

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Mary Childers, author of *Welfare Brat: A Memoir*.

At last year's VEOP conference Dr. Mary Childers presented a workshop called "Welfare Brat to College: Reading for Self-Awareness". Mary read briefly from her memoir *Welfare Brat* and then took the audience through an abbreviated version of a workshop for potential and current first-generation college students. The response was outstanding. It was recommended we have her speak to all of VEOP. She has graciously said yes and will be this year's Keynote Speaker.

Dr. Mary Childers is Dartmouth College Ombudsperson and a higher education consultant. She received her undergraduate degree from the State University of New York at Albany and her Ph.D. in English from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

Mary has taught at a number of institutions, but has worked primarily as an administrator in higher education. She was Associate Director of the Women in the Curriculum Project at the University of Maine at Orono and at Dartmouth College she has served as director of the Women's Resource Center, director of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action and director of Capital Giving. At Brandeis University she was Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences and Senior Advisor to the Provost for academic personnel.

Mary is the author of *Welfare Brat: A Memoir*; she has published articles on English literature and a variety of equity issues, including Title IX, diversity, and curriculum transformation.