

The Oregon Association for Talented & Gifted

*Presents*

Assessing & Identifying  
*Gifted Learners*

with **Dr. David Lohman**, Co-Author of the **CogAT**

2011 Annual Conference  
Reed College, Portland OR  
October 22, 2011



# *Welcome to the Conference*

## ***Welcome to the 2011 OATAG Conference!***

OATAG welcomes you to the 2011 Annual Conference. We are excited to present to you an outstanding array of breakout sessions, tours, exhibitors, and collaborative and networking opportunities here on the beautiful campus of Reed College in Portland, Oregon. We are also excited to present Dr. David Lohman, our keynote speaker, who will be addressing a topic of great importance to all of us.



I should like to note that many hours and much effort have been dedicated to providing you with the best educational experience possible at this conference. Special thanks go to our Conference Co-Chairs, Margaret DeLacy and Judy Smith. Equally important and critical to the success of this conference were our Conference Committee members, as well as their spouses, families, and friends who have helped to support this endeavor. I also wish to thank Barbara Amen of Reed College for her time and effort.

We hope you will enjoy your time at the conference. Please feel free to contact an OATAG board member if you have any questions or need any assistance during the conference.

Stephan Price, OATAG President

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## Conference Committee

Conference Co-Chairs.....	Margaret DeLacy & Judy Smith
Program & Conference Printshop.....	Stephan Price
Mensa Games Room.....	Kathe Oliver
Program Editing.....	Sue Love

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# About Dr. David Lohman

David F. Lohman is Professor of Educational Psychology at the University of Iowa and Director of Research at the Belin-Blank International Center for Gifted Education and Talent Development. He is a fellow of the American Psychological Association, the American Psychological Society, and the American Educational Research Association. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Iowa Regents Award for Faculty Excellence and the NAGC Distinguished Scholar Award. In 2006 and again in 2008, he received the award for Gifted Child Quarterly Research Paper of the year. His research interests include the effectiveness of different curricular adaptations for students who differ in ability or personality, the conceptualization and measurement of reasoning abilities, and general issues in the identification and development of talent. Since 1998, he has authored the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT).

## Mensa Games Room for Kids

OATAG gratefully recognizes Oregon Mensa for once again providing their popular and highly-educational Teens and Tweens room during the conference. Please remember to pick your kids up for lunch time and at the end of the conference.

## Professional Development Units

Professional Development Units (PDUs) will be available from the Registrar after 2 PM.

## Internet Access

Reed College has graciously provided free access to their WiFi network. Please stop by the registrar and request the login credentials to access the network.

## About Our Hosts

Planning and preparing this year's conference was a major challenge. In particular, it was important to us to keep the price of admission affordable enough for all who wanted to attend. In order to do that, we needed to find a host who would allow us to keep our costs low.

We extend our thanks to **Reed College**, which generously offered to host this event for us free of charge. Their support was critical in keeping our conference affordable to all. We gratefully acknowledge their assistance in this matter.

We also extend our thanks to **Barbara Amen** who coordinated our communication with the college. Barbara was instrumental in facilitating the venue, equipment, and logistical support we need in order to make the conference a success.

Please feel free to drop Barbara and Reed College a note or email thanking them for their generosity and support.



# Conference Program Details

## Morning

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<b>8:30-9:00</b>	<b>Registration</b> Check in & pick up Conference packets/badges Check in at OATAG Welcome Table for questions about conference and OATAG Tour Registration  Mensa Games Room opens	<b>Vollum foyer</b>    <b>Vollum 126</b>
<b>9:00-10:30</b>	<b>Welcome &amp; Opening Remarks</b> <i>Stephan Price, OATAG President</i>  <b>Keynote Address: Dr. David Lohman</b> <i>The Identification of Gifted children: Lessons Learned, Visions for the Future.</i>	<b>Vollum Lecture Hall</b>

