



A Publication of the Council for Learning Disabilities December 2013

President's Message



Dear members of CLD,

Our 35th International Conference on Learning Disabilities in Austin, Texas, was outstanding! I extend my thanks to our committee co-chairs, **Judy Voress** and **Brian Bryant**, and to all volunteers (especially **Heather Haynes-Smith**) headed by **Local Arrangements Committee Chair Brittany Hott**, **Program Chair Steve Chamberlain**, **Vice-President Diane Bryant**, and **Executive Director Linda Nease**, for all their dedication and hard work. You all did a fantastic job, and I am very grateful to have been part of this conference. I wish to also thank the Board of Trustees, Past Presidents, and all of you who shared your work or attended the conference.

I wanted to share with you some of the exciting things that will be going on this coming year:

- We will be working on updating our mission and vision statements, external and internal goals, our Bylaws, and Best Practices documents.
- We will be launching our new website soon with the help of **Technology Committee Co-Chairs Lisa Morin** and **Joe Morgan**, and **Executive Director Linda Nease**.
- We will also be working on recruiting new members and continuing to attend to the needs of our current members. The Membership Committee is working hard on ways to attract new members. Soon, you should be receiving flyers from **Membership Chair Mary Beth Calhoon**.
- Our Professional Development Committee, led by **Chris Curran** and **Kat Pfannenstiel**, will be pro-

viding our members with new webinars during this academic year. Please support their efforts and attend the webinars.

- **Bertina Combes** has joined the Board of Trustees as the Standards and Ethics Committee Chair. Please welcome Bertina and join her committee to support her in achieving the tasks she is planning to accomplish this year.

I promised the editors of the *Forum* I was going to write a brief note to you, but I need to thank all of you for your support and friendship during this personal difficult time. CLD is a wonderful group, and I am thankful to be a member of this beautiful family.

Sincerely,
Silvana Watson
2013–2014 CLD President

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CLD 2013 Conference a Success



The Council for Learning Disabilities held its 35th International Conference in Austin, Texas, on October 24th and 25th. During the opening ceremonies, CLD President **Silvana Watson** presented Sharon Vaughn with the **J. Lee Wiederholt Distinguished Lecturer Award**. Dr. Vaughn delivered the keynote address, *Why Intensive Interventions Are Essential for Students with Learning Disabilities*. Afterwards, she joined a panel discussion with **Ed Kame'enui** and **Don Hammill**, discussing language and literacy development and other topics related to the field of LD.

Over the course of the two-day conference, approximately 200 attendees had the opportunity to attend a variety of sessions, focusing predominantly on evidence-based practice, teacher preparation, and higher education. A total of 117 presentations were made during the conference. This year's conference had *two* Interactive Paper Sessions, where attendees had the opportunity to view each other's work and network.

The annual CLD awards were also presented at different ceremonies throughout the conference. CLD was proud to announce three **CLD Teacher of the Year Award** winners. **Icaro Mardones** is a special education teacher at Lincoln High School in the Denver Public Schools system. He integrates technology, hands-on learning, and real-world applications in his social studies and science courses to infuse his lessons with purpose and relevance. **Lily Ailabouni** is a special education teacher in the St. Paul (MN) Public School District who recently completed her master's degree in differentiated instruction. Lily works in collaboration with parents, general education teachers,



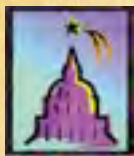
Panel discussion members **Dr. Edward Kame'enui**, **Dr. Don Hammill**, and **Dr. Sharon Vaughn**



Teachers of the Year Lily Ailabouni, Minnesota Chapter of CLD (MNCLD), **Icaro Mardones**, Colorado Chapter of CLD (CCLD), and **Nicole Park**, Texas Chapter of CLD



Dr. Sharon Vaughn (center) and the **Leadership Academy**. Front row: Maria Peterson, Theresa Garfield Dorel, Sara Flanagan, Sharon Vaughn, Catherine Howeter, Steve Ciullo, Yun-Ju Hsiao; Back Row: Jacquelyn Chovanes, Ben Matthews, Todd Johnson, Lisa Goran, Shaunita D. Strozier, Apryl Poch



35th International Conference



Eric Oslund, recipient of the **Outstanding Researcher Award**, presented by Dr. Deborah Reed



Mark Semmler receiving the **Floyd G. Hudson Service Award** from Dr. Colleen Reutebuch



Conference Planning Co-Chair **Brian Bryant** and President-Elect **Steve Chamberlain**

and other service providers to help increase student achievement, independence, and positive social interactions, and is currently part of the school's Equity Team. **Nicole Park** is a special educator at Lewisville ISD in Texas. She currently serves as a transition specialist and is a second-year doctoral student and Project TELL scholar focused on special education leadership and mild to moderate disabilities at the University of North Texas' College of Education.

