LRDC 50th Anniversary Events Are Scheduled

In 2013, LRDC will celebrate 50 years of research on learning and instruction. To commemorate the occasion, a conference and gala dinner and a speaker series will be held.

Please mark your calendars for May 16, 2013, for the conference to be held at Pitt and plan on attending to reflect on past work and prepare for future challenges.

The Distinguished Speaker series will occur throughout the year at LRDC, with:

February 28, 2013, Mitchel Resnick, MIT Media Lab, who will explore how new technologies can engage people in creative learning experiences. Resnick's research group developed the "programmable brick" technology that inspired the LEGO Mindstorms robotics kit.

March 21, 2013, Kate Nation, St. John’s College, University of Oxford, whose work focuses on the relationship between spoken language and written language and aspects of language, memory and communication with a particular focus on understanding language comprehension.

April 4, 2013, Guatam Biswas, Vanderbilt University. Biswas conducts research in Intelligent Systems with primary interests in hybrid modeling, simulation, and analysis of complex embedded systems, and their applications to diagnosis and fault-adaptive control.

May 15, 2013, Bruce McCandliss, Vanderbilt University. McCandliss studies developmental cognitive neuroscience, with an emphasis on questions of how the neural substrates of several cognitive abilities change via learning and education.

September 19, 2013, Marshall Smith, former Program Director for Education at the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, past president of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, and former Acting Deputy Secretary and Under Secretary for Education.

October 17, 2013, Judith Harackiewicz, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Harackiewicz is interested in human motivation, specifically intrinsic motivation, interest, and achievement motivation. She studies how different kinds of performance evaluation and feedback influence an individual's intrinsic interest in an activity.