## 11:00-12:00 Break-out Session I

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<b>Tara Bowen-Biggs &amp; John DeLacy</b>	<b>Team-Oriented STEM Challenges for Gifted Students</b>	<b>Vollum 110</b>
<p>This session will offer an overview of the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) robotics program, with emphasis on TAG student success, followed by student presentations and demonstrations.</p>		
<b>David Lohman</b>	<b>The New CogAT: an Ability Test for the 21st. Century</b>	<b>Vollum 116</b>
<p>The newly released Form 7 of CogAT represents the most substantial revision of the test since the first edition was published in 1968. Eight years in the making, Form 7 was designed to measure the abilities of an increasingly diverse student population. The primary level tests are fully accessible to ELL children yet measures verbal and quantitative reasoning in addition to nonverbal reasoning. Other new features include: a short screening test, an online test, free practice materials, and new talent identification software and reports.</p>		
<b>Beth LaDuca</b>	<b>Trends in the Performance of Advanced Students on the National Assessment of Educational Progress</b>	<b>Vollum 120</b>
<p>The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) has assessed nationally representative samples of students since 1969. Since 1990, NAEP has conducted state level assessments of math, reading, and science at grades 4 and 8. This presentation will examine trends in the performance of students reaching the "Advanced" achievement levels on NAEP assessments - the top performers. Participants will receive guides on how to use the NAEP Online Tools to view rigorous test items, scoring rubrics, and sample student responses</p>		
<b>Paula Prober</b>	<b>Understanding the Rainforest Mind: The Emotional Needs of Gifted Children</b>	<b>Physics 123</b>
<p>Gifted individuals are like the rain forest: intense, sensitive, complex, multi-layered, creative, colorful, and misunderstood. Even though they're quite diverse, they often have particular social-emotional issues in common, including perfectionism, existential depression, sensitivities, multipotentiality, and loneliness. In this</p>		

presentation, Prober will explain the issues and discuss the strategies and resources she suggests to clients in her counseling practice.

**Suzanne Burdick**     *Keeping the Core While Softening the Edges:  
the Journey From Perfectionism to Success*     **Psychology 102/3**

Join skilled facilitator Suzanne Burdick as she leads a transformative conversation about the perfectionism and fear of failure many TAG kids and adults experience and how to walk toward a more balanced, healthy way of academic and personal success. Drawing on her experiences both as a professional educator and a "recovering perfectionist" herself, Suzanne will share her story and, through small group facilitation, provide you with an opportunity to explore yours. This interactive workshop will be beneficial for anyone who works with TAG students, as well as anyone who knows the tightrope of perfectionism and is at any point in the journey of discovering how to cut themselves some slack. It is important and powerful to come together, to tell our stories of learning and becoming, to share our hard-won wisdom and helpful strategies, to be heard, to find commonality and community...in short, to know ourselves and our stories so we can be better guides to our children and students. The purpose of this workshop is to create a safe container for this to happen.

### **12:00-1:30 Lunch & Optional Tours**

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<b>12:00-12:30</b>	<b><i>Pick-up Box Lunches</i></b> Parents: please pick your children up for lunch.	<b><i>Vollum Lounge</i></b> Vollum 126
<b>12:00-1:30</b>	<b><i>Exhibition Hall open</i></b>	<b><i>Vollum Lounge</i></b>
<b>12:10-12:40</b>	<b><i>Theme Lunches</i></b> Advanced Placement and Advanced Curriculum <i>host: Kasshawna Knoll</i> Twice-Exceptional Students <i>host: Judy Smith</i> Online learning <i>host: Don Brown</i> Family lunches (meet other TAG parents and children) Perfectionism <i>host: Suzanne Burdick</i> Meet and Greet	Vollum 110 Vollum 116 Vollum 120 Eliot 314 Psychology 102/3 Physics 123
<b>12:15-1:00</b>	<b><i>Optional Tours Begin*</i></b> Reactor Tour will begin in the lobby of the Chemistry Building Campus Tour will begin in the foyer of Vollum Hall	
<b>1:30</b>	<b><i>Mensa Games Room re-opens</i></b>	<b><i>Vollum 126</i></b>

### **1:45-2:45 Break-out Session II**

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**Ann Matschiner**     *Perfectionism*     **Vollum 110**

Does perfectionism create concerns and stress in your life or in the life of someone else that you know? Would understanding healthy and unhealthy perfectionism help you understand yourself and inform your students, children, colleagues and parents about an improved lifestyle? Educators, parents and students may benefit from understanding the myths and realities around perfectionism, the effects on individuals and how to improve life

for the perfectionist. If the expectations for perfectionism clash with the realities of ability or achievement, it can become a problem that can lead to other, more serious problems in the future.

