



DR. M. CAY HOLBROOK DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD IN POSTSECONDARY SYSTEMS

Cay Holbrook began her career as a teacher of students with visual impairments (TVI) during her undergraduate pre-service teacher training program at Florida State University. She continued to teach students in Georgia, South Carolina and Florida while she completed her masters and doctoral degrees also at Florida State University. Her doctoral dissertation focused on the perceived role of the teacher of students with visual impairments and she has remained interested in questions regarding service delivery and educational supports and curriculum for this population.

Cay's first faculty position was at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland. After three years she moved to Little Rock to assume a faculty position at The University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR) where she was program coordinator for the TVI program. She remained at UALR for eight years and, in 1998, moved to Vancouver, British Columbia to join the faculty at The University of British Columbia where she is now. Along with her dear friend and professional collaborator, Alan Koenig, Cay worked on defining a process to determine learning and literacy media for students with visual impairments through a data-driven collaborative team approach called Learning Media Assessment. This process resulted in one of twelve textbooks that have been written or edited by Cay and her collaborators. These textbooks include, two editions of *Children with Visual Impairments: A Parents' Guide*, two editions of *Foundations of Education for Students with Visual Impairments (Volumes 1 and 2)*, and support for teachers' learning and using braille, *The Braille Enthusiasts' Dictionary (EBAE and UEB versions)*, and *Ashcroft's Programmed Instruction in Braille (EBAE and UEB versions)*. Additional professional highlights have been her work with the Jimmy Carter Presidential Center in preparing professionals in China, her collaborations with professionals in Sweden, UK and Australia. In addition, she was co-founder (along with Janie Humphries Blome) of the *Getting In Touch with Literacy* conference. She has been an active member of professional organizations since joining as an undergraduate student. In 1992 she received the Alfred Allen Award and, in 2002, the Warren C. Bledsoe Award from AER and has been honored to receive the CEC-DVI Distinguished Service Award, the J. Max Wooly Award for Superior Service from the Arkansas Chapter of AER, the Canadian Vision Teacher's Conference Distinguished Service Award, the University of British Columbia Killiam Teaching Award and most recently The Wings of Freedom Award from the American Printing House for the Blind.