

## President's Message



**Becky Davis**

Hello and welcome to the fall 2013 edition of *Communiqué*. I think that you will find it full of interesting and pertinent material contributed by our division members.

School is back in session, and it is time to plan for upcoming fall events. Please mark your calendars and be prepared to join us for the **2013 CEDS Fall Conference**, which will be held on **October 17th–19th in Weehawken, New Jersey**, with the **New Jersey Association of Learning Consultants** co-hosting the event. Conference activities will be held at the Sheraton Lincoln Harbor Hotel, which invites participants to soak in the stunning New York City skyline views as they benefit from experts in the field of assessment.

The keynote speaker for the fall conference will be **Dr. Samuel Ortiz**, who has studied and published on topics that include assessment of culturally and linguistically diverse individuals, application of modern intelligence theory in testing through CHC Cross-Battery assessment methods, differentiating cultural and linguistic differences from disorders, and development of the CHC Culture-Language Matrix as a method for determining the primary influence of culture and language on test performance. He recently authored three chapters in *NASP's Best Practices IV* on using nondiscriminatory assessment, using contemporary intellectual assessment, and working with culturally and linguistically diverse children and families.

The fall conference will also include many outstanding sessions with presenters from across the region and the nation. In addition, the **National Certification of Educational Diagnosticians Board (NCED)** will administer the NCED exam on Friday, October 19th. Many thanks to **Becky Dieckmann** and **Heather Clowers** for their work "on the ground" preparing for the fall conference and for facilitating this opportunity to collaborate with our New Jersey colleagues.

Many of you know that the Council for Exceptional Children has initiated a search for an Executive Director to replace **Dr. Bruce Ramirez**, who retired on June 30, 2013. Dr. Ramirez' long tenure of service to CEC has been highly appreciated. CEDS wishes him the best as he moves into the next phase of his life. As your president, I participated in the management study that resulted in the development of a job description for the new Executive Director. It is our hope to have a new CEC Executive Director by the time that you are reading this newsletter.

You may also be interested to know that CEC and the Representative Assembly have continued to consider the **restructure of membership** through a tiered membership approach. The proposed restructure is a new approach that promises to meet the needs of our diverse CEC membership by offering membership opportunities based upon "value added" principles. To view drafts of the CEC membership structure, visit this website (<http://www.cec.sped.org/Membership/Membership-Draft-Tiered-Model>). You may also provide your feedback on the proposal at the site.

One of the goals that the CEDS Board established in our April meeting involved the improvement of our **CEDS website**. I am so pleased to announce that our new website is "up and running." Members can access the site through the CEC home page (<http://www.cec.sped.org>). Click on the "Membership" tab, where you will see a link for "Special Interest Divisions." Follow that link to our Council for Educational Diagnostic Services (CEDS) site. I think that you will be equally pleased with our new look. While you are there, be sure to download the registration form for the fall conference (or use the form included in this newsletter). Can't wait to see you at the CEDS fall conference!

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## Election Time: Call for Nominations for CEDS Board



**Kathie Good**  
Past President

The CEDS Board is seeking committed professionals to consider running for the positions of Vice President and Treasurer for a term beginning **July 1, 2014**.

### VICE PRESIDENT

The 2013 election brings an important decision for the membership of CEDS. During this election, the CEDS membership will be electing a new Vice President. Some refer to this office as the *president-elect*, which is also an accurate description.

The successful VP candidate will represent CEDS at headquarters and the CEC conference for two years as a member of the Program Advisory Committee (PAC) for planning the upcoming national conference. In conjunction with the summer PAC meeting, the VP also represents CEDS at the Leadership Conference, which takes place at headquarters the two days prior to the PAC meeting. The VP also has a vital role in the success of the CEDS conference by helping locate venues and plan the conference and program.

The VP serves a two-year term, which directly moves into a two-year term as president and then concludes in a two-year term as past-president/Representative Assembly member. The person nominated for this position should have the time throughout his or her term to commit to attendance at the CEDS and CEC conferences as well as in conference calls with the PAC and IDC.

### TREASURER

This position is a three-year term. The role of the treasurer is to act as the financial manager of the organization. From basic deposits and payment of bills to filing our organizational taxes, the treasurer is imperative to the success of CEDS. A candidate should plan on spending an average of 10 hours per month on CEDS work; although there will be busier times (during conference) and off times, 10 hours/month is a good average to expect. Taxes are simple to file, and there are many years of history to use as you file the required documents each fall.

*If you are personally interested, or wish to nominate an assessment professional for either of these important positions, please contact:*

**Kathie Good**  
Past President and Chair, Nominations/Elections Committee  
([kathie.good@enmu.edu](mailto:kathie.good@enmu.edu))  
by **January 31, 2014**.

#### Leann DiAndreth-Elkins, Editor

*Communiqué* is the official quarterly newsletter of the Council for Educational Diagnostic Services (CEDS), a division of the Council for Exceptional Children. Subscriptions are by membership to CEDS. Web postings are made when the newsletter is sent to members. The editor encourages responses, ideas, and inquiries. Submissions of previously unpublished material are welcome for consideration.

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#### Assessment for Effective Intervention:

The official quarterly research journal of CEDS is *Assessment for Effective Intervention*, provided through CEDS membership. The primary purpose of the journal is to publish empirically sound manuscripts that have implications for practitioners. Submissions are encouraged; guidelines are available at <http://aei.sagepub.com>

#### CEDS Website:

<http://community.cec.sped.org/CEDS/Home>  
Tracie Campbell, Webmaster  
Email: [tracie.campbell@hotmail.com](mailto:tracie.campbell@hotmail.com)

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## Membership Report

**Norm Geller**  
Membership Chair



*You think the only people who are people, are the people who look and think like you. But if you walk in the footsteps of a stranger, you'll learn things you never knew you never knew.*

— Pocahontas (Walt Disney Co.)

