

About the Authors

Jo Webber

Jo Webber, PhD, is a professor of special education at Texas State University–San Marcos and associate dean for academic affairs for the College of Education. She began teaching students with autism in 1976 and has been active as a consultant, in-service and preservice trainer, author, and statewide leader in this area for 30 years.

Dr. Webber received her doctoral degree in special education from The University of Texas at Austin and served as the executive director of the Austin–Travis County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Autism Center, executive director of the Communities in Schools Dropout Prevention Program, and assistant special education director for the Austin Independent School District. Dr. Webber has also consulted with various school districts across the country regarding the management of challenging behavior, programming for students with emotional and behavioral disorders, and school applications of applied behavioral analysis and positive behavioral supports.

Dr. Webber is past president of the Council for Children with Behavior Disorders and currently serves as chair of the Austin Regional Autism Task Force and as an Advisory Committee member to the Texas Council for Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disorders. Dr. Webber has published widely in the areas of autism, behavior management, and educational strategies for students with emotional and behavioral disorders. She co-authored, with Brenda Scheuermann, the textbook *Autism: Teaching DOES Make a Difference* (Wadsworth, 2002) and, with Cindy Plotts, the textbook *Emotional and Behavioral Disorders: Theory to Practice* (Allyn & Bacon, 2002).

Brenda Scheuermann

Brenda Scheuermann, PhD, has been a professor of special education at Texas State University in San Marcos for 18 years. She received her doctoral degree in emotional disturbance/autism from The University of Texas at Austin. Prior to that time, she was a special education teacher for students with autism, behavioral disorders, and cognitive disabilities in Illinois and Texas, a behavior specialist in Texas, and a lecturer at The University of Texas at Austin and Laredo State University. Dr. Scheuermann frequently consults with school districts around the country on issues related to student behavior, programs for students with emotional and behavioral disorders, and schoolwide positive behavioral supports. She also provides professional development for teachers and administrators at the local, state, and national levels in the areas of teaching students with emotional and behavioral disorders, best practices in instruction, and positive behavioral supports. She has served in leadership roles in various professional organizations, including chair of the Advocacy and Governmental Relations Committee of The Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders.

Dr. Scheuermann is the author of numerous publications in the areas of autism, behavior management and instruction, and advocacy. In addition, she is co-author, with Jo Webber, of the textbook *Autism: Teaching DOES Make a Difference* (Wadsworth, 2002) and, with Judy A. Hall, of the textbook *Positive Behavioral Supports for the Classroom* (Merrill/Pearson Educational, 2008).

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