

Sandra Jo Wilson, Ph.D., Associate Director of the Peabody Research Institute has been awarded a two-year, \$585,000 grant from the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) to study the predictors of school readiness. The research project will involve a systematic meta-analysis of the findings of longitudinal studies that provide evidence on: (1) the predictive relationships of facets of school readiness to later school performance and (2) on the predictive relationships between risk and protective factors and school readiness. Wilson and her co-Investigators, Dale Farran and Mark Lipsey, have already amassed a large meta-analytic database of longitudinal studies of school outcomes with funding from the National Institute on Child Health and Human Development (NICHD). The new IES-funded project will focus specifically on school readiness in order to better understand the risk and protective factors that are important during the period when children are beginning formal schooling, and identify critical variables measured prior to school readiness that can serve as targets for intervention in preschool classrooms or assist in identifying vulnerable populations or individuals in need of remedial services.