Wow, did Walt Disney get it!?! As I receive communications from CEDS members across the nation, I realize that each one of us has a unique perspective and quality that allows us to grow and change. With our focus on helping children grow and learn at their highest potential, we become more dependent upon each other to promote increased skills and knowledge development. To that end, we are encouraging collaboration and discussion through our newsletter and frequent email blast communications.

Recently, member Frank F. submitted the following questions:

*I am always trying to find out what states NCED is recognized in and to what extent can a person with NCED practice in each of these states?*

I have had other inquiries regarding assessment in autism and current practices. There seems to be a plethora of checklists, but the literature does not provide much direction regarding its utility.

I would love some responses to these questions, so we can enhance the role of the diagnostician. Feel free to email me your thoughts ([ngeller@mcvh-vcu.edu](mailto:ngeller@mcvh-vcu.edu))

At the annual CEC meeting, CEDS membership was reported to have decreased, but this is also the trend for all of CEC. CEDS was a bit more stark because there was a shift in NCED policy. We are in need of everyone to serve as ambassadors for CEDS and to help promote interest and membership. If you know someone who is not a member or on the fence regarding joining, feel free to forward this newsletter to them. Also, be mindful we may have a membership incentive in September or October, which usually saves you a little on your membership dues.

Until the next time ... reach out and walk in the shoes of Pocahontas.

## Call for Nominations: Member of the Year

**Teresa Oettinger Montani**

Nominations are being accepted for the CEDS 2013 Member of the Year Award, which is presented annually at the CEDS conference during the social hour. This award is intended to recognize and honor individuals within the CEDS membership who have enhanced the profession of educational diagnostician through their service to the division; efforts on a state or national level; and contributions to the field in the form of research, publications, or innovation.

**Nominations are due by September 16, 2013.**

Letters of nomination, including rationale, should be sent to: **Dr. Teresa Montani** via email ([montani@fdu.edu](mailto:montani@fdu.edu)) or by fax (201-692-2729).

## Professional Standards Report

**Teresa Oettinger Montani**  
Professional Standards Chair



- The Knowledge and Skills Subcommittee met online during the spring to continue the review of the CEC initial and advanced teacher preparation standards that have been tentatively approved by NCATE.
- The K&S Committee continued working to complete the reorganization of the standards by June 2013.
- The Committee is scheduled to meet on October 25–26 at CEC Headquarters in Arlington, Virginia.
- **Dr. Richard Mainzer**, Special Assistant to the Executive Director of CEC and Professionals Standards and Practice Chair, has resigned as of August 1, 2013. He will be greatly missed by the Knowledge and Skills Subcommittee, and we thank him for his dedication to CEC. At this time, his replacement has not been announced.

### Call for “What Works” Submissions to be published in the *CEDS Communiqué*

Practical research, strategies, and tips from the field of educational diagnostics and special education. Submissions are peer reviewed. Submit by **October 1, 2013**, to: **Janna Brendle, Research Chair** ([janna.brendle@ttu.edu](mailto:janna.brendle@ttu.edu)).

# CEDS Annual Conference Registration

## Cultivating Positive Assessment Results



**Weehawken, New Jersey • October 17–19, 2013**

**Pre-Registration Postmark Deadline: September 10, 2013**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as you wish it to appear on badge, if different: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (O): \_\_\_\_\_ (H): \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Prov.: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/PostalCode: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fees for full 3-day Conference includes ALL workshops, continental breakfasts, one lunch, and breaks).  
**NOTE:** Admittance to Workshops is on a first-come, first-serve basis.

**Pre-registration by Sept. 10, 2013, at a reduced rate**

Registration Fees	Pre-registration Postmarked by (9/10/13)	Postmarked After 9/10/13 or On-Site
CEDS Regular Member [ID #] _____ \$225	_____ \$250	
Non-Members	\$245 _____	\$260 _____
Student Rate*	\$150 _____	\$175 _____
Single-Day Registration [Circle day Thurs. Fri. Sat. ]	\$150 _____	\$175 _____

\*To receive student rate you must include a photocopy of your CEC student ID card.

**Group Pre-registration Information:**

- Groups of 3–4 are eligible to receive a pre-registration discount (reg. member \$202.50; nonmembers \$225).
- Groups of 5 or more are eligible to receive a pre-registration discount (reg. member \$180.00; nonmember \$200.00).
- Discount applies **ONLY** when all pre-registration forms arrive together as a packet with full payment or a purchase order.

**Payment Options:** (Please note—Credit cards are **NOT** a payment option)

Enclosed is a check payable to CEDS for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a Purchase Order # \_\_\_\_\_

**[Please indicate the name(s) of those registering together on the PO.]**

**SEND REGISTRATION FORMS AND PAYMENT TO: Kathie Good, ENMU, Station 25, Portales, NM 88130.  
 575-562-2603 ([kathie.good@enmu.edu](mailto:kathie.good@enmu.edu))**

**REFUNDS:** Refunds may be requested; however, a \$20.00 processing fee will be charged.  
**Refunds will NOT be honored after September 18, 2013.**

**Hotel:** Sheraton Lincoln Harbor (500 Harbor Blvd., Weehawken, NJ 07086)

**Telephone number:** 201-617-5600

For single (\$209.00), double (\$209.00). **This rate is in available until September 18, 2013, based on availability.**

*Please request the Council for Educational Diagnostic Services conference rate when you make the reservation.*