Presenter Bios: VSS Workshop, Online Learning and Students with Disabilities, October 21, 2012

Leslie Fetzer, 2012 SREB/iNACOL National Online Teacher of the Year, Policy Director and Science Teacher for the North Carolina Virtual Public School. Leslie taught Science for several years in the classroom, but has been a fully online teacher the past 4 years. Leslie has served as an Instructional Leader, led Course Development Teams, and been part of the award winning OCS Blended Learning Program since its inception. Leslie desires to debunk many myths about online education while sharing with others how <u>all</u> students can be successful in fully online and blended environments.

Marjorie Rofel, JD, M.ED., senior director of student services, Connections Education. Marjorie has many years of experience as a special education director in a large traditional school district as well several years of special education responsibility in online schools. In both traditional and online settings, Marjorie has had responsibility for and interest in accessibility for all students.

Keith Wilson is midway through his third decade in education and having worked in virtual school settings, brick and mortar settings and unique combinations of the two throughout the country. He has served school communities as a school administrator, project manager and VP of development. Additionally he has been an adjunct professor for and served as an Educational Consultant. He has a double major in Education and Special Education from Augustana College in South Dakota and a Masters Degree in Educational Administration from South Dakota State University. He and his wife Melissa have five children who have experienced the unique variety of school settings that Keith has served. He believes that given the challenges facing the brick and mortar world and our society as a whole, coupled with the incredible advances that technology is making by the minute that the Virtual School World is in a position to assume an even greater role in serving students and families in the years to come. This growth and impact is directly tied to meaningful student growth and family satisfaction.

Sean J. Smith, Ph.D., associate professor in Department of Special Education, University of Kansas. Smith has authored and presented a number of articles and papers dealing with special education technology and is currently a Principal Investigator on several US Department of Education program initiatives seeking to further the integration of technology into the lives of individuals with disabilities. Smith is a co-principal investigator of the Center on Online Learning and Students with Disabilities.

William (Skip) Stahl, M.S., senior policy analyst, CAST. Stahl has extensive experience in the development of technical standards related to accessible instructional materials. Stahl is a coprincipal investigator of the Center on Online Learning and Students with Disabilities.

Paula Burdette, Ph.D., senior policy analyst at NASDSE has authored or co-authored more than 60 policy analyses on various IDEA-related topics including a number on virtual education and students with disabilities. She is currently a co-principal investigator of the Center on Online Learning and Students with Disabilities.