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# PIONEERS PRESS

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## Message from the President



Mike Thew, CEC-PD President 2015

The 2015 CEC Convention is now history and I hope all who attended had a good time. The weather was great, the sessions were good and it was certainly good to see everyone and catch up on what's happening in everyone's lives!

I want to say thank you very much to the Pioneers Executive Committee for spending the whole day on Thursday at the Convention to complete the work of the Division. Without your support and dedication to the PD, we would not be able show how viable we are to CEC members. I especially want to thank **Mary Ruth Coleman, Linda Marsal, Jamie Hopkins** and **Bill Bogdan** for organizing and presenting the PD Showcase this year. The presentation topic was an important and timely one dealing with our past, the present and what we need to do for the future. The PowerPoint presentation for the Showcase is available. If you would like a copy, just send me an email and I will forward it to you.

Secondly I want to thank all the committee chairs for, once again, completing tasks related to their committees. The PD once again authored the Courtesy Resolutions thanks to **Pam Gillet** and her committee members; **Michael Weinroth's** Honors and Awards Committee presented the

Romaine C. Mackie Leadership Award to Dr. Lyndal Bullock.....congratulations Lyndal!

**Jamie Hopkins** represents PD at the IDC and reported on IDC's subcommittee on Maltreatment of Students. Jamie also served as a Representative Assembly member for us. Membership Committee Chair, **Susan Fowler** organized the Pioneers Membership Table in the convention hall and recruited several new members!!! **Linda Marsal**, Coordinator, CEC PD Mentoring Program hosted the Mentor/Mentee recognition event and **Carol Eisenbise**, Treasurer, provided the PD with a new 2016 budget. **Parthenia Cogdell** represented the PD members on the Knowledge and Skills Subcommittee and I am glad to say the subcommittee is alive and well thanks to the support from Parthenia and many others. The newsletters you have been receiving are fantastic and we all want to thank **Lee Sherry** for his work in putting them together, his expertise is commendable. I also would be remiss if I did not thank **Nancy Riggin** for the great minutes of our meetings. This was Nancy's last meeting as Secretary and we want to say how much we appreciate her work as our Secretary! Finally, I want to thank **Hellen Bogie** for her years of service as our Treasurer. We missed her at the convention but wanted to recognize her work taking care of our finances.

The next event for the PD officers is the 2015 Leadership Institute asnSpecial Education Legislative Summit, July 12-15, 2015 in Alexandria, VA. Paul Zinni our CAN Coordinator will be able to represent us and Mary Ruth and I will be there also. It will be great to see Paul and let him know how much we appreciate having him "back in the saddle" again.

One final note to share is a comment made by a new member of the PD: The new member told me I was remiss in not telling her how prestigious a group the PIONEERS were and that she would be sitting at a meeting and dining with so many distinguished leaders of CEC.

See President's Message Page 2

I wanted to share her comment as it reminded me of how much each and every member of our Division has given to the field of Special Education and to CEC. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you on behalf of the students, the parents, the professionals and support personnel who have benefited from your service. Have a great summer and if you have any questions or comments, please send them my way!

Mike



## The Call for Proposals for CEC's 2016 Convention & Expo is Now Open!



On behalf of Douglas Cheney and Laura Receveur, Program Chairpersons, you are invited to submit a proposal. Session presentations occur Wednesday through Saturday of convention week and are selected from this Call. Please be sure to read the information contained in the [2016 Call for Proposals](#)—some important changes have been made.

**Submit your proposal** today for your opportunity to help create an exciting lineup up of sessions that help special educators meet their classroom challenges head-on and with the latest in evidence-based practices. **The deadline for submissions is June 22, 2015.**

Please let us know if you have any questions. You may contact us at [convproposals@cec.sped.org](mailto:convproposals@cec.sped.org) or during regular business hours (9 a.m.-5 p.m. ET) at **1-866-509-0218, ext. 422.**

[2016 Proposal Guidelines](#)

[Online Proposal Submission](#)

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## Pioneers Set Goals for 2015

### Goal 1: Communication

Continue to communicate with the PD members to keep them updated and involved through the use of our newsletter, the micro-website and other social media.