**David Lohman**      ***Gifted versus Talent Identification and Development Programs: Does the Name Matter?***      **Vollum 116**

Debates about the nature and definition of giftedness often overshadow implications of the program label for identification and programming. In this session, I suggest that although the word “gifted” can simplify identification, it has a number of drawbacks both for how programs are structured and the number and diversity of students that they serve. “Talent identification and development,” on the other hand, complicates identification but clarifies links between identification and programming. The purpose of this session is to explore these issues, especially implications for efforts to identify and assist a more diverse student population.

**Don Brown**      ***Online Options for Advanced Students***      **Vollum 120**

This presentation will describe a pilot program that serves talented students across Lane County using an online course, webinars and in-person visits. Come and learn about the variety of ways online learning can engage learners with diverse needs.

**Anne Evans**      ***The Importance of Enrichment Activities for TAG Students***      **Physics 123**

This presentation will share what one school district is doing to meet the social and emotional needs of the TAG students outside of the classroom. The presenter will share the enrichment schedule and the success stories of how these enrichment activities act to build friendships, confidence and opportunities to explore interests outside of the classroom walls.

**Jeff Struck & Justin Wright**      ***Middle School Inquiry***      **Psychology 102/3**

Jeff Struck & Justin Wright, have embarked on a courageous journey: to find effective means of teaching language arts, social studies, and science to the middle school students at Pacific Crest Community School. Join us as we present to you our discoveries along the way.

**2:45-3: 15**      ***Break***      **Vollum Lounge**  
Snacks & Beverages available  
Exhibitors Open

**3:15-4:15 Break-out Session III**

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**Sara Borzcik**      ***Great Books Shared Inquiry Seminar***      **Vollum 110**

Participate in a Great Books Shared Inquiry seminar. Shared Inquiry is a method of exploring a text by discussing open-ended questions and by sharing responses and insights. Develop higher-level questioning skills. Learn how to help students improve reading comprehension, critical thinking, and writing skills

**Cindy Gifford**      ***Learning from the CogAT in a School District***      **Vollum 116**

Data gives us a key insight into our learners. Combining the data with knowledge about gifted characteristics specific to diverse populations, students of poverty, and knowledgeable observations, will provide tools for identification and advanced programming. This session will give participants a better understanding of how to use information available from the CogAT 6 to provide instructional strategies. In addition, participants will become familiar with characteristics of gifted learners from diverse cultures and backgrounds of poverty to customize programming to provide optimal learning situations for everyone.

**OATAG**                      **Annual Board Meeting**                      **Vollum 118**  
This is the annual board meeting of the Oregon Association for Talented & Gifted as required by our bylaws. It includes a report and summary of our financial expenditures,

**Maren Schmidt**            **Helping Children Navigate the Social Skills Jungle**                      **Vollum 120**  
Life can seem like a very unfriendly place when you can't get others to understand your needs, and you aren't able to anticipate the needs of others. Without essential social skills, life is a jungle for our children, full of fear and frustration. In this session we'll focus on the most effective ways to help children learn essential social skills. We'll learn how to be on the lookout for the most common obstacles for effective communication, and identify the one communication skill that will create healthy relationships for a lifetime. This session is for parents and educators and will focus on the developmental needs of children ages 3 to 12 years.

**Keith Todd &**            **How you can help your students prepare to be**                      **Physics 123**  
**Barbara Amen**            **successful at a selective college**  
Planning for and applying to colleges may be years away for your student, but it can be a nerve-wracking prospect for parents! Teachers and counselors also sometimes express a desire to know more about how the admission process works, and how best to help young people prepare, not only during senior year, but throughout high school. Keith Todd will demystify the selective college admission process in this session, and Barbara Amen will address Reed's various outreach programs for high school students. Bring your questions and concerns!

