

CURRICULUM VITAE

IRENE TOPOR
Adjunct Associate Professor
Specialization in Vision Program
College of Education
University of Arizona

Personal Information

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Education

Ph.D.	University of Arizona, Tucson Major: Special Education Minor: Educational Psychology	1990
M.Ed.	University of Arizona, Tucson Major: Special Education/Early Childhood Education	1980
B.S.	University of Texas, Austin Major: Elementary Education/Deficient Vision	1974

Professional Work Experience

2006-2007 - Author and Instructor with Karen Mulholland (ASDB). Functional Vision Assessment Project. Karen Mulholland (ASB low vision specialist) and I authored and taught five teaching modules for the FVA project. Each module was designed to take three hours of instruction (two 1 ½ hour sessions). After each module, the U of A students and ASB teachers worked together to conduct assessment of what they learned with a student from the teacher's class.

1999-present	Adjunct Associate Professor, Specialization in Vision Program, Department of Disability and Psychoeducational Studies, College of Education, University of Arizona
1999-2000	Certified Low Vision Therapist, Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and Blind, Technical Assistance to Schools Statewide Program.
1991-1999	Adjunct Assistant Professor, Specialization in Vision Program, Department of Disability and Psychoeducational Studies, College of Education, University of Arizona
1996-2006	Allied Health Professional with the Children's Rehabilitative Services – conducted functional vision assessments.
1993-2003	Vision assessment and vision program intervention consultant for TRACES and state deaf-blind coordinators in Arizona, California, Nevada, Idaho, Indiana, New Mexico, Oregon, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Hawaii
1992 – 2005	National instructor for PROJECT VIISA (Vision Inservice In America), Ski Hi Institute, Utah State University. A national inservice model for early interventionists and early childhood specialists working with children from birth through 5 years of age. Worked in Nebraska, Kansas, Louisiana, Arizona, Oklahoma, and Wyoming to teach infant/preschool courses
1994-present	Educational Consultant for national programs serving children with visual impairments
1988-1994	Tucson Pediatric Ophthalmology part time educational staff for Dr. Sam Sato
1984-1989	Coordinator and Supervisor, Visually Impaired Preschool Program in Tucson and statewide Parent Outreach Program for families who have infants, toddlers and preschoolers with visual impairments – Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and Blind
1980-1984	Consultant for Safford and Bisbee School Districts for students with visual impairments.
1974-1979	Resource teacher for children who have visual impairments, Casis Elementary School, Austin Independent School District, Austin, Texas

Publications

Book Chapters

Erin, J. & Topor, I. (in press). Functional vision assessment for academic and multiply impaired students with visual impairment. In A. Corn and A. Koenig (eds.). *Foundations of Low Vision: Functional and Clinical Perspectives*. N.Y.: American Foundation for the Blind.

Erin, J. & Topor, I. (in press). Instructional strategies for academic and multiply impaired students with visual impairment. In A. Corn and A. Koenig (eds.). *Foundations of Low Vision: Functional and Clinical Perspectives*. N.Y.: American Foundation for the Blind.

Topor, I., Hall-Lueck, A. & Smith, J. (2004). Compensatory strategies for academically oriented school-age students who have low vision. In A. Hall-Lueck (Ed.). *Functional Vision: A Practitioner's Guide*. N.Y.: American Foundation for the Blind.

Topor, I. (2001). Native Americans and Visual Impairments. In J. Erin and M. Milian (eds.) *Diversity and Visual Impairment*. NY: American Foundation for the Blind.

Topor, I. and Erin, J. (2000). Educational assessment of vision function in infants and children. In *The Lighthouse Handbook on Vision Impairment and Rehabilitation*. Barbara Silverstone, Mary Ann Lang, Bruce Rosenthal, Eleanor E. Faye, Eds. N.Y: The Lighthouse, Inc. and the Oxford University Press.

