



A Publication of the Council for Learning Disabilities

July 2023

President's Message



Dear CLD Colleagues,

It is with great gratitude that I close my cycle as president of the Council for Learning Disabilities and pass the torch to Dr. Margaret Flores. As I transition to my last year in the presidential line as past-president, I continue to reflect on the past few years and our collective work at CLD. Not only have we worked together through a pandemic and racial justice movements, but we also continue to shift our work to enhance equitable and accessible educational opportunities for individuals with disabilities and other marginalized communities. I am hopeful that as we continue to grow our organization, our research, teaching, and service remain intentional with this goal in mind. Reflexive and intentional work is especially needed as we support individuals with learning disabilities from marginalized communities. In the current state of politics and legislative efforts across the country, our work is more important than ever. Following our CLD mission, we foster collaboration and advocacy to support individuals with learning disabilities at local, state, and national levels. Reflect on this mission, and through your scholarly community, find ways to advocate, support one another, and fight for equitable and accessible education. In Denver, I look forward to continuing to build these communities and enhancing our shared work.

As we move forward toward our annual conference in Denver, I want to congratulate all accepted presenters. This year, we have a great slate of presentations, and we will feature amazing keynote speakers. Don't forget to [register](#) promptly and book your hotel for October 12–13, 2023, in Denver, Colorado. Our vice president, Dr. Sara Flanagan, and the Conference Planning Committee have organized a fantastic event. In addition to our research presentations, please encourage educators to join us in Denver, as we will have excellent research to practice presentations for practitioners.

Reflecting on our last few years together, first as a member, then Diversity Committee chair, and now entering my final year in the presidential line at CLD, I am very proud of the progress we have made together, from adopting a diversity statement, increasing focus on supporting marginalized communities through our research and practice, to our now annual keynote focusing on equity and social justice. As we proceed with this work, I expect we do so in a deeper and more intentional manner. As Lorgia García Peña states, “There is a greater goal that connects us all beyond our fields, departments, and individual responsibilities: justice and equity for all human beings; it is to recognize that learning is a communal practice, as Bell Hooks taught us, that learning in community is a practice of love.”

Con gratitud,

Dr. Brenda L. Barrio
CLD President

<i>In This Issue . . .</i>	
President's Message	1
A Message from the Outgoing Editor of <i>LD Forum</i> . . .	2
In Progress Research Roundtable Sessions	2
Ask CLD Research	2
Save the Date for the CLD 45th International Conference on Learning Disabilities	3
Diversity Statement.	3
Information & Communication Technology Committee Update.	4
CLD Mission & Vision	4

A Message from the Outgoing Editor of *LD Forum*

Dear Members of CLD,

For the past five years, it has been my great honor to serve CLD as editor of *LD Forum*. In this role, I have had the opportunity to get to know so many of the diverse and committed members and leaders of CLD and learned more about the important and intricate work being done to advance the mission of CLD.

During my tenure as editor, we have published various practitioner articles, disseminated important and critical updates from the field, revised the review board, and created model templates to facilitate communication during the peer-review process and to elicit information from the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees.

In closing, I wish to thank the Executive Committee, the Board of Trustees, Dr. Joe Morgan for his mentorship, and the Hammill Institute for their timely communications and reminders. I have no doubt the next editor will bring great guidance and oversight to *LD Forum*. I am forever grateful to have had this opportunity to serve as editor, and I look forward to continuing our work together to improve access and supports for individuals with LD.

With sincere gratitude,

Dr. Apryl Poch
Outgoing Editor, *LD Forum*

In Progress Research Roundtable Sessions

For the first time, the 2023 CLD conference will include a session for presenters to share their work that is “in progress.” These roundtable sessions will allow researchers (at any level) to share studies that are underway and/or under development. This is meant as an opportunity to receive feedback in a supportive, interactive setting that can inform our ongoing work.

Submissions for the “In Progress Roundtable” sessions are due **Friday, August 25, 2023**.

Proposals must include:

- A description of study focus, topic, rationale, etc.
- Specific research questions
- A description of the research design, sample (or proposed sample)
- Specific questions or items on which the presenter would like feedback from attendees

Please watch the CLD website for the full call for proposals in August.

Have a Question About Research?

