GREENVILLE, SC - October 22, 2012 - The Riley Institute at Furman and South Carolina Future Minds announced the winner of the second annual Dick and Tunky Riley WhatWorksSCsm Award for Excellence. The recipient of the award is Clemson University Reading Recovery Training Center. It was presented Wednesday, Oct. 17 at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History in Columbia.

Photo above: Don Gordon, Executive Director, Riley Institute; C.C. Bates, Director, Reading Recovery Training Center at Clemson University; Beth Wingard, BB&T South Carolina; Trip DuBard, Executive Director, South Carolina Future Minds; and Rose Sheheen, South Carolina State Board of Education.

Clemson University Reading Recovery Training Center received a $10,000 grant
sponsored by BB&T for enhancing the program or consulting with other schools, districts, and organizations interested in modeling Clemson’s program. Finalists Bridges to a Brighter Future (serving Greenville County Schools) and Teacher Cadet Program, Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention and Advancement (CERRA, serving students statewide) received $1,000 prizes from the South Carolina State Board of Education and the Riley Institute at Furman.

The award highlights outstanding educational initiatives throughout the state, and is presented in conjunction with the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce and the South Carolina State Board of Education. Candidates were selected from more than 50 entries in the Riley Institute’s WhatWorksSCsm clearinghouse.

Nominations for the 2013 Dick and Tunky Riley WhatWorksSCsm Award are open. Nominations can be submitted at https://riley.furman.edu/education/clearinghouse-nominations.

For more information, contact Scott McPherson at the Riley Institute, 864-294-3368, or scott.mcpherson@furman.edu.

**About WWSCsm**

WhatWorksSCsm ties strategies for world-class schools in South Carolina to promising in-state initiatives. It includes policy papers written by state leaders, case studies and an evolving clearinghouse of initiatives that explore and exemplify key strategies for improving South Carolina’s public schools. WWSCsm continually seeks information about exemplary education initiatives and welcomes ongoing nominations for consideration for succeeding years’ awards.

Creation of WWSCsm was driven by “In Their Own Words: A Public Vision for Educational Excellence in South Carolina.” This study, the largest ever done in South Carolina and unique nationally, details key strategies for creating world-class schools in South Carolina. A product of 3,000 focus group hours with more than 800 stakeholders, the study was conducted by the Riley Institute in 2005 and 2006 with funding from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.