



**NEWS**

*From Harcourt Assessment, Inc.*

Contact:  
Mark Slitt  
210.339.5399

FOR RELEASE: Tuesday, March 2, 2004

**HARCOURT ASSESSMENT CONVENES NEW  
RESEARCH ADVISORY BOARD**

SAN ANTONIO – Harcourt Assessment, Inc., the nation’s leading test publisher, announced today that it recently convened the Harcourt Research Advisory Board for the first time. The board is a gold-ribbon panel of academic and professional experts in the fields of applied research and psychometrics that will help Harcourt Assessment advance the state of the art in educational and psychological testing.

“We are very pleased to have this panel of distinguished scholars advising us on the latest research methodologies and best practices in psychometrics and assessment,” said John Olson, Harcourt’s vice president of psychometrics and research services. “Their professional expertise and commitment to ongoing research will be of tremendous value to Harcourt and the entire education industry.”

Olson added, “We plan to build on this outstanding pool of talent to supplement the knowledge and expertise of our own psychometricians and educational researchers. This will enable us to become a recognized center for excellence and ensure that we remain at the vanguard of the testing industry.”

The members of the Harcourt Research Advisory Board are:

- Richard Duran, Ph.D., University of California - Santa Barbara
- Ronald Hambleton, Ph.D., University of Massachusetts - Amherst
- Robert Linn, Ph.D., University of Colorado - Boulder
- Martha Thurlow, Ph.D., University of Minnesota
- Mark Wilson, Ph.D., University of California - Berkeley

-- more --

## **Harcourt Assessment Convenes New Research Advisory Board**

March 2, 2004

Page 2

Harcourt Assessment, Inc., is a leading provider of high-quality assessment instruments and testing programs. Its educational products include the Stanford Achievement Test series and the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test<sup>®</sup>. Under the PsychCorp<sup>™</sup> brand, it also publishes a wide variety of clinical products, such as the Wechsler<sup>®</sup> family of psychological tests and the CELF<sup>®</sup> family of speech and language tests.

Through the development of custom statewide educational testing programs, Harcourt is helping more than 20 states meet the accountability requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act.

The company is affiliated with the Harcourt book publishing companies, and together they form the global education brand of Reed Elsevier Group plc (NYSE: RUK and ENL) -- a world-leading publisher and information provider operating in the science and medical, legal, education and business-to-business industry sectors.

###