

President's Message



Dear Members of CLD:

What an exciting time the 34th International Conference on Learning Disabilities in Austin, Texas, was as you will see in the photos in this issue of *LD Forum*! From the slightly crisp October air, to the insightful presentation by our distinguished lecturer, to the cozy networking going on in every corner of the very comfortable Austin

Downtown Omni Hotel, Austin put on her finest for two days and nights of one of CLD's best conferences in recent history.

Although there will be other places within this issue for thanking various people, I would be remiss if I did not say publicly to all volunteers headed by Local Arrangements Committee chair **Kat Pfannenstiel** how much you were appreciated. The conference just could not have run so smoothly or been as much fun for those of us who participated or presented without your working behind the scenes, running errands, fixing tiny last-minute glitches. I also want to give a "big Texas shout out" (as my middle school students say) to those persons whose joyful faces represented our organization at the registration table. Thank you to our Board of Trustees members who volunteered to join the Local Arrangements Committee members and greet those who came to the table to pick up registration materials. I was especially appreciative of the enthusiastic Texas CLD representatives led by Texas CLD president **Colleen Reutebuch**. I must say I wore my flashing state of Texas pin with pride. Finally, there cannot be sufficient thanks for our two conference committee chairs, **Diane Bryant** and **Judy Voress**. I know the Board of Trustees joins me in a rousing standing ovation for their tireless work in making this conference one of our best. It pleases me to no end that they will continue as chairs for next year's conference, our 35th, which will again be in Austin on **October 24th and 25th, 2013**.

Several exciting pieces of business were decided at the recent conference. At our meeting of the Board, your trustees voted to extend *a special level of membership to our retired members* (defined as persons no longer employed by a university, school district, or consulting firm) or individuals wishing to join as retired members at a reduced cost. This addition to membership levels will require a change in our organization By-laws, which will be voted on by the general membership later this spring.

In other action, the board approved a new *Standing Committee on Professional Development*. This evolved from

a Committee on Special Development co-chaired by **Chris Curran** and Leadership Academy Cohort 2 member **Kat Pfannenstiel**. The committee members worked very hard during the 2011–2012 year to begin production of a webinar on bullying. Look for information on this webinar going "live" very soon. The new Standing Committee will also require a By-laws change, which will be voted on at the same time as the membership level addition.

In addition, candidates for two positions on our board for 2013 and beyond were presented at the general business meeting during the conference. Voting for secretary and vice president will also take place electronically during the voting window from January 15 to February 1. All candidates are strong, and whoever wins in the election, which will be announced later in spring 2013, will provide sound leadership for our organization going forward. We have an all-volunteer board who spend many hours throughout the year in service to your organization. It is enjoyable but serious work, and I congratulate those who choose to serve. As members of our organization, I hope you will choose to support our organization by voting in this important election. Look in this issue of *LD Forum* for candidate bios and voting information, and watch your email for specific instructions regarding electronic voting!

CLD has many areas on which to focus our efforts. I hope those of you who enjoyed our conference this fall will personally contact someone who attended but who is not yet a member (a number of presenters fell into that category). If members of your panel or cracker barrel or poster "team" enjoyed coming to our conference this year, which is what most indicated on their

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34th International Conference on Learning Disabilities

On October 10th and 11th, the Council for Learning Disabilities held its 34th International Conference in Austin, Texas. On Wednesday, **CLD President Caroline Kethley** presented **Steve Graham** with the **J. Lee Wiederholt Distinguished Lecturer Award**. Dr. Graham delivered the keynote address, Evidence-based Practices for Teaching Writing to Students with Learning Disabilities. Following the keynote, conference attendees were able to attend a variety of presentations centering on the 2012 conference theme, *Learning Disabilities: Looking Back and Looking Forward—Using What We Know to Create a Blueprint for the Future*.



Steve Graham

A variety of presentations on research interventions, teacher preparation, and policies focused on improving outcomes for students with LD followed the keynote address. Conference attendees had the opportunity to learn more about current research methodologies as well as measures to improve those methodologies, academic and behavioral interventions, and policy updates.

The **President's Reception and interactive poster session** included 52 presenters. Thursday morning sessions offered a variety of exciting presentations. **Deborah Reed, Caroline Kethley, Beverley Weiser, Ed Shapiro, and Kelli Cummings** presented **MUST READS**, a session highlighting articles published during the last year that are considered essential to the learning disabilities field. Each year the MUST READS are published in *Learning Disabilities Quarterly*. Be sure to check out the 2011 MUST READS in the November 2012 LDQ issue.

