

50 Years of ERIC

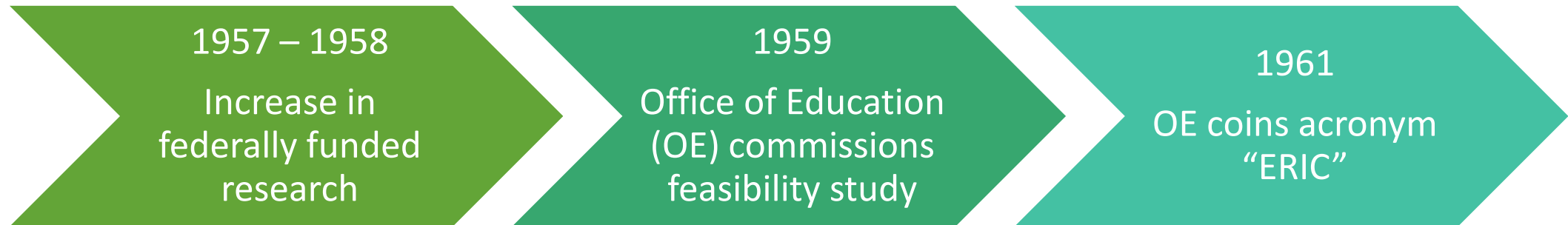
1964 - 2014



Illustrious History

- 50 years of service to education
 - Research
 - Practice
 - Professional development
 - Decision-making
- Innovation
 - Thesaurus
 - Dissemination
 - Technologies
 - Continuous, user-driven enhancements
- Known, respected, and searched worldwide

Groundwork – Late Eisenhower Presidency



1957 and 1958 – Defining the Need

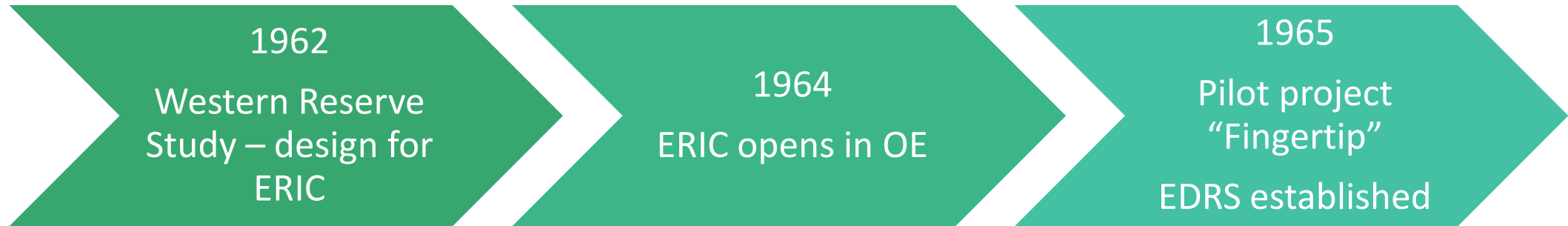
- Elvis is “King” when the need for a report repository is recognized in the Office of Education.
- There was an increase in education research with no way to make the reports accessible to researchers, government officials, and the public.



1959 to 1961 – Studying the Feasibility

- OE commissions “Feasibility Study Regarding the Establishment of an Educational Media Research Information Service,” 1959.
- The study recommends that the service “embrace all education research and research in other disciplines that have implications for educational theory and practice.”
- Acronym ERIC coined at OE to stand for “Educational Research Information Center,” 1961.

1962-1965 – Kennedy and Early Johnson Presidencies



1962 – Designing the System

- Western Reserve Study, “The Library of Tomorrow—Today,” published as the design for ERIC.
- ERIC’s services defined as computer tapes, copies of source documents, abstracts, bibliographies, and a thesaurus.



1964 – ERIC Gets Its Start

- ERIC Program begins in the Office of Education on May 15.
- “It was an office without funds and an office without a program,” but early framers had big plans.
- Harold Haswell is first ERIC Director.

The Year ERIC Begins – First Ford Mustang, Signing of the Economic Opportunity Act, Hard Days Night (1964)



1965 – Piloting Dissemination

- Project Fingertip pilots document dissemination to special education teachers.
- Resources sent to all state Boards of Education, 100 largest cities, and a school district in each congressional district.
- Each packet contains 1,746 documents, with program descriptions, indices, resumes, and the full text of each document.

