

# About the Authors

**Dr. Louise Fulton** earned an Education Specialist and Doctorate at the University of Alabama. She taught third grade and secondary education before teaching children with multiple disabilities. As a professor of Education at Talladega College she directed the Deaf and Blind Rehabilitation Program and later took a position as Professor of Education at California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB). At CSUSB Dr. Fulton also served as chair of the Special Education Department, wrote and directed numerous Federal and state grants and founded a center for children with autism.

For many years, Dr. Fulton has worked directly with teachers, agencies and parents to resolve school-to-work transition issues. Other leadership roles include five years with the California School to Work Interagency Transition Program, serving as program chair for the Special Education World Congress 2000, membership on executive boards of the International Council for Exceptional Children and president of the Division of International Special Education and Services. Dr. Fulton was honored in 2009 for her 20 years of outstanding service to the Riverside County Office of Education Transition Partnership Program.

Dr. Fulton is an international consultant in the area of transition. She has conducted extensive research in Japan as a Fulbright Senior Research Scholar at Tohoku and Kyushu Universities. Her numerous books, publications and presentations address a wide range of general and special education topics. Dr. Fulton is currently Professor Emeritus at CSUSB.

**Dr. Rebecca Silva** began her career teaching elementary-age students with emotional disturbance and moderate-to-severe disabilities. Dr. Silva's career also includes writing and coordinating numerous grants and leading regional committees related to special education. In addition, she has been a school principal and administrator of special education programs with an emphasis on autism.

For the last 24 years, Dr. Silva coordinated one of the largest and most successful school-to-career transition programs in the state of California through a contract with the Department of Rehabilitation. She has also coordinated a number of grants and programs related to school-to-work transition including WorkAbility 1, Bridges Program and Project Search. Additionally, she served on the California State Department of Education's School-to-Career Curriculum Frameworks Committee and was a Transition Services Language California State Master Trainer.

Dr. Silva earned a Doctorate from the University of California, Riverside. She has presented programs at state, national and international conferences on a variety of special education topics. Her recent publications have emphasized school-to-career transition and post-school follow-up of students from special education programs. Currently, Dr. Silva is an educational consultant and works with districts across the U.S.