In addition to informative conference sessions, CLD was proud to announce the **CLD Teacher of the Year award winners: Arlene Vigil-Olech, Colorado Chapter; Kathy Steinmetz, Minnesota Chapter; and**

Margaret Delgado, Texas Chapter. Arlene, a special education teacher and coach, was described as a having a high energy level and drive, and an ability to “teach the most reluctant learner.” Like Arlene, Kathy is a leader and mentor in her department. Kathy chairs the Parent Involvement Committee. Margaret serves as a reading intervention specialist who is also highly involved in her community through her volunteer work on behalf of Special Olympics. We commend these educators for their service to our students with LD, their families, and the community.

Pati Montgomery and Melody Ilk, Colorado CLD Chapter, were honored with the **Floyd G. Hudson Award**. 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. An elementary school principal, Pati was the first in her district to bring scientifically based reading strategies into practice. Melody, a literacy coordinator, works diligently to develop high quality literacy professional development programs. Both Pati and Melody have worked collaboratively to significantly decrease the number of students’ experiencing reading failure.

CLD wishes to thank **Diane Pedrotty Bryant and Judy Voress**, who served as conference chairs, and the members of the Texas Local Arrangement Committee—**Kathleen Pfannenstiel, Chair; Heather Haynes; Mikyung Kim; and Colleen Reutebuch**—for their hard work and hospitality.



Teacher of the Year Award winners Kathy Steinmetz, Margaret Delgado, and Arlene Vigil-Olech

34th International Conference on Learning Disabilities



Past Presidents: Front row, left to right: Cari Dunn, Julie Jochum Gartrell, Monica Lambert, Don Hammill, Gerald Wallace, Diane Bryant. Back row, left to right: Joe Boyle, Peggy King-Sears, Ann Ryan, Chris Curran, Caroline Kethley, Brian Bryant



Floyd G. Hudson Award Winners Pati Montgomery and Melody Ilk with CLD President Caroline Kethley



Local Arrangements Committee members Mikyung Kim, Heather Hayes, Colleen Reutebuch, and Kathleen Hughes Pfannenstiel



Leadership Academy members Kathleen Hughes Pfannenstiel, Trisha Strickland, Patty Hughes, Dwannal McGahee, Catherine Wigent, Lisa Morin, Chad Rose, Beverly Weiser, Brittany Hott, Jugnu Agrawal, and Melissa Villanueva



2012 CLD Conference Sponsors

CLD wishes to thank our 2012 conference sponsors. Their support made the conference and our awards possible.

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

Sponsor for President's Reception

Dallas Baptist University, The College of Education MEd, EdD, and Certificate Programs

Sponsor for a Coffee Break

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Sponsor for J. Lee Wiederholt Distinguished Lecturer Award

Southern Methodist University, Simmons School of Education & Human Development

Sponsor for J. Lee Wiederholt Distinguished Lecturer Award

Texas Woman's University, Department of Teacher Education

Sponsor for 2012 Floyd G. Hudson Award

The University of Texas at Austin, Department of Special Education, College of Education

Thank you! Your generous support made the 2012 CLD Conference a great success! We look forward to an exciting 35th annual conference in Austin, Texas!

Upcoming CLD 2013 Elections

Annual elections will be conducted electronically this year, and we will be voting for candidates for the positions of Vice President and Secretary. Please watch your email for information and a secure link to enable each CLD member to cast his or her vote. The time window for 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 (lneasecl@aol.com or 913/491-1011). The CLD Nominations and Elections Committee and Board of Trustees are pleased to announce an outstanding slate of candidates, and we are honored that these fine individuals are willing to serve as CLD leaders.

Duties and Terms of Office: Vice President

The Vice-President serves a 1-year term and automatically succeeds to become President-Elect, President, and Past-President. The Vice-President serves in the President's place and with his/her authority in case of absence or disability. The Vice-President assists in preparing the plan of operation and the annual CLD budget. Term begins July 1, 2013.

Candidates

Diane Bryant, PhD

I am a professor of special education at The University of Texas at Austin, a Fellow in the Audrey Rogers Myers Centennial Professorship in Education, and project director for the Mathematics Institute for Learning Disabilities and Difficulties in The Meadows Center for Preventing Educational Risk. Currently, I serve as the principal investigator on an algebra-readiness intervention grant from the Institute of Education Sciences and as co-editor of the journal *Learning Disability Quarterly*.

I have been an active member in CLD for many years, having served in leadership positions at both the state chapter and national levels. My service at the national level includes president of the organization and chair of the Leadership Development and Research committees. I have been involved in CLD conferences as a presenter and now as the co-chair of the retooled Conference Committee. Inspired by the success of the newly formed Leadership Academy, which supports early career professionals, and the exciting work of the new Professional Development Committee, I am seeking election as vice president. I believe there is much work to be done to promote the organization and would like to be a part of this to help make a further contribution, along with my colleagues, to CLD.



Tandra Tyler-Wood, PhD

I am a professor in the Department of Learning Technologies at the University of North Texas. I have coordinated budgets for college departments and six large federal grants with budgets of more than



\$1 million. After serving as parliamentarian for three years, I would like to serve as vice president of the Council for Learning Disabilities.