1965 – ERIC Document Reproduction Service (EDRS)

- OE decides to provide public access to indexed reports and other grey materials.
- EDRS handles document reproduction for those wanting copies of ERIC documents.
- Microfiche is the state-of-the-art dissemination medium.



Also in 1965...

- President Johnson signs PL 89-10, the “Elementary and Secondary Education Act” (ESEA) of 1965.
- “No Child Left Behind” is the current incarnation of ESEA.

1966 – Rapid Expansion



1966 – Expanding Capacity

- ERIC office quickly exceeds capacity for performing indexing.
- ERIC evolves into a decentralized system as OE awards contracts for first clearinghouses to acquire and process materials, especially materials not accessible through traditional publishers.
- Clearinghouses are subject-centered and typically placed in universities and education associations.
- Harvey Marron is Director.

1966 – ERIC Processing and Reference Facility

- Established as the scheduler and coordinator of the decentralized ERIC system.
- Hosted Thesaurus development and maintenance.
- Provided quality oversight to selection and indexing activities.

1966 – ERIC Thesaurus

- Formally known as “The Thesaurus of ERIC Descriptors.”
- Designed as an authority list for the field of education.
- Widely used, respected and recognized as a standard in the field.
- The ERIC Thesaurus continues to develop and is available online.

1966 – Research in Education (RIE)

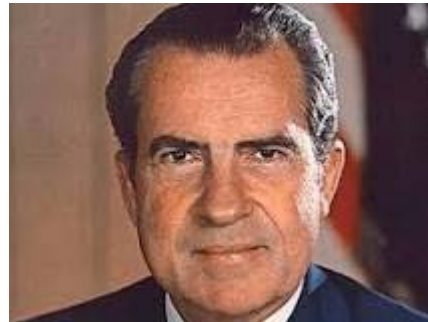
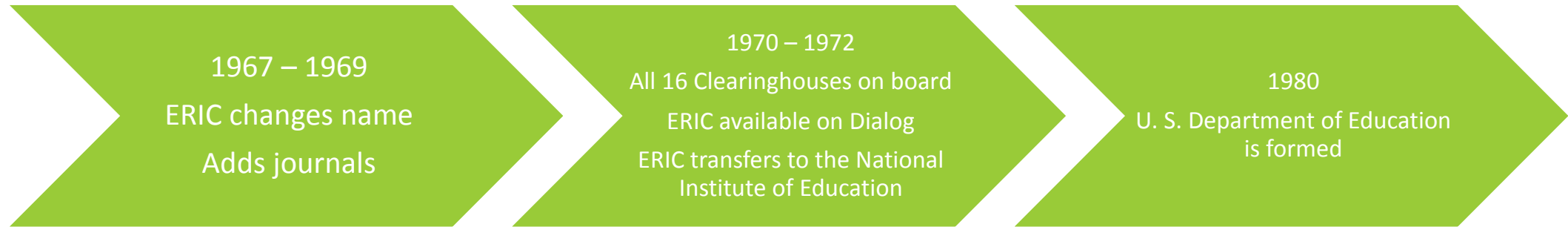
- First printing of the abstract journal “Research in Education” signifies ERIC’s official opening to the public.
- The monthly RIE publication announces new documents added to the ERIC database.
- The title was changed in 1974 from “Research in Education” to “Resources in Education.”

Events in 1966

- U. S. Department of Transportation formed.
- Ronald Reagan is elected Governor of California.
- U. S. engaged in combat in Vietnam.



1967 – 1980 – ERIC Matures (Late Johnson, Nixon, Ford, and Carter Presidencies)



1967 – 1980

- ERIC changes name from “Educational Research Information Center” to “Educational Resources Information Center,” 1967.
- Journal literature added to ERIC database; first issue of “Current Index to Journals in Education” (CIJE) published, 1969.
- All 16 ERIC Clearinghouses on board, 1970.
- Dialog offers ERIC database online, 1971.
- ERIC transferred to newly created National Institute of Education (NIE), 1972.
- NIE transfers from the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare to the newly formed Department of Education, May 1980.
- Chuck Hoover is ERIC Director.

Events in the 1970s

- U. S. soldiers return home from Vietnam.
- Hippy era gives way to disco fever.
- First pocket calculator introduced.