Topor, I. (2000). Creating and nurturing effective educational teams. In A. Koenig & C. Holbrook (eds.) *Foundations of Education for Students with Visual Impairments or Blindness. Volume II. Instructional Strategies for Teaching children and Youths with Visual Impairments*. NY: American Foundation for the Blind.

Topor, I. (1999) Functional vision assessment & interventions. In D. Chen, Ed. *Strategies for Early Intervention with Infants Who Are Visually Impaired and Have Multiple Disabilities and Their Families*. NY: American Foundation for the Blind.

Journal Articles

de Steiguer, P., Erin, J., Topor, I. Rosenblum, L.P. (2008). The Experiences of Parents of Visually Impaired Students who are Professionals in the Field of Visual Impairment. *Journal of Visual Impairment & Blindness*, NY: AFB.

Topor, I. (2007). Indian Health Services Provision of Eye Health Care and Vision Loss Services: Creating a Balance Between Federal Legislation and the Vision Care Needs of Sovereign Nations. In the *Vision Loss as a Public Health Issue special supplement to the Journal of Visual Impairment & Blindness*.

Kampfe, C.M., Smith, S.M., Levine, L.M., MacFarland, S.Z.C., Topor, I., & McNamara, K.(2002). Special education and rehabilitation counseling graduate students' perceptions of their internships: initial findings. *Rehabilitation Education, (16)3*, 255-266.

Topor, I. (2002). Arizona's National Sports Education Camp, Division for Visual Impairment Quarterly, Council for Exceptional Children, Winter.

Other Professional Manuscripts

Topor, I., Rosenblum, L.P. & Hatton, D. (2004). *Visual Conditions and Functional Vision: Early Intervention Issues*. Early Intervention Training Center for Infants and Toddlers with Visual Impairments and their Families: Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Topor, I. (1997). Functional vision assessment & interventions. In Effective Practices in Early Intervention. Infants Whose Multiple Disabilities Include Both Vision and Hearing Loss. (D. Chen, project director). Northridge: California State University.

Kampfe, C.M. Levine, L. MacFarland, S., Smith, S. Mae, Topor, I (1997-1998). Preliminary Findings of an Intradepartmental Study of Special Education and Rehabilitation Fieldwork. Proceedings of the 1997-1998 Dean's Forum. College of Education.

Topor, I.L. (1996). Functional Vision Assessment and Intervention Strategies for Infants Who are Deaf-Blind. Proceedings of the 1994 Summer Institute, PROJECT CRAFT; California State University, Northridge Early Intervention Network Model Demonstration Project.

Shaberman, B.A. (2005). The Foundation Fighting Blindness, What Do You Say? Talking to your child about their vision loss (I. Topor interviewed).

Topor, I.L. & B. Bailey. (1995). A Guide To Helping Young Children with Visual Impairments Make Better Use of Their Vision, Book 2. Blumberg Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Special Education; Indiana State University; Terre Haute, IN.

- Topor, I.L. (1995). Determining Reading Medium (Print, Braille, or Both)--Intervention for Visual Skills, Braille Readiness, and Listening Skills. Chapter in: Working With Preschoolers With Blindness and Vision Impairment in Center-Based Settings. VIISA (Vision Inservice Across America) Course Trainer's Manual; SKI-HI Institute, Utah State University; Logan, UT.
- Topor, I.L. (1995). Reading Readiness Experiences for Children Who are Visually Impaired: Literacy Issues. Chapter in: Working With Preschoolers With Blindness and Vision Impairment in Center-Based Settings. VIISA (Vision Inservice Across America) Course Trainer's Manual; SKI-HI Institute, Utah State University; Logan, UT.
- Topor, I.L. (1995). Visual Development, Functional Vision Assessment, and Encouraging Use of Vision. Chapter in: Early Intervention for Infants and Toddlers with Blindness and Visual Impairment and Their Families. VIISA (Vision Inservice Across America) Course Trainer's Manual; SKI-HI Institute, Utah State University; Logan, UT.
- Topor, I.L. and Rosenblum, L.P. (1994). How is All the Information From a Functional Vision Assessment Put Together? In: Indiana Deaf-Blind Services Project-Information Update 5(5): 1-5. Indiana State University; Terre Haute, IN.
- Topor, I.L. and Rosenblum, L.P. (1994). What's Functional about a Functional Vision Assessment? Indiana Deaf-Blind Services Project-Information Update 5(4): 1-5. Indiana State University; Terre Haute, IN.
- Topor, I.L. (1994). How to Best Use Parent Assistance when Assessing Functional Vision. Supplemental Chapter in: Resources for Family Centered Intervention for Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers Who Are Visually Impaired. VIISA (Visually Impaired Inservice Across America) Course Curriculum Manual; SKI-HI Institute, Utah State University; Logan.
- Topor, I.L. (1990). Testing Your Child's Vision. In Parent Articles for Early Intervention (M.Dunn-Klein, Ed.). Tucson: Communication Skill Builders/Therapy Skill Builders.
- Topor, I.L. (1990). Normal visual development. In Parent Articles for Early Intervention (M. Dunn-Klein, Ed.) Tucson: Communication Skill Builder/Therapy Skill Builders.

