

**SETTING AND ALIGNING STANDARDS FOR FLORIDA'S VOLUNTARY
PREKINDERGARTEN (VPK) EDUCATION PROGRAM:
BENCHMARKING**

**Panel of Experts
May 2005 Meeting**

Maria Carlo, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning, University of Miami. *(Invited)*

Janet Fischel, Ph.D., Director, Pediatric Medical Education; Director, Division of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics; and Director, Stony Brook Reading and Language Laboratory, State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Ellen Frede, Ph.D., Assistant to Commissioner for Early Childhood Education, New Jersey Department of Education (on leave from the College of New Jersey). *(Invited)*

Jo Hudson, Reading Program Specialist, Northeast Florida Educational Consortium.

Susan Landry, Ph.D., Michael Matthew Knight Professor, Department of Pediatrics at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, and Chief, Division of Developmental Pediatrics and the Director of the Center for Improving the Readiness of Children for Learning and Education (CIRCLE), Department of Pediatrics.

Dave Lawrence, President, Early Childhood Initiative Foundation and University Scholar for Early Childhood Development and Readiness, University of Florida. *(5/11)*

Thomas Logan, Ph.D., Executive Director, Early Learning Coalition of Florida's Gateway.

Christopher J. Lonigan, Ph.D., Associate Director, Florida Center for Reading Research, and Professor of Psychology, Florida State University.

Scott R. McConnell, Ph. D., Professor of Educational Psychology and Child Psychology, University of Minnesota.

Carmen Nicholas, Ph.D., Director, Head Start and Children's Services Division, Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners. *(Invited)*

Barbara Saunders, Executive Director, Lee County School Readiness Coalition.

Catherine Scott-Little, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, University of North Carolina at Greensboro.
(Invited)

Amy M. Wetherby, Ph.D., L.L. Schendel Professor of Communication Disorders, Florida State University. *(5/10 via phone)*

Jerry West, Ph.D., Program Director, Early Childhood and Household Studies, National Center for Education Statistics. *(Invited)*

Julie Ann Washington, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Audiology and Speech Language Pathology, Wayne State University.

Katherine Wilson, Esquire, Member, Ready Child Coalition (Duval County).
(Invited)

Nicholas Zill, Ph.D., Vice President and Study Area Director, Westat, Inc. Rockville Maryland.