ERIC Clearinghouses 1-4 (with Latest Affiliation and Longest Serving Directors)

- Adult, Career, and Vocational Education, Ohio State University (Juliet Miller, Susan Imel)
- Assessment and Evaluation, University of Maryland (S. Donald Melville, Lawrence Rudner)
- Community Colleges, University of California at Los Angeles (Arthur Cohen)
- Counseling and Student Services, University of North Carolina at Greensboro (Garry Walz)

ERIC Clearinghouses 5-8 (with Latest Affiliation and Longest Serving Directors)

- Disabilities and Gifted Education, Council for Exceptional Children (Donald Erickson, Bruce Ramirez, Cassandra Peters-Johnson)
- Educational Management, University of Oregon (Philip Piele)
- Elementary and Early Childhood Education, University of Illinois (Lilian Katz)
- Higher Education, George Washington University (Jonathan Fife, Adrianna Kezar)

ERIC Clearinghouses 9 -12 (with Latest Affiliation and Longest Serving Directors)

- Information & Technology, Syracuse University (Donald Ely, Michael Eisenberg, David Lankes)
- Languages and Linguistics, Center for Applied Linguistics (Charles Stansfield, Joy Peyton)
- Reading, English, and Communication, Indiana University (Bernard O'Donnell, Carl Smith)
- Rural Education and Small Schools, Appalachia Educational Laboratory (Everett Eddington, Craig Howley, Hobart Harmon, Timothy Collins)

ERIC Clearinghouses 13-16 (with Latest Affiliation and Longest Serving Directors)

- Science, Mathematics, and Environmental Education, Ohio State University (Robert Howe, David Haury)
- Social Studies/Social Science Education, Indiana University (Irving Morrissett, John Patrick)
- Teaching and Teacher Education, American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (Mary Dilworth)
- Urban Education, Teachers College, Columbia University (Edmund Gordon, Erwin Flaxman)

1981 – 1992 ERIC Goes Electronic (Reagan and Bush Presidencies)



1981 - 1989

- ERIC database reaches 500,000 entries, 1983.
- ERIC database becomes available on CD-ROM, 1985.
- ERIC transfers to NIE's successor, Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI), 1985.
- ACCESS ERIC and first Adjunct Clearinghouses established, 1989.
- Bob Chesley, Chuck Hoover, Alan Moorehead are ERIC Directors.



Events in the 1980s

- Motorola introduces first mobile phone.
- Space Shuttle Challenger explodes after take-off.
- Cold War ends with the fall of the Berlin Wall.



1992

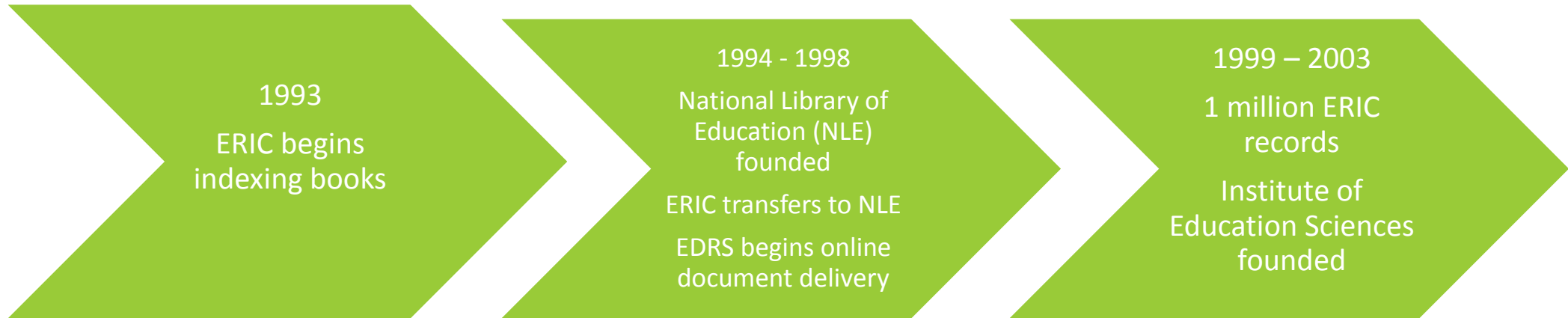
- ERIC debuts on the Internet.
- AskERIC launched by the Information & Technology Clearinghouse at Syracuse University.
- Other special projects start up: Gateway to Educational Materials (GEM) and Virtual Reference Desk (VRD).
- Bob Stonehill is ERIC Director.