**4:15-4:30**                      **Vendor/Exhibitor Break**                      **Vollum Lounge**

**4:30-5:45 All Conference Gathering**                      **Vollum Lecture Hall**

***Presentation of Nicholas Green Distinguished Student Award to Callista West***  
The Nicholas Green Award recognizes distinguished achievement in academics, leadership, or the arts for students in grades 3-6. Callista West, formerly of Bend's Highland Elementary School, has been selected as a Nicholas Green Distinguished Student. She will receive a \$500 U.S.savings bond, and a National Association for Gifted Children Certificate of Excellence, as well as a one year Gold level membership in OATAG.

***Oregon State of the State TAG Report***                      ***Rebecca Blocher, ODE TAG Specialist***

**5:45-6:00**                      **Last chance for Exhibition Hall**                      **Vollum Lounge**

\*Tours contingent on minimum numbers of participation.

# *Presenters*

*Listed alphabetically by last name. Presenter information was provided by the presenters.*

**Barbara Amen** has been the director of special programs at Reed for 16 years, including the Young Scholars program for high school seniors and other enrichment programs for area students. Prior to her work with special programs, Barbara served as an associate dean of admission at Reed.

**Tara Bowen-Biggs** has been a communications professional for local government for six years as well as a preschool teacher and parent. She has been a coach and volunteer for FIRST Lego League, FIRST Tech Challenge and FIRST Robotics Competition teams and events and has coordinated Benson Polytechnic High School's robotics club. As a civil servant she has been involved in community building and economic development as well as projects encouraging youth to become involved in their local communities. Tara helped develop and implement Multnomah County, Oregon's social media policy and programs and has received recognition for innovative communications strategies utilizing Facebook, Twitter, and video. She loves the challenge of breaking down complicated issues and programs and explaining them in interesting and engaging ways. She is committed to encouraging all young people to pursue their interests with passion and zeal and is committed to introducing the potential in business, education, and community leadership to motivated youth.

**Rebecca Blocher** is the Talented and Gifted Education Specialist at the Oregon Department of Education. She has been in this position since March 2010. Rebecca came to Oregon from Denver Public Schools where she was the Director of Gifted and Talented Education for a district of 74,000 students including seven schools with programs for the highly gifted. She has served high ability, gifted learners as an Honors English teacher, building and district level coordinator and as a director of gifted programs during the last eighteen years. She has provided gifted education services in the Academy District in Colorado Springs, Blue Valley School District in Overland Park, Kansas, and at the University of Kansas as the Academic Program Coordinator for Duke TIP. Rebecca holds a Bachelor's Degree in Language Arts Education and a Master's Degree in Gifted and Talented Education, and advanced certification as a Special Education Coordinator from the University of Kansas. She also has advanced certification as a building administrator from the University of Colorado. Rebecca has frequently presented at the state gifted conferences in Colorado and Kansas and at national conferences including the National Association for the Gifted Conference (NAGC), and Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted (SENG). Within gifted education, Rebecca's sub-specialty areas include the differentiation of instruction for all learners, twice-exceptional gifted learners especially gifted students with Asperger's Syndrome, and the transition issues for gifted students.

**Sara Borzcik** is the Western States account representative for the Great Books Foundation.

**Don Brown, D.Ed.,** is an Instructional Technologist at the Lane Education Service District in Eugene. He has been a principal, assessment specialist and teacher, and has taught in numerous summer programs that serve talented students. He is active on Twitter, blogs and does consulting for the Center for Advanced Technology in Education and Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

**Suzanne Burdick** is a professional educator who has spent the last five years working at Barnes Elementary in Beaverton, OR where she has taught Spanish and English literacy, served as the kindergarten art teacher, and been a key player in the creation and running of the school's new "Solve It Station," a behavior

problem-solving center. As a facilitator, Ms. Burdick has given multiple staff trainings on PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Support) and Love and Logic©. In 2010 she launched her own private tutoring company entitled "Skills for Success: Innovative Spanish Tutoring". In March of 2011 she organized and facilitated a panel discussion event for TAG parents of the Beaverton School District on the topic of the positive and negative aspects of perfectionism and will facilitate a similar event next spring for the District. Ms. Burdick lives in Portland, OR.

**John DeLacy** has been mentoring and teaching robotics and electronics for a decade. John retired after 29 years as an electrical engineer at Tektronix.