I strongly support CLD's recent initiatives to get our message out to schools, teacher training institutions, and the general public. We are providing expertise on critical topics, such as bullying, through our webinars. I would like to see our organization explore other opportunities for using technology to spread our message. I believe that the future of our organization rests with our younger members. CLD should provide a home where our younger generation can receive the mentoring and career support they need to become the future leaders of not just CLD but of a universal learning community. I strongly support our recent initiatives to provide mentors for younger members and believe the program should be continued and expanded. I am asking you as a member of CLD to vote for me and assist in fulfilling the vision to increase our national impact and support our members in their career path.

Duties and Terms of Office: Secretary

The Secretary serves a 2-year term. The Secretary is a member of the Executive Committee and is responsible for the preparation, maintenance, and distribution of records of the Annual Business, Board of Trustees, and Special and Executive Committee meetings, including all reports filed. Term runs July 1, 2013, to June 30, 2015.

Candidates

Kathleen Pfannenstiel, PhD

I am a project manager at The University of Texas, Meadows Center for Preventing Educational Risks. In this role I work with schools to implement RtI in the area of mathematics. Previously, I was a special educator, working with students from elementary through high school. My passions include advocating for students, parents, and educators in the special education field. I believe that organizations like CLD are vital to the special education field.

I have been a member of CLD for the last five years and have begun to be very active in the organization. I was selected for the inaugural Leadership Academy in 2010–2011. The first cohort of Leadership Academy members developed a plan and proposed a new ad hoc Professional Development committee. I currently serve as the co-chair of that committee. In addition to this role, I also served as part of the Local Arrangements Committee for two years. In 2010–2011, I was the publicity chair. This last year, I was the chair of the Local Arrangements Committee and was an asset to the smooth running of the conference. I am excited to take on a more active role in the CLD organization and utilize my leadership skills.



(continued on next page)

Rebecca Shankland, PhD

I am an assistant professor in the Department of Reading Education and Special Education at Appalachian State University, where I teach courses in reading and writing strategies, developing inclusive learning communities, and action research. I also supervise student teachers and interns as they implement research-based practices in their classrooms. I have taught at all grade levels in both general and special education in urban, suburban,



and rural schools. My research interests include co-teaching, content literacy instruction, teacher preparation, and implementation of research-validated instructional strategies.

I am the current CLD secretary and have served on the Membership Committee and the Leadership Development Committee. I have reviewed conference proposals for the 2012 conference, presented at the conference in 2011, and volunteered at several earlier conferences. I look forward to continuing to serve CLD members as the special education field faces challenges related to legislation, accountability, and implementation of practice.



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

2013 Outstanding Researcher Award

To promote and recognize research, CLD annually presents an award for an outstanding manuscript-length paper on learning disabilities based on a doctoral dissertation completed within the last five years. The submission must not be under consideration for another award. Six copies of the APA-style paper (maximum 35 pages in length) should be submitted to:

Dr. Deborah K. Reed
The Council for Learning Disabilities

Research Committee
Florida Center for Reading Research
2010 Levy Ave., Suite 100
Tallahassee, FL 32310

For additional information, contact **Deborah K. Reed** (dkreed@fcr.org).

Submission Deadline: May 1, 2013

Call for Applications: LD Forum Assistant Editor

Are you a doctoral student interested in learning more about CLD? Would you like to know more about CLD's publications? Would you like to gain experience in the peer review process? If so, please consider applying to be an Assistant Editor for *LD Forum*. The 18-month position begins on January 1, 2013, and

ends July 31, 2014. The position involves a series of opportunities to assist the editor with nine bimonthly publications. Applicants should send a letter of interest and curriculum vita to: **Cathy Newman Thomas** (thomascat@missouri.edu) and **Brittany Hott** (brittany.hott@tamus.edu).

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post-conference survey, give them the nudge to join. In addition, you can contact our Membership Chair, **Mary Beth Calhoon** (mbc310@lehigh.edu), to ask how you can help in her efforts to recruit and retain members.

Also, our Research Committee, chaired by **Deborah Reed** (dkreed@fcr.org) is soon going to be soliciting manuscript-length versions of outstanding dissertations for the Outstanding Researcher Award for 2013. If you or a colleague has doctoral students or knows an early career researcher who should submit a paper for this award, please encourage her or him to submit. The awardee receives a stipend, is recognized at the annual con-

ference, presents her or his paper during the Must Reads session, and has the opportunity to have the paper published in LDQ. It is quite an honor, as previous winners will attest.

I feel quite privileged to serve CLD this year as president. I encourage you to contact me (ckethley@smu.edu) or any board member with your ideas and/or your interests in getting involved in leadership or in any of the national activities of CLD.