DVD/Resource Manual

- Topor, I., Davis, A., Goudinoff, S. (2009). Jumping into the Johns: Informal reading inventory administration made easy. Product will be present at the state AER professional conference in Sedona, AZ 2009.

Papers and Presentations

Erin, J., de Steiguer, P., Rosenblum, L.P., Topor, I. et al. (2007, November). The Experiences of Parents of Visually Impaired Students Who Become Professionals. Arizona Association for Education of the Blind and Visually Impaired. The data presented were based on a survey VI faculty collected of 52 parents of children who are visually impaired. Gold Resort, Apache Junction, AZ .

Erin, J., de Steiguer, P., Rosenblum, L.P., Topor, I. (2006, July). The Experiences of Parents of Visually Impaired Students Who Become Professional. The data presented were based on a survey VI faculty collected of 52 parents of children who are visually impaired. AER International, Snowbird Resort, UT.

Topor, I. (2004, March). Helping Young Children with visual impairments to use vision in natural environments. *It's a life's journey.* North Carolina Association for Education for the Blind and Visually Impaired in Raleigh, North Carolina (invited).

Topor, I. (2004, July). Helping Young Children with Visual Impairments to Use Vision in Natural Environments. Western Michigan State presentation to summer school distance education students (invited): Kalamazoo, MI.

Topor, I. (2004, August). Visions 2004 Chicago: Breakthroughs, Progress, & Hope: The National Conference of The Foundation Fighting Blindness, August 19-21, 2004. (invited): 1). *Sports and Physical Activities – Adaptation techniques for those with low vision and blind*, 2) *Educating the Child with Low Vision* and 3) *The Doctor Is In.* Chicago, IL.

Topor, I., & Rosenblum, L.P. (2004, July). Visual Conditions and Functional Vision Assessment: A Module to Prepare Teachers to Work with Infants and Toddlers. AER International Conference. Orlando, FL.

Topor, I. (2004, November). Three Presentations: Helping Young Children with Visual Impairments to Use Vision in Natural Environments; Environmental adaptations for the Low Vision School-Aged Learner; and Creative Ways to teach children to use their monocular. New Mexico Preschool for the Blind with the University of New Mexico. Las Cruces, NM.

Topor, I. (2003, March). Working with students who have visual and multiple disabilities: What's our role? Presented to Arizona Itinerant Teachers of Visually

