The Learnability Project was founded in 1985 by Judith A. Gierut, Professor Emerita of Speech and Hearing Sciences, Indiana University. Through funding from the National Institutes of Health, the project served as a test site in evaluation of the efficacy of clinical treatment for preschool children with functional (nonorganic) phonological disorders. Children who enrolled contributed longitudinal descriptive phonological samples for linguistic analysis. They also received clinical treatment, designed as single-subject experiments, to establish the optimal teaching conditions to promote phonological learning. Experimental studies were based on the triangulation of theoretical models of linguistics, psycholinguistics, and speech-language pathology, with the aim of bridging theory with application and science with best practices. The Gierut / Learnability Project collections accord with the data-sharing plan of the National Institutes of Health and are intended for broad use by scientists, clinicians, and students interested in language and learning.

Content Statement
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I’d like to share a recent example of how an IU faculty member used IUScholarWorks to share research materials from a 30-year, NIH-funded research project online. Take a look at the Learnability Project archive. These collections, created by Judith A. Gierut, Professor Emerita of Speech and Hearing and founder of the Learnability Project, include working papers, data sets, and journal articles from 1980-2015. Professor Gierut worked closely with IUScholarWorks staff to address issues of metadata, digital preservation, and copyright before depositing her materials. Now that the project is archived in IUScholarWorks, future scholars will be able to access to this important research, and Professor Gierut can rest assured that her life’s work will be preserved for years to come. For more information, read our news item on the Libraries’ website.