

**Teacher Preparation and Teaching Content Efficacy:  
A Study of Graduates from Three Institutions**

Dr. Thomas Lucey (Illinois State University), Dr. Kay Gandy and Dr. Lisa Murley (Western Kentucky University), and Dr. Duane Giannangelo (The University of Memphis) are researching patterns of content efficacy among graduates of their universities' who teach in elementary schools. Participation in this research is voluntary.

This study involves two parts. For the first part of the study, alumni will complete surveys concerning the effectiveness in teaching different content areas and information from their university preparations.

Part Two of the study will occur during the 2007-2008 school year and will include observations of the teaching practices of volunteer alumni. The results will be related to the patterns of survey responses and school climates. The surveys and consent forms will be numerically coded for analysis purposes.

This research is expected to help our institutions better understand the successes and challenges of our teacher development programs. Findings from this research could help us to understand and improve curriculum and instruction processes that will help us to better prepare our teacher candidates. Information collected in this study will be kept confidential within the limits allowed by law.