ERIC Support Components (with Longest Serving Directors)

- ACCESS ERIC – outreach and communications (Lynn Smarte).
- ERIC Document Reproduction Service – document conversion and delivery (Peter Dagutis).
- ERIC Processing and Reference Facility – coordination, data quality, and ERIC Thesaurus (Ted Brandhorst).

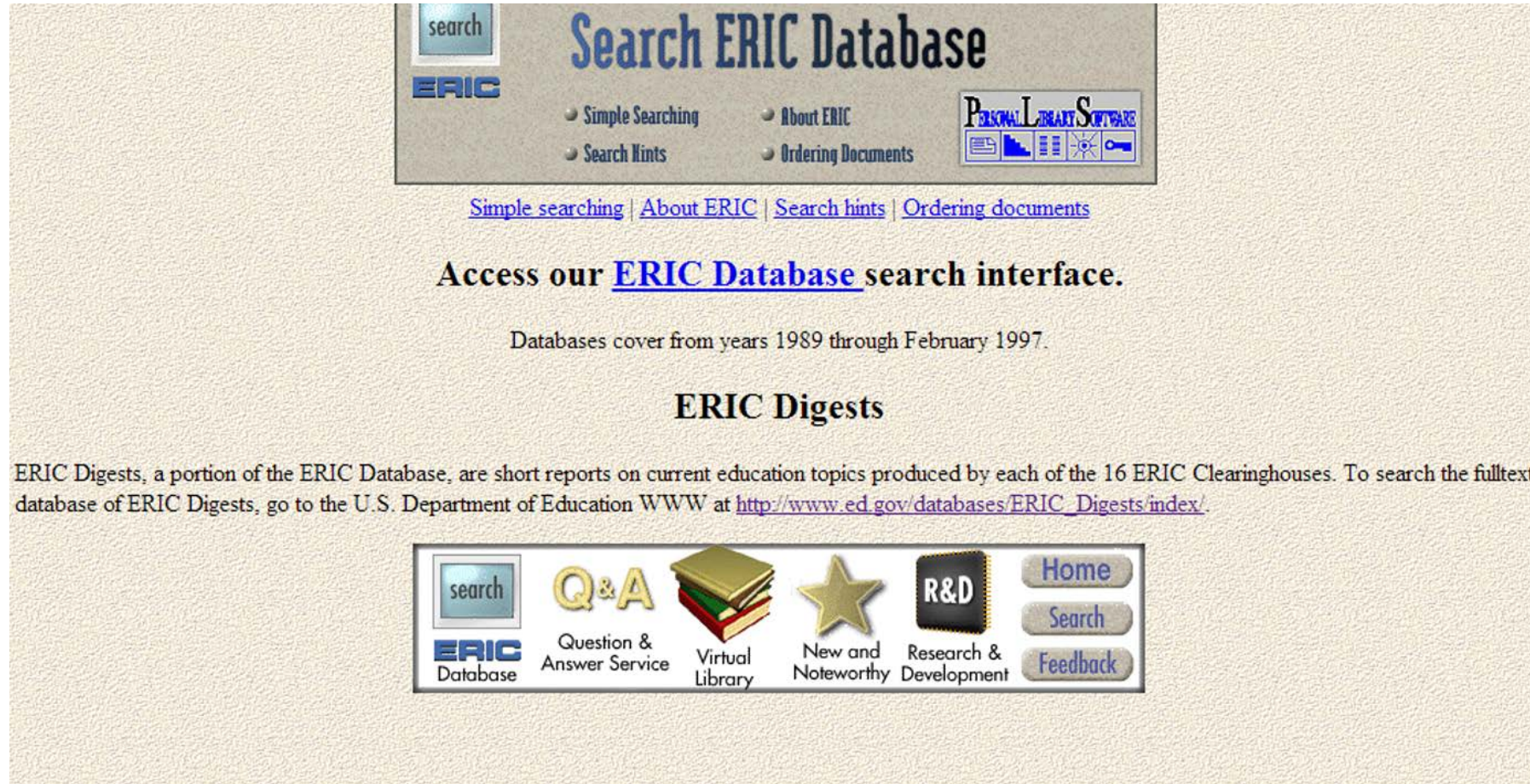
1993 – 2003 – ERIC in the Internet Age (Clinton and Early George W. Bush Presidencies)