This year's **Outstanding Research Award** was presented to **Eric Oslund** of the University

of Texas, who presented his paper (*Can Curriculum-Embedded Measures Predict Longitudinal Reading Outcomes in At-Risk Kindergartners?*) during the Must Reads session. Eric's dissertation examined the predictive validity of curriculum-embedded formative assessments for kindergarten students at risk for developing learning disabilities. He is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the Meadows Center for Preventing Educational Risk at the University of Texas at Austin.

The **Floyd G. Hudson Outstanding Service Award** was presented to **Mark Semmler**. This award is given for outstanding performance and commitment by a professional who works in the field of learning disabilities in a role outside of the classroom. Mark serves as a special education coordinator for the Cherry Creek School District in Denver, Colorado. Mark partners with district math leaders to provide professional development in diagnostic assessment and research-based instructional practices for teachers who work with students who struggle with mathematics. These educators are commended for their service to our students with learning disabilities, their families, and the community.

Finally, the **Must Reads** session, a CLD tradition, was presented by **Deborah Reed, Beverley Weiser, Brittany Hott, Kelli**



Dr. Sharon Vaughn, recipient of the **J. Lee Wiederholt Distinguished Lecturer Award**, with Dr. Silvana Watson, 2013 CLD President

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35th International Conference

(continued from page 3)

Cummings, Elizabeth Allen, and Keith Smolkowski. The articles highlighted in this session are considered essential to the field of learning disabilities. The Must Reads are published annually by *Learning Disabilities Quarterly*; see the November 2013 issue of LDQ for the 2012 Must Reads.

CLD would like to thank everyone who helped make the 2013 conference a success, especially the many wonderful presenters. Special thanks go to Conference Chairs **Judy Voress** and **Brian Bryant**, Program Chair **Steve Chamberlain**, and Local Arrangement Committee Members **Brittany Hott** (chair), **Heather Haynes-Smith**, **Min Kyung Kim**, **Maria Peterson**, **Colleen Reutebuch**, and **Katie Shipman** for their hard work and hospitality.



2013 Conference Sponsors

CLD would like to thank our sponsors, who help make this conference possible:

ANSERS Institute, Alice Neely Special Education Research and Service Institute at Texas Christian University

Dallas Baptist University, College of Education MED, EDD, and Certificate Programs

PRO-ED, Inc.

KidsCare Therapy

Old Dominion University

Southern Methodist University, Simmons School of Education & Human Development

Texas Chapter of CLD

Texas Woman's University, Department of Teacher Education The University of Texas at Austin, Department of Special Education, College of Education

University of Kansas, Center for Research on Learning

*For information on sponsorship opportunities for the 2014 CLD Conference in Philadelphia please contact **Heather Haynes-Smith** (hhaynessmith@twu.edu)*



CLD Past Presidents. Front Row: Ed Ellis, Caroline Kethley, Joe Boyle, Ann Ryan, Gerald Wallace; Back Row: Brian Bryant, Cari Dunn, Don Hammill, Peggy King-Sears, Virginia Brown, Monica Lambert, Joyce Rademacher, Diane Bryant, Julie Jochem Gartrell

Election for Vice President

Annual elections will be conducted electronically this year, and we will be voting for a candidate for the position of Vice President. Please watch your email for information and a secure link to enable each CLD member to cast his or her vote.

The Vice President serves a 1-year term and then automatically becomes President-Elect, President, and Past President, in that order. The Vice President serves in the President's place—and with his or her authority—in case of absence or disability. The Vice President assists in preparing the plan of operation and the annual CLD budget. **The term begins July 1, 2014.**

The CLD Nominations and Elections Committee and Board of Trustees are pleased to announce an outstanding candidate, and we are honored that this fine individual is willing to serve as a CLD leader. **Mary Beth Calhoon**, PhD, is an associate professor of special education at Lehigh University. She has been a member of CLD since 2008 and currently serves as the chair of the Membership Committee.



