

# Eliminating Ableism in Education

Sponsored by the Center for Special Education

## Thomas Hehir, Ed. D

In this presentation, Thomas Hehir will address the challenges of eliminating ableism in schools. He defines ableism as societal prejudice against people with disabilities. Some prejudice is obvious, (e.g. no handicap accessibility), and some more subtle, (e.g. the desire for disabled people to perform life tasks in the same way as nondisabled people). These attitudes in the education of children with disabilities reinforce, and may well contribute to low levels of educational attainment and employment.

Thomas Hehir believes the goal of special education should be to minimize the impact of disability and maximize the opportunity to participate. He will discuss six proposals for beginning to address and overturn ableist practices.

**Thursday, October 5, 2006**  
**4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**  
**Marran Theatre**  
**Main Campus, Lesley University**

**Thomas Hehir, Ed.D.**, is Professor of Practice and Director of the School Leadership Program at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. He formerly served as Director of the U.S. Department for Education's Office of Special Education Programs, Associate Superintendent for the Chicago Public Schools, and Director of Special Education in the Boston Public Schools.

**There is no charge for this event, but registration is required as space is limited.**

There are **two** ways to register:

Fill out the form below and return it to Susan Kando, Center for Special Education, Lesley University, 1815 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140

**Or:** Send the same information in an email to [skando@lesley.edu](mailto:skando@lesley.edu)

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