**Anne Evans** remembers as a child the TAG program provided by Portland Public Schools and the impact it had on her early education. After teaching middle school students for 10 years, earning her M.Ed in Curriculum and Instruction and building a successful school-wide TAG program, she earned her administrative credentials and made the move into administration as the district wide TAG Coordinator for North Wasco County School district. After only 4 years, the impact on the NWCSO TAG students, staff and parents has been extremely positive.

**Cindy Dunning Gifford's** credentials include an M.A. in Curriculum and Instruction and an endorsement as a Gifted and Talented Specialist. Cindy has presented at the state, national and international level on best practices in gifted education. A former Gifted and Talented District Coordinator, Cindy now works as an independent educational consultant specializing in the needs of gifted students and as an Instructional Coach for Jefferson County Schools in Golden, Colorado.

**Beth LaDuca** has served as the NAEP State Coordinator for the Oregon Department of Education since 2008. Earlier in life she served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Suriname, taught primary school in rural Guatemala, and worked for a federal TRiO Student Support Services project in South Carolina. Her 4th grade son is a TAG student.

**David F. Lohman** is Professor of Educational Psychology at the University of Iowa and Director of Research at the Belin-Blank International Center for Gifted Education and Talent Development. He is a fellow of the American Psychological Association, the American Psychological Society, and the American Educational Research Association. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Iowa Regents Award for Faculty Excellence and the NAGC Distinguished Scholar Award. In 2006 and again in 2008, he received the award for Gifted Child Quarterly Research Paper of the year. His research interests include the effectiveness of different curricular adaptations for students who differ in ability or personality, the conceptualization and measurement of reasoning abilities, and general issues in the identification and development of talent. Since 1998, he has authored the Cognitive Abilities Test.

**Ann Matschiner** is an assistant professor at Pacific University. She is the Coordinator of the Talented and Gifted Certificate Program at the Forest Grove campus. Ann teaches courses, workshops and seminars in gifted education.

**Paula Prober M.S.**, is a licensed counselor in private practice in Eugene, Oregon. Over the 30 years she has worked with the gifted, Prober has been a teacher, consultant, adjunct instructor with the University of Oregon and a guest presenter at Oregon State University and Pacific University. Presently, she is counseling gifted adults

and youth, consulting with parents of gifted children, and training educators and psychotherapists to work with the gifted. Her website is [www.rainforestmind.com](http://www.rainforestmind.com).

**Maren Schmidt** writes Kids Talk, a weekly syndicated newspaper column on child development. She is the author of *Understanding Montessori: A Guide for Parents* and *Building Cathedrals Not Walls*. Maren founded a Montessori school and holds teaching credentials from the Association Montessori Internationale with a M.Ed. from Loyola College in Maryland. She has worked with children and families for over 25 years and currently spends her time writing and giving workshops across the United States.

**Jeff Struck** has been teaching language arts at Pacific Crest Community School in Northeast Portland for eleven years. He works as a rock climbing guide during the summer.

**Keith Todd** has been Dean of Admission at Reed College since 2010. Before that, he served as Director of Admission at Northwestern University, near Chicago, and Rice University in Houston. He began working in admissions twenty years ago at Stanford University, where he also was a lecturer in writing and literature. Keith is a member of the SAT Committee of the College Board and has served on the editorial board of *The Journal of College Admission* (for the National Association for College Admission Counseling) and the national selection committee for the Coca-Cola Scholarships.

**Justin Wright** is a first year teacher at Pacific Crest Community School. He works as a river rafting guide during the summer.

## *Conference Exhibitors*

Reed College bookstore

Mensa

Riverside Press

Barefoot Books

Center for Talented Youth/Johns Hopkins

Oregon Spellers

Oregon Dept. of Education/NAEP

Great Books Foundation

Destination Imagination

Saturday Academy

# *Notes*

# *Notes*



## OATAG Fall Conference

# Bring the Camp Invention program to your local school!



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– Tim James, Superintendent, Orange Elementary Schools, CT  
Fourth-year Camp Invention host district

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## Why Join OATAG?

### Education

OATAG sponsors events, training sessions, and meetings each year for parents and educators. OATAG produces a newsletter and website with helpful information about gifted education.