1993 – 2003

- ERIC adds books to the database, 1993.
- National Library of Education (NLE) founded, 1994.
- ERIC transfers to NLE, 1995.
- EDRS begins electronic document delivery, 1997.
- ERIC database reaches 1 million entries, 1999.
- ERIC joins the new Institute of Education Sciences (IES), 2002.
- Pat Coulter and Keith Stubbs are ERIC Directors.

An ERIC Clearinghouse Website – 1997



The screenshot shows the ERIC Database website interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "search" and the ERIC logo. To the right of the search bar is the title "Search ERIC Database". Below the title, there are four menu items: "Simple Searching", "About ERIC", "Search Hints", and "Ordering Documents". To the right of these items is a logo for "PERSONAL LIBRARY SOFTWARE". Below the menu items, there are four links: "Simple searching", "About ERIC", "Search hints", and "Ordering documents". The main heading is "Access our [ERIC Database](#) search interface." Below this, it says "Databases cover from years 1989 through February 1997." The section "ERIC Digests" is highlighted. Below this, there is a paragraph: "ERIC Digests, a portion of the ERIC Database, are short reports on current education topics produced by each of the 16 ERIC Clearinghouses. To search the fulltext database of ERIC Digests, go to the U.S. Department of Education WWW at http://www.ed.gov/databases/ERIC_Digests/index/." At the bottom, there is a navigation bar with icons for "search", "ERIC Database", "Q&A Question & Answer Service", "Virtual Library", "New and Noteworthy", "R&D Research & Development", "Home", "Search", and "Feedback".

search

Search ERIC Database

ERIC

- Simple Searching
- About ERIC
- Search Hints
- Ordering Documents

PERSONAL LIBRARY SOFTWARE

[Simple searching](#) | [About ERIC](#) | [Search hints](#) | [Ordering documents](#)

Access our [ERIC Database](#) search interface.

Databases cover from years 1989 through February 1997.

ERIC Digests

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search

ERIC Database

Q&A
Question & Answer Service

Virtual Library

New and Noteworthy

R&D
Research & Development

Home

Search

Feedback

AskERIC Website – 2001

The screenshot shows the AskERIC website interface. At the top, the logo features a red apple with the text "AskERICsm" and "ERIC Database" to its right. Below the logo, the tagline "Education Information with the Personal Touch" is displayed, along with navigation links for "Search", "Topics A-Z", "SiteMap", and "Site Tour". A circular seal of the University of Illinois is visible on the right side of the header.

The left sidebar contains a vertical menu with the following items: Home, About AskERIC, ERIC Database (highlighted in yellow), Searching Assistance, ERIC Thesaurus, Obtaining Full Text, Citing ERIC Materials, Publication Types, Database Use Policy, Z39.50 Compatibility Issues, List of Journals Abstracted, Ask an ERIC Expert, Question Archive, Lesson Plans, Mailing Lists, and AskERIC Update Newsletter.

The main content area includes a paragraph describing ERIC as the world's largest source of education information, with more than 1 million abstracts of documents and journal articles. It mentions that the database is updated monthly and provides access to ERIC Document citations from 1966 through May 2001 and ERIC Journal citations from 1966 through July 2001.

Below this text are two search options: "ERIC Database Simple Search" and "Advanced Search". The "Advanced Search" link is underlined. A text box prompts users to "Type your search terms in the search box below" and provides instructions on using quotation marks for specific fields. A link to the "Advanced Search Page" is provided.

A section titled "Describe what you are looking for." includes a "Searching Tips" link and an empty text input field.

The "Limit" section contains two checkboxes: "Journal articles" and "Full-text ERIC Digests".

At the bottom of the search area, there are dropdown menus for "Search year" and "through", both set to "ALL", and "Submit" and "Clear Form" buttons.

A "NOTE" states: "The ERIC Database provides abstracts of journal articles and documents for free. To obtain the full-text you may be charged a fee. For more information please read our 'Obtaining Full Text' page."

