

Janus Oral History Project

For the past 15 years, the Midwest Symposium for Behavior Disorders (MSLBD) has supported the Janus Oral History Project. The Janus Project's purpose is to record, save and share the professional experiences, perspectives, and wisdom of leaders in education of students with emotional and behavioral disorders (EBD). Janus Project staff are Jim Teagarden, Marilyn Kaff, and Robert Zabel, colleagues at Kansas State University and members of the MSLBD Planning Committee.



The Janus Project criteria for "leadership" are broad and varied. Leaders are individuals who identify with the profession and have contributed to the field by leading professional organizations, conducting, and publishing research, designing and operating innovative programs, serving as editors and on review boards, participating in professional meetings, serving on advisory panels and task forces, and/or advocating for children with EBD. They include individuals who could be considered "pioneers," "first generation," and "contemporary" leaders.

Common Themes Across Interviews

- Career was a happy accident
- Need for a supportive group of colleagues
- Need for foundational knowledge and advanced training
- Professional organizations are important
- It's the greatest job in the world!

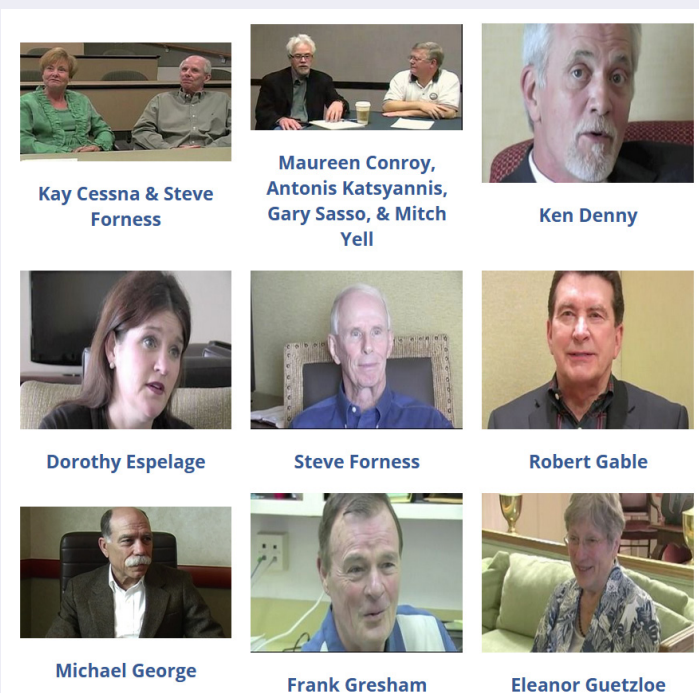


To date, the Janus Project has interviewed more than 62 individuals, with most interviews conducted during the Midwest Symposium or at other professional conferences. In addition, Janus staff traveled to interview several pioneers in their homes. A complete list of the people interviewed can be found below and at: <https://mslbd.org/what-we-do/janus-project/>.

Janus Project as of October 1, 2021	Number
Janus individual interviews	37
Group interviews	13
Manuscripts published based on interviews	37
Different individuals interviewed	62
Symposium keynote recordings	98
"My most memorable student" stories	80

Employing oral history methodologies to conduct and analyze the oral histories, Janus interviews use the same questions and format. Participants are asked: 1) how they entered the field; 2) what persons, policies, and programs have had positive influences on their professional life and on the field; 3) what have had negative influences; 4) what the future holds; and 5) what advice they would give to persons entering the field. Typically, interviews are about one hour in length.

Initially, some interviews were conducted in small groups of 2-4; later, most have been individual interviews. All



interviews are videotaped then transcribed into print format. The videos and written transcripts are available on the MSLBD website at <https://mslbd.org/what-we-do/janus-project/>, and are housed permanently on the Internet Archive.

In line with its goals, the Janus staff have published articles in several professional journals. Topical compilations of responses to specific questions have been published in the *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders* and *Beyond Behavior*. More than 30 individual interviews have been published in *Intervention in School and Clinic*, and excerpts from interviews are a regular feature of *Behavior Today*, the CCBBD newsletter. In addition, the MSLBD's *ReThinking Behavior* has published portions of a few interviews (e.g. Frank Wood, Richard Whelan, Richard Simpson). A complete list of the publications of the Janus Project is available at: <https://mslbd.org/what-we-do/janus-project/what-is-the-janus-project.html>.

The Janus Project has also assisted in the video recording of MSLBD Keynote Speakers (<https://mslbd.org/what-we-do/video-recordings/>) and in the creation of the MSLBD "My Most Memorable Student" recordings available at: <https://mslbd.org/what-we-do/educator-stories.html>.

Individuals Interviewed by Janus Project as of 1/4/2021 (N=62)

Albrecht, Susan	Katsiyannis, Antonis	Ryan, Joe
Benner, Greg	Kauffman, Jim	Sasso, Gary
Braaten, Sheldon	Kern, Lee	Simpson, Rich
Brendtro, Larry	Kerr, Mary Margaret	Scheuermann, Brenda
Bullock, Lyndall	Landrum, Tim	Scott, Terrance
Cartledge, Gwen	Lane, Kathleen	Smith, Carl
Cessna, Kay	Lewis, Tim	Sprague, Jeff
Cheney, Doug	Long, Nicolas	Sprick, Randy
Colvin, Geoff	Maag, John	Sugai, George
Conroy, Maureen	Malloy, JoAnne	Travers, Jason
Denny, Ken	Maroney, Sharron	VanAcker, Richard
Espelage, Dorothy	Melloy, Kris	Wehby, Joe
Forness, Steve	McGinnis-Smith, Ellen	West, Richard
Gable, Robert	McIntyre, Thomas	Whelan, Richard
George, Michael	Neel, Rick	Wood, Frank
Gresham, Frank	Nelson, C. Mike	Wood, Mary M.
Guetzloe, Eleanor	Nolls, Mary Beth	Yell, Mitch
Haring, Norris	Otten, Kaye	Young, K. Richard
Huntze, Sharon	Peterson, Reece	Zabel, Mary Kay
Johns, Bev	Rhys, Jane	Zabel, Robert
Jones, Vern	Rose, Chad	