



**Dianne Zager, PhD**, is the Dean of Education at the Shrub Oak International School. Dr. Zager has distinguished herself nationally and internationally as a leading pioneer in the field of autism. She has consulted with school districts across the US to develop high quality educational programs for students with autism, founded one of the nation's first college support programs for students with autism, served as president of the International Council for Exceptional Children's Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities, and has over 30 years of experience directing graduate and post-graduate programs to train school personnel in autism. She has worked with students with autism and related learning differences from the early childhood level through postsecondary education as a special education teacher, school administrator, teacher trainer, researcher, and advocate.

Dr. Zager has devoted her career to teaching students with significant disabilities, preparation of school-based professionals, and research and development in autism. Her history of service and leadership at the regional and national levels includes serving as President of the Northeastern Educational Research Association and President of the New York State Council for Exceptional Children, as well as on several professional boards of directors. She has served on editorial boards of national and international educational journals, and was founding editor of *Focus on Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities*, currently one of the most widely read autism journals in the U.S. In addition, she has been editor of *The Educational Researcher*. Awards received include the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Furman Fellowship, Leo Doherty Educational Research Service Award, New York City's Department of Education District 75 Service in Leadership Award, and the Thomas Donlon Award for Educational Leadership and Mentoring from the Northeastern Educational Research Association.

Dr. Zager received her BS in Special Education/Psychology from Boston University, MS in Education from Boston University, and PhD in Educational Psychology/Educational Research from Hofstra University. The fourth edition of her text, *Autism Spectrum Disorders: Identification, Education, and Treatment* was published in 2017 by Routledge/Taylor & Francis. She was senior editor on the text, *Educating Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders: Research-Based Principles and Practices* with Michael Wehmeyer and Richard Simpson, published by Routledge/Taylor & Francis, and senior author on *Educating College Students with Autism*, with Carol Alpern and Barbara McKeon. She and Michael Wehmeyer are currently writing *Teaching Adolescents and*

*Young Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder: Curriculum Planning and Strategies* for Routledge/Taylor & Francis.

Dr. Zager has gained national recognition for her work in transition to adulthood and employment for students with autism. She has presented over 300 papers, keynote addresses, and workshops across the U.S; and has authored numerous books, chapters, and research papers on topics related to the education of students with autism spectrum disorders.