At the bottom of the page, there is a "CHAT LIVE" section with the AskERIC logo and the text "Search Assistance When You Need It!". To the right of this section, it says "Find answers to your questions about searching AskERIC's version of the ERIC Database by".

ERIC Website – 2001

ERIC
Educational Resources Information Center

SEARCH ERIC DATABASE ASKERIC ERIC DIGESTS
PUBLICATIONS RESOURCES ABOUT ERIC

Educational Resources Information Center

NEW FROM ERIC

Updated Monday, September 23, 2002

***Ensuring Quality and Productivity in Higher Education: An Analysis of Assessment Practices* (PDF version)**
This new Digest from the ERIC Clearinghouse on Higher Education summarizes the leading issues involved in ensuring the quality and productivity of education and professional development activities in a specific system of higher education.

ERIC/CLL Language Link
The September 2002 issue of ERIC/CLL Language Link from the ERIC Clearinghouse on Languages and Linguistics features an article on "Cultural Exchange Through the Visiting International Faculty Program" and reviews the journal *Language & Intercultural Communication*. It also announces recent and upcoming activities of the Clearinghouse and its affiliates.

Frequently Requested Information About Child Care
The ERIC Clearinghouse on Child Care, an adjunct ERIC Clearinghouse, has posted two new lists of resources addressing "[The Effects of Quality Child Care on Young Children](#)" and "[National Accreditation Organizations for Early Childhood Programs](#)."

New Digests About Educational Facilities
The National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities, an affiliate ERIC Clearinghouse, has published two new Digests: *The Role of Wireless Computing Technology in the Design of Schools* and *Schools Designed with Community Participation*.

New Digests About Urban Education
Two new Digests are available from the ERIC Clearinghouse on Urban Education: *Data-Driven Equity in Urban Schools* and *Literacy Education After High School*.

CLEARINGHOUSES
Adult, Career, and Vocational Education
Assessment and Evaluation
Community Colleges
Counseling and Student Services
Disabilities and Gifted Education
Educational Management
Elementary and Early Childhood Education
Higher Education
Information & Technology
Languages and Linguistics
Reading, English, and Communication
Rural Education and Small Schools
Science, Mathematics, and Environmental Education
Social Studies/Social Science Education
Teaching and Teacher Education
Urban Education

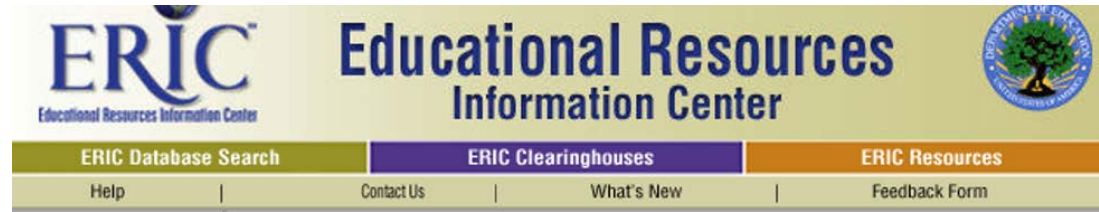
SUPPORT COMPONENTS
Search Site
Feedback Form
Site Map
FAQ
EDRS
Facility
Adjuncts/Affiliates
ERIC System Directory

2002 – Education Reform Act Establishes the Institute of Education Sciences (IES)

- ERIC Becomes Part of IES



ERIC Website – 2003

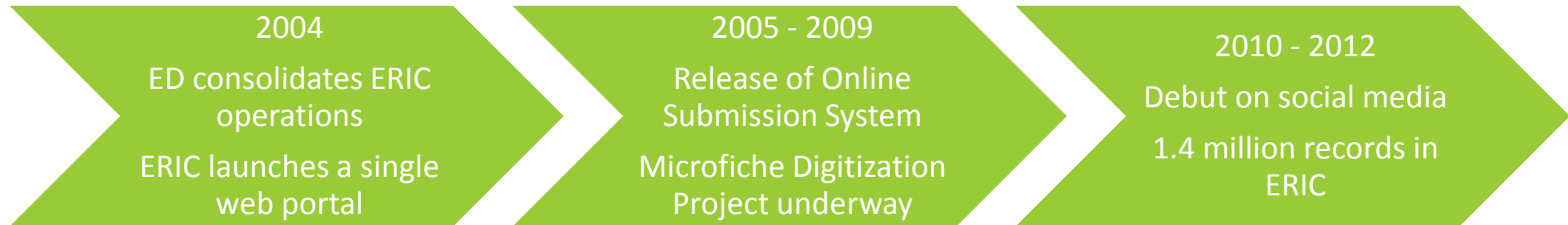


ERIC is a national information system funded by the [U.S. Department of Education's](#) Institute of Education Sciences to provide access to education literature and resources.