With greatest regards,

Caroline I. Kethley
2012–2013 CLD President

Committee/Chapter Reports and News

California Chapter

California CLD will again co-sponsor the General Education/Special Education Conference on Autism, Inclusive Education and Evidence-Based Best Practices. This year's date is April 26th through the 27th, 2013, at the Embassy Suites in Brea, California. For more information members can email **Belinda Karge** (bkarge@fullerton.edu).

2012–2013 Chapter Presidents

CLD wishes to thank our chapter presidents for their service! Please contact your local chapter president for more information about your local chapter and to get involved.

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Virginia

Sharon Blatz

James Madison University
blatzsl@jmu.edu

Membership Committee

- **Retirees**, if you (or someone you know) enjoyed involvement with Council for Learning Disabilities in your professional life, please consider joining at the “**new**” **\$60 retiree rate**. There is no better way to support an organization that works on behalf of persons with learning disabilities than to maintain a personal presence. Further, consider joining the family of CLD next October 24th and 25th in downtown Austin, Texas, for our next conference. Come early and stay late. Any questions, contact **David Majsterek**, CLD treasurer [retired] via email (ibdmajsterek@hotmail.com).

Professional Development Special Committee

This year, we continue our second year of work as a special committee of CLD, addressing development and provision of web-based professional development offerings, including webinars. Our committee worked actively throughout last year to collaboratively develop a process for planning and delivering webinars. Our pilot webinar, ***Bullying and Students with Learning Disabilities***, was presented by Chad Rose in July 2012. The feedback shared from our pilot attendees was very supportive of our endeavors and has assisted us in fine-tuning our future webinars.

We are excited to continue our work in 2013 with a series of three webinars. Please stay tuned for additional details. Registration, webinar information, and a schedule of upcoming webinars will be disseminated through the CLD website and via email to CLD members. We welcome additional members, as well as ideas for professional development webinars and resources. Among the committee members are individuals from CLD's first Leadership Academy: Jeannine Bagnall, Brittany Hott, Chad Rose, Beverly Weiser, and Kathleen Hughes Pfannenstiel, along with Jugnu Agrawal (CLD Leadership Academy 2), Joe Morgan and Lisa Morin (CLD Technology Committee Co-Chairs), Judy Voress (CLD Communications Committee), Julie Jochum Gartrell, Silvana Watson, Monica Lambert, and Chris Curran. Please contact **Chris Curran** (christina.curran@uni.edu) or **Kat Hughes Pfannenstiel** (kat.hughes79@gmail.com), committee co-chairs, if you have an idea for a webinar, seek additional information, or would like to get involved.

Follow CLD on Twitter

<http://twitter.com/CLDIntl>

and

“Like” the CLD Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Council-for-Learning-Disabilities-International/196204000418174>

2012–2013 CLD Board of Trustees



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Editor's Note

This issue of *LD Forum* was edited by Assistant Editor Brittany Hott.

CLD Information Central

CLD Mission, Vision, & Goals

Mission Statement: The Council for Learning Disabilities (CLD) is an international organization that promotes evidence-based teaching, collaboration, research, leadership, and advocacy. CLD is composed of professionals who represent diverse disciplines and are committed to enhancing the education and quality of life for individuals with learning disabilities and others who experience challenges in learning.

Vision Statement: Our vision is to include all educators, researchers, administrators, and support personnel to improve the education and quality of life for individuals with learning disabilities and others who experience challenges in learning.

External Goals

1. Promote the use and monitoring of evidence-based interventions for individuals with learning disabilities (LD) and others who experience challenges in learning.
2. Foster collaborative networks with and among professionals who serve individuals with LD and others who experience challenges in learning.
3. Expand our audience to educators, researchers, administrators, and support personnel.
4. Promote high-quality research of importance to individuals with LD and persons who experience challenges in learning.
5. Support leadership development among professionals who serve individuals with LD and others who experience challenges in learning.
6. Advocate for an educational system that respects, supports, and values individual differences.

Internal Goals

1. Ensure efficient, accountable, responsive governance to achieve the CLD mission.
2. Mentor future CLD leaders.
3. Maintain sound fiscal planning and practice.
4. Recruit and retain CLD members.
5. Increase the diversity of our organization.

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.

Convenient E-Access to ISC and LDQ

- You can access your complimentary members-only subscription to *Intervention in School and Clinic* through the CLD website. Articles are searchable by keyword, author, or title and are indexed back to 1998. Simply log-in through our Members' Only portal(<https://www.cldinternational.org/Login/Login.asp>) and then click on the link provided.
- *Learning Disability Quarterly* online access for CLD members will be available later this year.

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

Contact Information

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Overland Park, KS 66210
phone: 913-491-1011 • fax: 913-491-1012
Executive Director: Linda Nease

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