Rud Turnbull, a self-described student of the human condition in policy context, is a researcher, advocate, teacher, and consultant in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities. With his wife Ann, he co-founded and co-directed the Beach Center on Disabilities, the University of Kansas (1988-2014). At that university, he was appointed to the rank of Distinguished Professor in special education in 2007, having served as chairman of the department of special education (1980-3) and professor in that department (1980-2014) and as courtesy professor of law (1980-2008). A graduate of Kent School, Kent, Ct., he earned his BA from Johns Hopkins University, his Ll.B./J.D. from the University of Maryland, and his Ll.M. from Harvard Law School. He is author, co-author, or editor of over 300 books (first and subsequent editions), peer-reviewed articles and chapters, and monographs and technical reports. His research has addressed nearly 20 different issues of disability policy. He has been an expert witness before Congressional committees on nearly a dozen occasions. As professor of public law and government at the University of North Carolina (1969-80), he was the principal draftsman of the revised guardianship, special education, and mental-disability codes. He has been one of the principal draftsmen of two federal statutes, one on assistive technology and the other on special education, and was a draftsman of the original regulations implementing the Education of All Handicapped Children Act (P.L. 94-142, now named Individuals with Disabilities Education Act). Until January 7, 2009, he was the father of Jay Turnbull (died at age 41), who had an intellectual disability, autism, and emotional-behavioral challenges; he regards Jay as his principal inspiration for all of his work and credits his wife Ann and daughters Amy and Kate as guides for his life and work. He has served as chairman of the board of trustees of the Judge David L. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law; president, American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disability; chairman, American Bar Association Commission on Disability Law; secretary, The Arc of the United States; and treasurer, The Association for Persons with Severe Disabilities. Together with his wife Ann (also Distinguished Professor, University of Kansas), he has received juried peer recognition as one of 36 people who, in the 20th Century, “changed the course of history in mental retardation” and, during the 19th and 20th Century, as one of the leaders of the field of special education. He has received leadership and research awards from over 50 national and international organizations, including the highest awards available from The Arc of the United States, the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, the International Council for Exceptional Children, and the Prince Salman Center for Disability Research (Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia). He has taught or consulted in all but two states in the United States and in more than a dozen countries other than the United States. He retired from the University of Kansas in summer, 2014, and now lives in Pittsboro, NC. He is adjunct professor in the School of Education, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (appointed, spring, 2015).