



**VCU** School of Education

*Education Policy and Politics:*  
**What's at Stake for Students with  
Disabilities**

Monday, September 21, 2015

4:00 – 5:15 p.m.

Presenters:

Jane West

Colleen Thoma

Michael Gamel-McCormick

# Federal Education Policy

## Birth to Five

Head Start (1965)  
Head Start  
Reauthorization (1972)  
CCDBG (1990)  
Section 619 of IDEA (1975)  
Part C of IDEA (1986)  
CCDBG Reauthorization  
(2014)

FERPA (1974)

## K-12

Brown v. Topeka (1954)  
NDEA (1958)  
ESEA (1965)  
EAHCA (1975)  
IDEA (1990)  
NCLB (2001)  
ESEA Reauthorizations

## CTE

Vocational Education Act (1963)  
Perkins (1998)  
WIA (1998)  
WIOA (2014)

## Post-Secondary

G.I. Bill (1944)  
HEA (1965)  
TRIO Programs (1965)  
Pell Grants (1980)  
HEOA (2008)

ESRA (2002)

# History of Federal Education Policy

- 1800s: Higher education focused (e.g., the Morrill Act of 1862)
- Early 1900s: Vocational education focus (e.g., Smith-Hughes Act of 1917 and the George-Barden Act of 1946)
- Mid-1900s: More focus on higher education (e.g., the GI bill of 1947)
- 1958: “Missile Gap” (National Defense Education Act)
- 1965: Poverty and the Elementary and Secondary Education Act
- 1975: Education for All Handicapped Children Act 1975
- 1986: EAHCA Reauthorization
- 1990: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

# Four Major Touchpoints for Federal Education Disability Policy

- Congress (the House and the Senate)
- The Executive Branch (the president and the agencies)
- Advocates
- The States



# Education Appropriations (FY 2013)

• ESEA Title I	\$13,760,476,000
• IDEA K-12	\$10,975,104,000
• IDEA Preschool	\$353,155,000
• IDEA Part C	\$419,554,000
• Career and Technical Ed	\$1,064,531,000
• Head Start	\$7,585,173,000
• TRIO	\$795,487,000



# Political Landscape

- Sequestration
- Generally flat funding
- 0-5% cuts annually to small programs
- Consolidation of programs
- Preference for states to try new ideas
- Common ground has narrowed



# Important Education Players in Congress

- John Kline
- Bobby Scott
- Patty Murray
- Lamar Alexander





# Important Education Players in the Administration

- Arne Duncan
- Melody Musgrove
- Sue Swenson
- Roberto Rodriguez
- Cecilia Munoz





# Common Ground Issues

- Increasing states' flexibility to implement programs (sometimes)
- Student achievement (sometimes)
- Social security (sometimes)
- Disability (sometimes)



# Early Childhood (birth to 5)



K-12

CTE



Higher Ed

# Cross-cutting Issues

- Education Research: ESRA
- Student and Family Privacy: FERPA

