



Dear CLD Members,

CLD can be proud of many accomplishments during the 2014-2015 year. It was a year that saw strong leadership from committee chairs and steady, deliberate action taken to achieve proposed goals. It was a time where governing documents continued to be revised to better define the work of the organization and facilitate the important procedures for carrying out that work. It was also a time where the organization responded to expected barriers proactively. Some highlights from the year follow.

- In response to the observation that membership needed to increase in order for dues to fully cover the expenses of the organization, Heather Haynes Smith and Minyi Shih Dennis were appointed as Membership co-chairs and charged with strategically selecting a larger than usual committee that reflected the geographic diversity of our organization. The committee was also charged with creating a strategic plan that would grow membership 25% over a 3-year period. This plan is now being implemented by an active committee that has enthusiastically embraced the work laid out in the plan.
- Based on conversations during the EC and BOT meetings at the 2014 conference, two ideas for special committees arose.
 - Diane Bryant chaired the Marketing Committee and was charged with considering different ways the organization can increase its exposure to stakeholders and potential stakeholders. In addition, the committee was asked to consider what we do well and how we can better highlight those things in a systematic way. The committee was divided into four subcommittees, each proposing a variety of recommendations that are now being considered by the EC and BOT for implementation.
 - Deborah Reed chaired the Planning Documents Committee. This committee was charged with reviewing and revising the planning documents and procedures involved with those documents to make them more efficient and useful. Specifically, the committee made recommendations to combine the LRAP and CAIR forms, and to continue discussions about the organization-wide long range 3-year plan.

Special thanks to Diane and Deborah and their committees for doing such an outstanding job with this work.

- The BOT continued the work of establishing finance policy that utilizes a set amount of interest income for special projects proposed by CLD members. We can expect to see procedures for application and review during the coming year.
- The organization continued its work revising its governing documents to better reflect the work of the organization and to ensure consistency in the language of different documents. Internal and external goals of CLD were reviewed and revised at the 2014 conference. Special thanks to Peggy King-Sears for her ongoing work to revise and edit

the Best Practices Guidelines, a daunting task that she was uniquely qualified to do, and to Beth Calhoon for revising the By-Laws, Standing Rules, and Policies.

- CLD continued its recent run of successful conferences, once again earning a profit. Conference 2014 in Philadelphia provided a forum for members to showcase their work, network with other members, and engage in the ongoing discussions about our profession. Special thanks to our Conference Committee co-chairs Judy Voress and Cathy Thomas, and Joe Boyle, the Local Arrangements Committee Chair. We expect another great turnout at Conference 2015 in Las Vegas, and the work has already begun on Conference 2016 in San Antonio.
- So much of the work of CLD overlaps among different committees. For this reason, a common theme discussed among the EC and BOT this year was collaboration. One example of this was the collaboration of the Diversity Committee and the Professional Development Committee in developing webinars that focused on diversity and the field of LD. Under Diane's guidance, we can expect to see even greater collaboration among committees in the coming year.

Each committee made significant progress toward their goals during the year. This is work we can all be proud of and I want to thank everyone for your hard work. Because of the dedication, creativity, and enthusiasm of our membership, the future of CLD is bright. The commitment to leadership development through deliberate mentoring by experienced members is a great reason to engage in leadership positions with the organization. Each of you is a valuable member of CLD who has much to give. With the continued support of our membership, CLD will continue to thrive as a leader in the field of LD.

Thank you for a wonderful year!

Steve Chamberlain
CLD President, 2014-2015