Do you have a question about research that you would like to have answered by an experienced CLD researcher? Drop us an email at AskACLDResearcher@cldinternational.org, and we'll do our best to find answers for you. We welcome questions related to theory, methodology, and logistics, including the challenges of conducting research in schools. Your questions can be specific and technical, related to your

own project, or more generally seeking advice as you begin your career as a researcher. Once we receive your question, we will provide a response or connect you with someone who has expertise in that area. Additionally, we will prepare a quarterly summary of common questions and answers that will be published on our website and here in *LD Forum*.

SAVE THE DATE

45TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING DISABILITIES

October 12–13, 2023 • Denver, Colorado



The Sonesta Hotel in downtown Denver, Colorado, will host CLD. Known as the “Mile High City,” Denver is a fantastic location for the conference, and it offers a number of activities for conference attendees, including exploring museums and eating at award-winning restaurants. For more information on Denver, explore [Denver.org](https://denver.org); for more information on the Sonesta Hotel, including activities a short distance from it, see their [website](#).

Please direct questions regarding the conference to Dr. Sara Flanagan, program chair, at sara.flanagan@maine.edu.

Visit our [website](#) for additional conference updates.

Follow [@CLDIntl](#) on Twitter • “Like” CLD on Facebook

Diversity Statement

The Council for Learning Disabilities is committed to celebrating and enriching the field of special education through its diversity. As a group, we pursue the best practices, research, and policies that exemplify enhancing the lives of individuals with learning disabilities, including those from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds. As a diverse group of professionals in the field of special education, we believe that this work cannot be completed in a silo, but rather, it must be embedded within every part of what we do. As an organization, we are committed to welcoming, understanding, learning about, and honoring individual diversity.

Information & Communication Technology Committee Update

Under our new name, the Information & Communication Technology Committee (ICT) has been busy supporting our mission primarily by disseminating vital information from the Executive Committee, the Board of Trustees, and the various committees of the Council for Learning Disabilities (CLD). Our social media coordinator, Jennifer Kong, has been busy posting timely updates to our [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and our recently-linked Instagram platforms.

At our annual meeting, the committee chose to embark on an update to the CLD database of articles related to technology and individuals with learning disabilities from 2017–2023. In 2018, the former Technology Committee presented its findings from creating a research database of published interventions related to assistive and instructional technology for students with LD. Findings showed (a) a focus on technology-based supports for students with LD in literacy (reading/writing) is consistently predominant across time, and (b) interest in assistive and instructional technologies (AT/IT) to support students in math had been increasing in the last five years.

Since that time, the entire landscape of education was thrust into full technology implementation in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which became the impetus for increased availability and sophistication of technology. The impact of the pandemic has highlighted the importance of digital literacy and expertise for students and teachers. Therefore, it is critical to continue to update the previous research by including the additional studies related to AT/IT

conducted during/after the pandemic and to help inform decisions on what does/does not constitute an evidence-based practice for learners with LD. We will present our findings at the 45th International Conference in Denver on October 12–13, 2023.

Additionally, the ICT committee has been working with other CLD committees to keep our website content accurate and up to date. We aim to provide robust information to the general membership to enhance the education and quality of life for individuals with learning disabilities across the lifespan. We have worked with the Conference Committee to manage the conference proposal submission processes and with the Leadership Development Committee to manage the nomination processes for the Leadership Academy and the Leadership Institute. We have collaborated with the Liaison Committee to post news and legislative updates and have also been promoting the submission of annual awards for the Research Committee and the Affiliated and Organizational Partnerships Committee.

In the upcoming year, our focus will be on evaluating and improving the accessibility of all content on our website. We hope to engage as many CLD members as possible! If any of these projects sound compelling, we invite you to join us for our annual ICT Committee meeting at the conference in October. If you would like additional information, please email us at Fatmana.Deniz@CSUN.edu or our new ICT co-chair, Schuyler Beecher, at sbeecher@twu.edu.

Kathy B. Ewoldt, PhD, and Fatmana Deniz, PhD

CLD Mission & Vision

Mission Statement: The Council for Learning Disabilities (CLD), an international organization composed of professionals who represent diverse disciplines, is committed to enhancing the education and quality of life for individuals with learning disabilities across the life span. CLD accomplishes this by promoting and disseminating evidence-based research and practices related to the education of individuals with learn-

ing disabilities. In addition, CLD fosters (a) collaboration among professionals; (b) development of leaders in the field; and (c) advocacy for policies that support individuals with learning disabilities at local, state, and national levels.

Vision Statement: All individuals with learning disabilities are empowered to achieve their potential.