Her area of expertise focuses on adolescents (Grades 6–12) with reading and mathematics disabilities. She has written numerous articles and consulted with national and state agencies in the areas of literacy and mathematics, with an emphasis on curriculum development, peer tutoring, and curriculum-based measurement. Dr. Calhoon has been awarded multiple federal, state, and university grants and is the developer of a remedial reading program, *Reading Achievement Multi-Modular Program*, designed specifically for adolescents with reading difficulties.

Voting will occur between January 15 and February 1. If you have not received your email with a link for voting by January 15, please contact **Linda Nease (lneaseclld@aol.com or 913/491-1011).**

CLD Award Nominations

The Council for Learning Disabilities takes pride in the accomplishment of exceptional individuals in our field. Each year, CLD recognizes excellence in our field by honoring individuals for outstanding contributions with awards presented at our annual conference. Nominations for the following awards remain open throughout the year, and we encourage each of you to nominate someone who is deserving of such an award to help us honor those individuals who make important contributions to our community.

Leadership Academy

CLD is committed to building the leadership capacity of professionals who are entering the special education field. Each year, CLD selects a cohort of up to six emerging leaders who demonstrate potential and a passion for leadership in the service of students with learning disabilities as well as all other learners who struggle academically. For additional information, please contact **Brittany Hott** (brittany.hott@tamuc.edu).

Outstanding Teacher of the Year

This award recognizes outstanding teachers who are CLD members and who consistently provide quality instruction to students with learning disabilities. For additional information, please contact **Colleen Reutebuch** (ckreutebuch@austin.utexas.edu).

Floyd G. Hudson Service Award

This award is named in memory of Dr. Floyd G. Hudson, a professor at the University of Kansas who was a leader in the early years of CLD, and honors outstanding performance and commitment by a professional who works in the field of learning disabilities in a role outside of the classroom. For additional information, please contact **Colleen Reutebuch** (ckreutebuch@austin.utexas.edu).

Outstanding Researcher Award

This award recognizes an outstanding researcher who submits a manuscript-length paper about learning disabilities that is based on a doctoral dissertation completed within the last five years. For additional information, please contact **Deborah Reed** (dkreed@fccr.org).

Please watch our website (<http://www.cldinternational.org/Index.asp>) for updated information and forms!

Committee/Chapter Reports and News

Technology Committee

The Technology Committee has been busy over the past year! Committee members investigated and compared hosting options for CLD's website, then presented a summary of the possibilities and a recommendation to the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees over the summer. Shortly thereafter, work began on transitioning from CLD's current website to a new, updated website, which should be unveiled this winter. Visitors to the new site will find a more attractive, up-to-date look and better organization to expedite and simplify navigation. Our hope is to attract more potential members to our website. In addition to this exciting work, the committee has worked closely with the Professional Development Committee in facilitating their very informational webinars. Most recently, Technology Committee Co-Chair Joe Morgan researched and implemented the use of Google Apps for Non-Profits as a vehicle through which to streamline tasks involved with conference proposals, Leadership Academy applications, and membership referral submissions. This coming year, the committee looks forward to continuing the work of employing technology to support and advance the efforts of CLD. For further information, please contact either of the Technology Committee co-chairs: [Lisa Morin \(lmori001@odu.edu\)](mailto:lmori001@odu.edu) or [Joe Morgan \(joseph.morgan@me.com\)](mailto:joseph.morgan@me.com).

Maryland Chapter

The Maryland Chapter of CLD (MDCLD) is joining with the Maryland and Washington, DC, chapters of the Council for Exceptional Children to hold a conference on February 1st, 2014. For information, please contact [Roberta Strosnider \(rstrosnider@towson.edu\)](mailto:rstrosnider@towson.edu).

Texas Chapter

Texas CLD (TCLD) is contributing to the support of the Leadership Academy to foster collaborative networks with and among professionals who serve individuals with learning disabilities and others who experience challenges in learning. Toward this end, TCLD provided \$500 to offset costs for Leadership Academy Cohorts 2 and 3 members; Cohort 3 TCLD members received a \$100 honorarium to offset travel expenses. TCLD invited Leadership Academy cohort members from Texas to join their annual business meeting, and all new cohort members were acknowledged, receiving a TCLD paperweight as a token of appreciation for participation in the Leadership Academy. TCLD will continue this trend by offsetting expenses for the TCLD members selected for the next Leadership Academy cohort.



