



A Publication of the Council for Learning Disabilities

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## President's Message



Dear CLD Colleagues,

I hope that you are enjoying your summer, and you have time to relax and enjoy some time for yourself! As we make the transition to new CLD leadership during this month, I want to thank you for helping with the following accomplishments. Thank you to all who were involved in updating our organization's Best Practices document so that now we have refined guidelines for awards and state chapters. You approved a new practitioner level of membership so that involvement and the benefits of CLD membership are more accessible to practitioners and our state chapters are better positioned to attract members. We transitioned to a new platform for conference proposals submission and review which streamlined that process. Thank you to everyone who learned a new way of doing things and provided feedback. With the approval of the Board of Trustees, we also embarked on a partnership with the Evidence Advocacy Center which will provide another avenue for support and dissemination of research to benefit individuals with learning disabilities. You can check that out [here](#).

The Conference Planning Committee is busy planning an exciting conference in Charlotte, North Carolina. We are privileged to have Dr. Douglas Fuchs and Dr. Lynn Fuchs, our J. Lee Wiederholt Distinguished Lecturers, open the conference on Thursday morning! It will be a wonderful learning opportunity, and I look forward to networking and sharing research with you all through Friday. Please let others know about our conference and encourage new folks to attend and learn more about CLD.

In closing, I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve as your president over the past year. This position introduced me to new experiences, organizations, and relationships. I am truly grateful. Welcome, Sara Flangan as our new president! I look forward to serving as past president with Sara and the rest of the Executive Committee over the next year (Apryl Poch, Alyson Collins, and Beverly Weiser). Thank you again for your involvement in CLD and your support over the past year. I wish you all continued success and professional growth!

Sincerely,

**Margaret M. Flores**  
2023–2024 CLD President

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2024

# COUNCIL FOR LEARNING DISABILITIES CONFERENCE

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## Updates From the Board

*LD Forum* would like to provide a few highlights from our latest Board of Trustees meeting.

- A new practitioner rate is now available to make CLD membership more accessible for practicing teachers. The rate is \$65 and can be found on our website. Help us recruit new members!  
<https://council-for-learning-disabilities.org/membership-application/>
- The Research Committee will host the “In Progress Research Roundtables” again for CLD’s annual conference. Keep your eyes open for an upcoming call.
- Announcing our new Information and Communication Technology Committee Co-Chair, Mikyung Shin.

- Announcing our new Membership Committee Co-Chair, Catharine Lory.
- Don’t forget to check your membership and renew if you need to. I know we are all very busy but it’s important to keep your membership up to date.
- Finally, we are all very excited about our upcoming conference and J. Lee Wiederholt Distinguished Lecturers Drs. Lynn and Douglas Fuchs. We hope to see you all there but be sure to take some time for yourselves this summer.

Cheers y’all!

## 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](mailto: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*.

## 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.

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## 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.