- Impaired Children. Phoenix, AZ.
- Topor, I. (2003, April). Literacy and children who are blind or visually impaired. Presented at the ASDB family weekend at the main campus in Tucson, AZ.
- Ponchillia, P. & Topor, I. (2002, July). Arizona's National Sports Education Camp for Children who are Blind or Visually Impaired. Association for Education of the Blind and Visually Impaired. International Conference in Toronto, Canada
- Topor, I. (2001, November). Arizona's National Sports Education Camp for Children who are Blind or Visually Impaired. Association for Education of Blind and Visually Impaired Individuals (AER biannual meeting), Flagstaff, AZ.
- Topor, I. (2001, October). Normal Visual Development. Technology Access Center of Tucson, Tucson, AZ.
- Topor, I. (2001, September) Arizona's National Sports Education Camp. Lions Breakfast Club, Tucson, AZ.
- Topor, I. (2001, July) Working with families who have children with low vision. Texas Focus Conference, Forth Worth, TX.
- Topor, I. (2000, January) What's functional about a functional vision assessment? Children's Rehabilitative Services monthly therapy meeting, Tucson, AZ
- Erin, J. and Topor, I. (2000, February) Teaching students with visual impairments: effective process and practice. Seventh in a series of teleconferences, Sponsored by the Instructional Support System of Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania College of Optometry.
- Topor, I. and Smith, J. (1999, December). Low vision services for children in the state of Arizona, Arizona Itinerant Teachers of the Visually Impaired, Foundation for Blind Children.
- Topor, I. and Smith, J. (1999, October) Creative ideas for using telescopes with young children. AER Biannual State Meeting, Laughlin, NV,
- Topor, I. and Jager, B. (1999, October) Delayed visual maturation in high-risk infants. AER Biannual State Meeting, Laughlin, NV.
- Topor, I. and Smith, J. (1999, May) Low vision services for children in the state of Arizona. AER State meeting at the Tucson Association for the Blind, Tucson AZ.
- Topor, I. (1998,) Conducting functional vision assessments with students elementary through secondary age. Alabama State School for the Blind, AIDB, Talladega, AL.

- Topor, I. (1998, October). Teaching students with multiple and visual impairments to use their vision within functional and social routines. Arizona Itinerant Teachers of the Visually Impaired, Foundation for Blind Children, Phoenix, AZ.
- Topor, I. (1998, September) Teaching students with multiple and visual impairments to use their vision within functional and social routines. Hawaii Dept. of Education, Honolulu, HI.
- Topor, I. (1998, July). Functional vision assessment for infants, toddlers and preschoolers who have visual and multiple impairments. AAEHBVI Southeastern Conference, Chattanooga, TN.
- Topor, I. (1998, April) Vision assessments and tests. Special Needs Center, Reno, NV.
- Topor, I. (1998, March). Assessments and interventions for visual functioning of students with visual and multiple impairments. Division for Early Childhood, Council for Exceptional Children, Wichita, KS.
- Kampfe, C.M. Levine, L., MacFarland, S., Smith, S. Mae, Topor, I. (1998, February) The variable of stress in the transition from academic work to fieldwork experiences- a study of graduate students in special education and rehabilitation. Dean's Forum, College of Education, University of Arizona.
- Topor, I. (1998, February) Assessments and interventions for visual functioning of students with visual and multiple impairments. Special Ed conference course, Anchorage, AK.
- Topor, I. (1997, December) Vision tests and interpretation of results. December 18. Special Needs Center, Case managers and related disciplines (25) attended. Las Vegas, NV.
- Topor, I. (1997, October) The impact of vision loss on development. October 24. Arizona State Schools for Deaf and Blind Parent Adviser Training, Rodeway Inn, Tucson, AZ.
- Topor, I. (1997, July) Assessing the vision and hearing of deafblind infants, toddlers and preschoolers. Great Lakes Deafblind Institute in Columbus, OH and Madison, WI.
- Topor, I. (1997, July) The Effect of Isolated Vs. Contextual Functional Vision Assessment Results on Teacher Planned Activities. The Final Southwest AER Regional Conference Sponsored by Arizona AER.