Membership Drive — *Bring in new members!* Receive hotel accommodations for 2014 CLD Conference 36th Annual Conference on Learning Disabilities October 1 & 2, 2014

OFFICIAL RULES

- **Duration:** October 24, 2013, to September 15, 2014
- Refer 5 full new members: receive 1 free night's accommodations for the 2014 CLD conference
- Refer 10 full new members: receive 2 free nights' accommodations for the 2014 CLD conference

RECRUITMENT CRITERIA

- Full membership
- Never been a member of CLD before or
- Have not been a member of CLD since 2010

The new member must:

- Fill in the "Referred by" box on the membership form

Exclusionary criteria:

- Retired and student membership rates are not eligible for participation
- The CLD organization is not responsible or liable for any errors made through the use of technology or lack of correct information made available to the membership committee. Only new member applicants can notify the membership committee regarding who referred them. **IF** you refer someone and he or she joins, please make sure the person has filled in the "Referred by" box on the application form.

The free nights can only be used in conjunction with the 2014 CLD conference dates, October 1 & 2, 2014. No other dates are eligible for this incentive.



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2014 Planning: Save the Date

36th Annual Conference on Learning Disabilities

October 2 & 3, 2014

Sonesta Hotel & Resort

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

*C*oncurrent skill-building sessions on research, interventions, teacher preparation, and policies for students with LD

*P*resident's awards reception and interactive poster session on evidence-based practices

*N*etworking opportunities with local, state, and national educators in LD

Join CLD in Philadelphia! Attend the conference!

Follow @CLDIntl

"Like" the Council for Learning Disabilities on Facebook

www.cldinternational.org

Council for Learning Disabilities Announces: Position Opening: LD Forum Editor

CLD is seeking applications for the position of editor of *LD Forum*, its official newsletter. The role of the editor involves preparing in a timely manner the newsletter content, which should:

- (a) inform the membership about business of the international organization and state chapters, and
- (b) offer brief articles related to the LD field. Applicants must be a member of CLD and maintain membership during the term as editor.

EDITOR RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Commit to a 3-year appointment, officially beginning **July 1, 2014**
2. Annually prepare 5 issues of *LD Forum*
3. Assist with recruiting and selecting an Assistant Editor and serve as a mentor for that person
4. Based on previous schedules for disseminating CLD business, confer with the CLD Executive Committee and the CLD committee chairs regarding possible content
5. Coordinate the Review Board, arrange for the peer review of articles submitted for consideration, and work with potential authors through the revision process
6. Plan, assemble, and edit information to be included in each issue
7. Send each issue to the Hammill Institute on Disabilities for typesetting on a preset schedule
8. Participate on the Communications Committee and as a non-voting member of the Board of Trustees, providing status reports as requested
9. Contribute to the mission of CLD by contributing to continuous improvement of *LD Forum* to meet the needs of our membership

Interested parties should submit a letter of interest that includes your qualifications for the position, a description of your plan for *LD Forum*, and a brief vita to: **Judy Voress, Communications Chair** (jvoress@hammill-institute.org).

Applications must be received by February 1, 2014.

CLD Information

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CLD on the Web

www.cldinternational.org

Visit the CLD website for all the latest updates! Read CLD's Annual Report, position papers, conference news, Infosheets, and much more.

Infosheets

Infosheets provide concise, current information about topics of interest to those in the field of learning disabilities. Current Infosheets are available for viewing and download at <http://www.cldinternational.org/Infosheets/Infosheets.asp>

CLD Publications Invite Authors to Submit Manuscripts

Learning Disability Quarterly

The flagship publication of CLD, LDQ is a nationally ranked journal. Author guidelines may be accessed at:

<http://www.cldinternational.org/Publications/LDQAuthors.asp>

Intervention in School and Clinic

ISC, a nationally ranked journal with a historical affiliation to CLD, posts author guidelines at:

<http://www.cldinternational.org/Publications/ISC.asp>

LD Forum

The official newsletter of CLD, *LD Forum* accepts manuscripts for its **Research to Practice** and **5 Ways to...** columns. Author guidelines are available at:

<http://www.cldinternational.org/Articles/RTP-5.pdf>

Infosheets

Research summaries on current, important topics, Infosheets are aligned with CLD's tradition of translating research into practice to make it accessible and useful to practitioners. Author guidelines may be accessed at:

<http://www.cldinternational.org/Infosheets/Infosheets.asp>