 <p>Search the ERIC database to find education-related journal articles, research reports, curriculum and teaching guides, conference papers, books, and more.</p>	 <p>Visit the ERIC Clearinghouses' content-rich Web sites for brief and indepth publications, virtual libraries, directories, and links to other resources in their areas of subject expertise.</p>	 <p>Explore more than 2,400 ERIC Digests on current topics, and link to resources for parents, a conference calendar, an online question-answering service, and other resources.</p>
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ACCESS ERIC produces and maintains this site for the [U.S. Department of Education's](#) Institute of Education Sciences under Contract Number ED-01-CO-0095.

2004 – 2012 – ERIC Redesigned (Bush Second Term and Obama Presidencies)



2004

- U. S. Department of Education consolidates ERIC under a single contract.
- Production of microfiche ceases.
- ERIC becomes an all-electronic service.
- A single new website replaces 20 separate sites.
- Luna Levinson is ERIC Director.

ERIC Website – 2004

The screenshot shows the ERIC website homepage. At the top, there is a blue navigation bar with the ERIC logo and the text "Education Resources Information Center". To the right of the logo are links for "About ERIC", "ERIC News", "Contact ERIC", and "Help". Below this is a secondary navigation bar with "Home", "ERIC Search", "Thesaurus", and "My ERIC".

Welcome to the ERIC Database

The Education Resources Information Center (ERIC), sponsored by the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) of the U.S. Department of Education, produces the world's premier database of journal and non-journal education literature. The new ERIC online system, released September 2004, provides the public with a centralized ERIC Web site for searching the ERIC bibliographic database of more than 1.1 million citations going back to 1966. Effective October 1, more than 107,000 full-text non-journal documents (issued 1993-2004), previously available through fee-based services only, will be available for free.

On the right side, there is a graphic featuring the Department of Education seal, a photograph of two women, and the text "[digital library]" with the words "searchable", "education", "comprehensive", "user-friendly", and "practical" listed below it.

Search the database

Search:

[Advanced Search](#) [Search Help](#)

ERIC News

- [New ERIC Web Site Opens September 1, 2004](#)
- [Improved Download Performance for Free PDF Image Documents](#)
- [Acquisition of ERIC Resources to Resume This Fall](#)
- [ERIC to Introduce Electronic Submission for Conference Papers](#)

My ERIC

Login or [register now](#) to access My ERIC. You do **NOT** need to login or register to use ERIC's search feature.

[About My ERIC](#)

Username:

Password:

[Forgot your password?](#)

At the bottom, there is a blue footer bar with the IES logo and the text "Institute of Education Sciences". To the right are links for "Home", "ERIC Search", "Thesaurus", and "My ERIC".

2005 – 2012

- ERIC opens Online Submission System for individual author papers and reports, 2005.
- ERIC digitizes legacy microfiche collection of 340,000 documents, 2006 – 2009.
- ERIC establishes presence on Facebook and Twitter, 2010.
- Records in ERIC exceed 1.4 million, 2012.

ERIC Website – 2012

The screenshot shows the ERIC website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Search ERIC, Our Collection, Thesaurus, About Us, and My ERIC. The main content area is divided into several sections: a search box for the ERIC Collection, an alert about full-text document availability, a section about the collection, ERIC information for various users, and more about ERIC resources. The footer contains copyright information and additional navigation links.

ERIC Education Resources Information Center

Submit Content | Contact Us | Help

Home | Search ERIC | Our Collection | Thesaurus | About Us | My ERIC

Search ERIC Collection

Search Term(s): [Advanced Search](#)

Search in: [Thesaurus](#)

[Help](#)

Records added in the last month: **3727**

Alert

Limited Availability of Full-Text Documents. Click [here](#) for more information.