### Advocacy

OATAG advocates for services for all of Oregon's academically talented and/or intellectually gifted students. OATAG builds bridges between educators, parents, policy makers and students.

### Opportunities

OATAG provides networking opportunities within the gifted community. OATAG sponsors various opportunities for talented and gifted youth. Parents may also join NAGC for a reduced rate when they pay for an OATAG parent membership.

**To Join Visit [www.OATAG.org](http://www.OATAG.org) to sign-up online or download an application. Or, you may call us for an application at 206-309-7265 or write to us at P. O. Box 1703, Beaverton, OR 97075.**



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# REED COLLEGE

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- 37. **Vollum College Center:** lecture hall, lounge Conference Center, Mensa Room, Keynote
- 38. **Library:** Cooley Art Gallery Art Gallery Tour
- 39. **Physics** Break-out Sessions
- 40. **Biology:** auditorium
- 41. **Paradox Lost Café**
- 42. **Greywood:** alumni & parent relations, campus information, career services
- 43. **Educational Technology Center (ETC)**
- 44. **Chemistry** Reactor Tour
- 45. **Psychology:** auditorium Break-out Sessions

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## Oregon Spellers

OATAG is now the fiscal sponsor of  
The Oregon Spelling Championship!

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# 2011 OATAG Conference Agenda

# *At-a-Glance*

Time	Event	Location	Presenter
8:30-9:00	Registration	Vollum Foyer	
8:30	Mensa Games Room Opens		
<b>9:00-10:30</b>	<b>Welcome &amp; Conference Keynote</b>	<b>Vollum Lecture Hall</b>	<b>Dr. David Lohman</b>
10:30-11:00	Vendors & Coffee Break	Vollum Lounge	
<b>11:00-12:00</b>	<b>Break-out Session I</b>		
	The New CogAT: an Ability Test for the 21st. Century	Vollum 116	Dr. David Lohman
	Keeping the Core While Softening the Edges	Psychology-102/3	Suzanne Burdick
	Team-Oriented STEM Challenges for Gifted Students	Vollum 110	Tara Bown-Biggs & John DeLacy
	Trends in the Performance of Advanced Students...	Vollum 120	Beth LaDuca
	Understanding the Rainforest Mind	Physics 123	Paula Prober
<b>12:00-12:40</b>	<b>Box Lunches with Theme Gatherings</b>		
	Advanced Placement and Advanced Curriculum	Vollum 110	
	Twice-Exceptional Students	Vollum 116	
	Online Learning	Vollum 120	
	Meet and Greet	Physics 123	
	Family Lunches (Meet other TAG parents and children)	Eliot 314	
	Perfectionism	Psychology-102/3	
<b>12:15-1:00</b>	<b>Tours (Optional: Reactor, Reed Campus)</b>		
<b>1:45-2:45</b>	<b>Break-out Session II</b>		
	Perfectionism	Vollum 110	Ann Matschiner
	Gifted vs Talent Identification and Development Programs	Vollum 116	Dr. David Lohman
	Online Options for Advanced Students	Vollum 120	Don Brown
	The Importance of Enrichment Activities for TAG Students	Physics 123	Anne Evans
	Middle School Inquiry	Psychology-102/3	Jeff Struck & Justin Wright
2:45-3:15	Vendors & Snack Break	Vollum Lounge	
<b>3:15-4:15</b>	<b>Break-out Session III</b>		
	Great Books Shared Inquiry Seminar	Vollum 110	Sara Borzcik
	Learning from the CogAT in a School District	Vollum 116	Cindy Gifford
	OATAG Annual Board Meeting	Vollum 118	OATAG Board
	Helping Children Navigate the Social Jungle	Vollum 120	Maren Schmidt
	Preparing for a Success at a Selective College	Physics 123	Keith Todd & Barbara Amen
4:15-4:30	Vendors & Break	Vollum Lounge	
<b>4:30-5:45</b>	<b>Conference Gathering &amp; State of the State Report</b>	<b>Vollum Lecture Hall</b>	<b>Rebecca Blocher</b>
	Nicholas Green Award, Door Prizes, Etc.		
4:45-6:00	Last Chance for Exhibition Hall	Vollum Lounge	