- Topor, I. (1997, June) Vision Instruction for children who have vision and multiple disabilities. June 20. Texas Focus Conference, Austin, Texas, Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired.
- Topor, I. (1997, March) Assessing visual function of the "hard-to-test" child." March 11 Arizona Itinerant Teachers of the Visually Impaired, Foundation for Blind Children, Phoenix, AZ.
- Topor, I., MacFarland, S., Robinson, C.(1997, February) A Common Sense Approach to Working with Students who have a Combined Hearing and Vision Loss. CEC/TASH conference at the Holiday Corporate Center, Phoenix, AZ.
- Topor, I. (1996, October) Making the Most of Communication Between Infants, Toddlers and Preschoolers whom are Deaf/Blind and their Caregivers. Parent Adviser training in Tucson Arizona Doubletree Inn, for the Regional Services Program, Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.
- Topor, I.(1996, September) Functional Vision Assessment for Individuals who are Deafblind. Portland, Oregon in collaboration with TRACES.
- Topor, I. (1996, June) The Role of the Vision Teacher in the Educational Management of Students Who Have Low Vision. Lawrence, Kansas, University of Kansas in collaboration with the Kansas School for the Blind. (for course credit).
- Topor, I, & Downing, J. (1995, November) Meeting the Intervention Needs of Infants and Toddlers with Multiple Disabilities- A Focus on Vision Loss. San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, Early Start Program - West End, Ontario, CA.
- Topor, I. (1995, September) Effects of Visual Impairment on Communication Behavior between Infants and Caregivers. Parent Adviser Training in Ahwautukee, AZ., Regional Services Program, Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and Blind.
- Topor, I. (1995, August) Preschoolers who are low vision and functional vision evaluations, programming, and altering the environment to enhance visual functioning. Georgia State Department of Education at the Georgia Academy for the Blind in Macon.
- Topor, I., Rosenblum, L.P. and Schlabs, T. (1995, July) Lights, Camera, Action! Personnel Preparation of Teachers of the Visually Impaired at the University of Arizona, Tucson. AER Southwest Regional Conference, Holiday Inn, San Francisco, CA.
- Topor, I.(1995, June) Functional Vision Assessments and Interventions. Southern Arizona Professional Technical Assistants of Ophthalmology (SAPTO). Westin La Paloma, Tucson, AZ,

- Topor, I. (1995) Incorporating Adaptations for Vision Impairments in the Home. Nevada Dual Sensory Impairment Project 3rd Annual Parent Conference. Flamingo Hotel, Reno, NV.
- Topor, I. (1995, May) Vision Programming for Individuals with Visual and Multiple Disabilities. Nevada Dual Sensory Impairment Project, Carson City, NV.
- Topor, I. (1995, March) Eye Disease in Young Children. First Step Program, Special Children's Services, Las Vegas, NV.
- Topor, I. (1994, October - December) AZEIP- Arizona Early Intervention Project- Arizona Statewide vision screening project- Five workshops to train local service providers in vision screening procedures- Globe, Show Low, Sierra Vista, Kingman, October - December.
- Topor, I. (1994, August) Functional Vision Assessment and Intervention Strategies for Infants and Preschoolers who have visual impairment. Georgia State Dept. of Education at the Georgia Academy for the Blind
- Topor, I. (1994, July) Functional Vision Assessment and Interventions- California State University, Northridge, and Early Intervention Network Model Demonstration Project: Infants who are deaf-blind, Summer Institute 1994, Wyndham Garden Hotel, Costa Mesa, CA.
- Topor, I. (1994, June) Vision Assessment and Utilization: A Contextual Approach. Ski*Hi Southeastern Regional Conference, St. Louis, MO.
- Topor, I. (1994, June) Interventions for Young Children with Visual Impairment. Special Children's Services, Reno, NV.
- Topor, I. (1994, April). Vision Screening for Children with Multiple Disabilities. (1994) Carson City Public Schools April 26 Reno, NV .
- Topor, I. (1994, January). Vision Assessment and Interventions for Individuals with Dual Sensory Loss. Santa Fe New Mexico, New Mexico School for the Deaf
- Topor, I. (1994, January) Vision Assessment and Interventions, Scotopic Sensitivity Syndrome, Las Cruces Public Schools, NM.
- Topor, I. (1993, April) The Impact of Vision Loss on Development. Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and Blind Parent Adviser Training, Doubletree Inn, Tucson, AZ.