About Our Collection

- What's in the ERIC Collection**
Bibliographic records of education literature, plus a growing collection of full text
- Journal List**
Alphabetical list covering 1966 to the present
- Non-Journal Source List**
Alphabetical list covering non-journal sources
- Collection Highlights**
RSS feeds and quick searches of featured publication sources and high-interest topics

ERIC Information

- For Publishers**
Discover the benefits of indexing education-related materials in ERIC. Learn how your titles can be included.
- For Authors**
Find out how individuals who hold copyright to their works, as well as ED grantees, can contribute papers, reports, and other materials to ERIC.
- For Librarians**
Access information to support site linking, training, microfiche management, and more.
- For Licensors**
Get information on licensing the ERIC Database and Thesaurus.

More About ERIC

- ERIC Microfiche Digitization**
Help ERIC expand online access to documents currently available only in microfiche.
- Support and Training Materials**
Learn how to search ERIC, use My ERIC, and get answers to our most frequently asked questions.
[Help](#)
[Tutorials](#)
[FAQs](#)

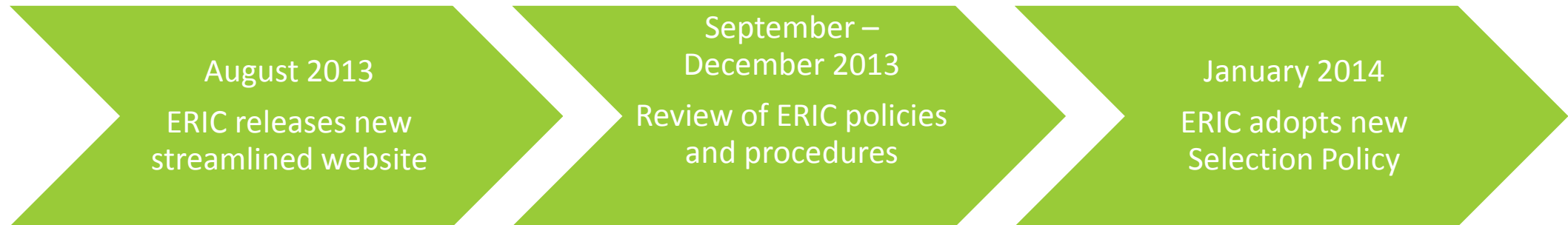
Find ERIC on...

[f](#) [t](#) [YouTube](#)

ED.gov **ies** INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION SCIENCES

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2013 to Present – ERIC Transition (Phase 1)



ERIC Transition – August 2013 to January 2014

- ERIC releases new streamlined website at eric.ed.gov to enhance usability and simplify searching for a broadening audience.
- Advisory Group formed to assist in review of collection policies.
- New Selection Policy adopted in January to focus on collecting education research.
- Erin Pollard is ERIC Program Officer.

ERIC Transition – February 2014 Through Remainder of the Year (Phase 2)



ERIC Transition – February 2014 Through Remainder of the Year

- ERIC database and Thesaurus files made free and open for download without a license.
- ERIC developing topic pages with informative, peer-reviewed summaries designed for a general audience and links to valuable resources.
- ERIC continues the long tradition of ongoing innovation and enhancement.

ERIC Website – 2014

[Notes](#) [FAQ](#) [Contact Us](#)



Collection **Thesaurus**

Search education resources [Advanced Search Tips](#)

Peer reviewed only Full text available on ERIC

Special Thanks

The ERIC Team would like to extend recognition to:

- ERIC founders and early innovators:
 - Office of Education - Thomas Clemens, Frank Schick, John Lorenz, Winslow Hatch, C. M. Flynt, Harold Haswell, Lee Burchinal, Harvey Marron.
 - Western Reserve University – Allen Kent.
 - University of Michigan – Frederick Goodman.
- Former Directors and staff from ED, ERIC Clearinghouses, EDRS, ERIC Facility, and ACCESS ERIC.
- Publishers and other contributors to the ERIC collection.
- ERIC searchers everywhere.

For More ERIC History . . .

- Trester, Delmer J. (1979). “ERIC – The First 15 Years. A History of the Educational Resources Information Center.” Available from <http://eric.ed.gov> (ED195289).
- Colker, Laura J. (2000). “Reminiscences From the Field: The Continuing Story of ERIC.” Available from <http://eric.ed.gov> (ED437937).