



## **Conference for direct support professionals set May 1**

4:46 p.m., April 4, 2008--Delaware's third annual Conference for Direct Support Professionals (DSPs), coordinated by the Center for Disabilities Studies at UD, will be held Thursday, May 1, at the Sheraton Hotel in Dover.

The conference is designed to highlight the valued role DSPs play in supporting people with disabilities and to provide DSPs with networking opportunities and skill development. The theme of this year's conference is "Feeling Good About Yourself and Your Work."

DSPs provides training, support and assistance to people with disabilities. Five DSPs will be honored at the conference for making outstanding contributions to the disability community. These exceptional DSPs will be selected from more than 45 nominations submitted to the awards committee.

Conference attendees may choose to attend two of a dozen workshops that focus on personal and professional development. Among the sessions offered are those that provide opportunities to explore methods to foster effective communication and manage conflicts, discover how to relieve stress and balance the demands of work and personal life and learn the principles of personal financial management.

Timothy Quinn, executive director of the Arc Northern Chesapeake region in Maryland, will present the keynote session.

The conference fee is \$25, and registration is open through Tuesday, April 22.

For more information, contact Nancy Freedman at the Center for Disabilities Studies at (302) 831-8103 or e-mail [nancyf@udel.edu].

The event is sponsored by the Center for Disabilities Studies, Delaware Division of Developmental Disabilities Services, Delaware Developmental Disabilities Council and Delaware Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health.