Topor, I. and Dean J. (May, 1993) Screening for Vision and Hearing Loss, Teaching Research Assisting Children Experiencing Sensory Impairment (TRACES). Western States Training for Coordinators, Tucson, AZ.

Topor, I. (1993, October) Vision Screening Project, Director's Meeting -Teaching Research Assisting Children Experiencing Sensory Impairment (TRACES) . Ritz Carlton, Alexandria, VA.

Funded Research

Principal investigator, Small grants proposal- Office of the Vice President: Visual Maturation Delay and Infants with Developmental Risk Factors. An interdisciplinary collaborative research project with the Center for Neurogenic Communication Disorders, Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences, University of Arizona. Funded for \$4900. 1/99- 2/00.

Fellowships, Prizes, Awards

Association for Education and Rehabilitation for the Blind and Visually Impaired Margaret Bluhm Award -Arizona Worker of the Year. Presented at the AER biannual meeting, Flagstaff, AZ, (October, 2001)

Olympic Torch Bearer Relay in Tucson, AZ for Salt Lake City Olympics. Sponsored by Coca-Cola Corporation (January, 2002).

Editorships, Editorial Boards, Reviewing Activities

2001	New York State Early Intervention Program Guidelines
1998-present	Reviewer, Journal of Visual Impairment & Blindness
1998	Reviewer of doctoral dissertation. " <u>Vision Screening of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island children in Far North Queensland,</u> " University of Queensland, Australia
1996-present	Reviewer, American Printing House for the Blind
1989	Reviewer, Communication Therapy and Skill Builders

Teaching Experience

Department of Disability and Psychoeducational Studies—University of Arizona

SERP 519a	Visually Impaired students in General Education Classrooms
SERP 519c	Advanced low vision assessment and instruction
SERP 520	Low vision and visual functioning
SERP 522	Orientation and mobility for teachers
SERP 524	Methods of teaching students with visual impairments
SERP 575	Observation and participation
SERP 593	Internship

Service Activities

National, State, and Community

2009	Project PERFECT: Personal training for 8 VI students Attending ASDB: ASDB Foundation funded for \$500
2007	Coordinator, Art Beyond Sight workshop for Tucson Community Arizona State Schools for Deaf and Blind, Museum Directors, Southern Arizona Association for the Visually Impaired
2008	Moderator for the National Low vision (division 7) AERBVI Listserv.
2005	Building Community Programs, Los Mochis Sin, Mexico – Tucson
2001-2004	Governor’s Council on Visual Impairment and Blindness
2001-2003	Director, National Sports Education Camp in Tucson
2001-present	Technology Access Center of Tucson (TACT)
1998	Consultant, Alabama School for the Blind. Vision assessment
1998	Consultant, Hawaii Department of Education
1997	Consultant, Catalina Foothills district for VI student IEP program
1997	Consultant, Pima Accommodative School District
1997	Consultant, Tempe Unified School District.
1995–1998	Consultant to Arizona Department of Economic Security, Division of Developmental Disabilities – evaluate vision function
1995-1996	AERVBI (Arizona Association and Rehabilitation for the Blind And Visually Impaired Vice President, state of Arizona
1995	Consultant, Nye County Schools- evaluate vision function of students
1994–1999	Consultant, Nevada Dual Sensory Impairment Project- evaluate vision
1994	Consultant, New Mexico Deaf-Blind Project, Las Cruces, New Mexico
1994	Consultant, New Mexico School for the Deaf
1994	Consultant, Idaho Deaf-Blind Project

1994-1998 Consultant, Nevada Dual Sensory Impairment Project
1994 Arizona Child and Maternal Health Services Sensory Impaired
Steering Committee
1993-1996 AERBVI Board member
1992 Consultant, Arizona State schools for the Deaf and Blind.
1992- 1994 Consultant, Safford Unified School District Department
2004-present Non tenure peer review committee