidents came in with the understanding that this year was a preparation for moving on to president-elect, and from there to president and past president. I like that trend, and would love to see it continue.

Rosie Thierer, who has served ably as our **treasurer** for the past 4 years, is stepping down. This crucial position is a

two-year term, and obviously we are looking for someone who is good with numbers and can communicate well about the financial position of IRA.

We will be looking for **3 at-large board members** to serve 2-year terms. This is a good entry-level position for those who want to be of service, but don't know yet how IRA operates, or in what manner they best can serve this organization.

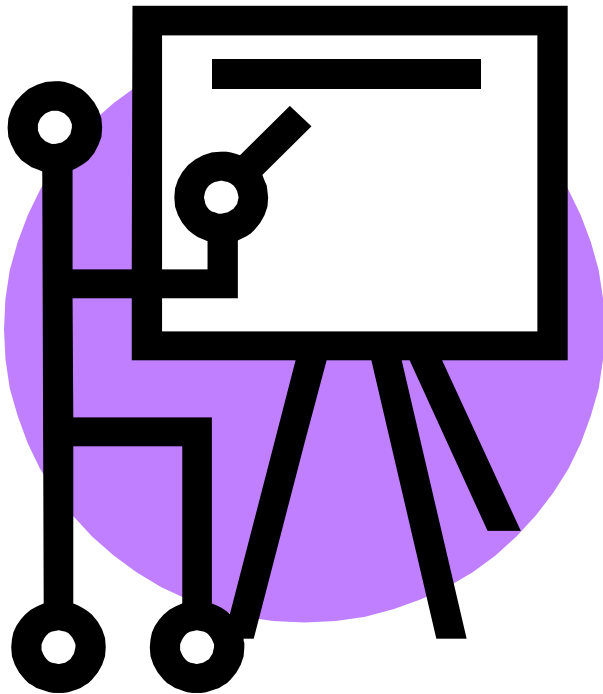
If you are interested in serving in any of these positions, please don't be shy. Call me, e-mail me, or button-hole me as soon as possible. That will earn you my eternal gratitude, and save me from having to beat the bushes for candidates.



Best ways to contact me are by phone (319-365-9111 or 888-346-9111 – leave a message if I'm not there) or by e-mail, at jonathan.ice@blind.state.ia.us.

If you want to contact me by mail, here are the particulars:

Jonathan Ice
Iowa Department for the Blind
411 3rd Street SE, Suite 700
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401-1837



**Iowa Rehabilitation Association's
Iowa Job Placement Division
2011 Brag N Steal Conference**

**Friday, June 24, 2011
8:00 AM until 4:30 PM**

**NIACC Muse Norris Center, Mason
City, IA**

**Located on Highway 27
Mason City, IA**

The Iowa Rehabilitation Association is comprised of an active, energetic membership of professionals from both the public and private sectors that is dedicated to providing high quality service to individuals with disabilities. The Association is a state chapter of National Rehabilitation Association. We have been in existence for 50 years.

The Job Placement Division of the Iowa Rehabilitation Association is sponsoring this training and Brag N Steal has been a tradition in Iowa for 30 years. It is well respected by other state chapters and the parent organization; primarily because of its emphasis on job placement and employment. The attendees will be rehabilitation professionals from across Iowa and from out of state.

The theme of this year's Brag N Steal Conference is "Abilities Abound". The topics covered in this conference will include: trauma based mental health issues, using prosthetics and orthotics to keep our workforce productive, adjustment to disability and career change, ethics in the workplace, Iowa Works partnership in job search, legislative changes, I Have a Plan Iowa, and assistive technology – how can I work if I cannot get ready for work.

These topics have been approved for Iowa Social Work CEU's and CRC CEU's. The day will bring a comprehensive look at many of the issues facing people with disabilities and professional challenges.

Iowa Rehabilitation Association
BRAG AND STEAL 2011 REGISTRATION
Abilities Abound

FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 2011
8:30AM – 4:30PM
(Registration opens at 8:00am)

Social Work CEUS (from NIACC) and CRC CEUS are available for attendees

Name: _____ Last 4 numbers of SS * * * _ * * _ _

Home Address: _____ Phone: _____

_____ Email: _____

Registration postmarked on or before June 10 (includes lunch)

Student \$40 ___ IRA Member \$55 ___ Non Member \$65 ___

Registration after June 10 or walk in (includes lunch)

Student \$50 ___ IRA Member \$65 ___ Non Member \$75 ___

NIACC 1.5 ethics and 4 social work hours of CEU's (total of 5.5 CEU's) \$10 _____

Total enclosed _____

Special diet needs (vegetarian, etc) _____

Please list any accommodations you may need in order to participate (special seating, Braille program, large print, etc) _____

Please send completed registration with payment payable to Iowa Job Placement Division, Marcia Gracey, 4512 SW 16th St., Des Moines, IA 50315. Questions to 515-243-0042.

SPECIAL NOTE: If you plan to stay in Mason City on the night before the conference, the following motels accept the state rate (\$50 single) based on availability:

Clarion Inn 2101 4th St SW Mason City 641/423-1640

Comfort Inn, 410 5th St SW Mason City 641-423-4444

Super 8, 3010 4th St SW Mason City 641/423-8855

American Best Inn and Suites, 24 5th St SW Mason City (\$35 single and \$45 double) 642/424-2910

Americinn Clear Lake 1406 N 25th St 641/357-8954

Heartland Inn Clear Lake 1603 S Shore 641/357-5123

This is not an exclusive list and is provided as a courtesy.

Iowa Rehabilitation
Association
Membership:
319 Marie Avenue
Elk Run Heights, IA 50707

We're on the Web!

See us at:
www.iraiaowa.org

Legislative Updates

If you would like a copy of the entire Legislative Review, please contact Ellen Sokolowski. Thank you, Ellen for the precise notes and for keeping us current on all legislative issues.

Calendar Dates

June 23, 2011 IRA Meeting in Mason City

June 24, 2011 Brag and Steal in Mason City

IA REHAB ASSOCIATION
VICTORIA KOLLMANN,
MEMBERSHIP
319 MARIE AVENUE
ELK RUN HEIGHTS, IA 50707