### Goal 2: Mentoring Program

Continue to support the CEC/PD Mentor Program. Consider/ investigate the possible expansion of the program.

### Goal 3: Fiscal Sustainability

Continue to recruit new members for the division!

### Goal 4: CEC Archives

Continue to support CEC by working on completing the inventory of the archives and to update the new materials added. Work on publishing the inventory on the PD micro-website.

# CEC 2016 Convention & Expo

## April 13-16, 2016

### St. Louis, Missouri

Get ready for the CEC 2016 Convention & Expo scheduled in St. Louis from April 13-16, 2016. You are sure to enjoy next year's event.

CEC15 was a smashing success! How did we do it? We put together a fabulous program and then YOU brought your energy and passion to make it all happen. Thank you!

We couldn't be more grateful to the 4,500 special educators who joined us in San Diego for the biggest, baddest professional development in 2015. If you couldn't make it (We missed you! Next year?), here are some highlights and thoughts your colleagues shared about the experience:

I just wanted to say thank you for the awesome time I had at CEC 2015. I got to meet many new people from all over the world and got to learn many new concepts that I will be taking back to my school. St. Louis 2016...I'm there! –Antonio S.

Thank you CEC and thank you San Diego!!! This is my second time attending the conference and it was awesome!! I really enjoyed the sessions, the people and the city! It was great!!! – Dinetta M.

The people and places were fantastic. I learned a lot and am looking forward to sharing the info with my fellow teachers. I look forward to going to St. Louis in 2016! – Shirley H.

Amazing conference in San Diego, CEC! – Linda B.

It was a great conference even to the very end. See you in 2016! – Denise T.

LOTS of connections, new friends & exciting ideas to work on!! – Anne S.

Yes, San Diego was just beautiful! Wonderful opportunities to network with educators from across the U.S., Canada and elsewhere. Next year, Meet Me in St. Louis! – Patti B.

Thank you to the city of San Diego, California CEC, the LAC, the amazing volunteers, CEC staff and others I may have missed. I had a wonderful week in this beautiful city and enjoyed many valuable learning and social opportunities at the convention....both during the day and during 'off hours'. I am going home with great memories and new or confirmed understandings to help me in my work. Thank you, again!! – Barbara M.



**COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN  
REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**Courtesy Resolution**

**Frederick J. Weintraub**

WHEREAS, Frederick J. Weintraub had a long and distinguished career as a public policy analyst, a strong advocate for special education, an architect of national special education public policy and early childhood intervention landmark legislation, and a consultant and advisor to state, provincial, and Federal governments concerning legislation and advocacy for infants and toddlers and children and youth with disabilities and gifts and talents;

WHEREAS, Fred Weintraub, began his work with the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) in 1967 as the Senior Administrator, Analytical Study of State Legislation and advanced his career within the Council becoming the Director of the State/Federal Information Clearing House for Exceptional Children, the Assistant Executive Director for Governmental Relations, and the Senior Director for Publications and Professional Standards;

WHEREAS, Fred Weintraub, working on behalf of the Council for Exceptional Children as the CEC Assistant Executive Director for Governmental Relations, was recognized as having a leading role in the development, passage, and implementation of the landmark Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975 (PL 94-142) which is now known as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA);

WHEREAS, Fred Weintraub played a significant role in the design and passage of - early childhood and gifted and talented transformational legislation that improved education and life opportunities for infants and toddlers and children and youth with exceptionalities, and their families;

WHEREAS, Fred Weintraub collaborated with the Council's divisions and the field on ethics, standards for professional preparation (knowledge and skills), and standards for professional practice as reflected in the widely known "Red Book", *What Every Special Educator Must Know: The International Standards for the Preparation and Certification of Special Education Teachers*;

WHEREAS, Fred Weintraub edited *Public Policy and the Education of Exceptional Children and Special Education in America: Its Legal and Governmental Foundations* and authored *The Special Education Guide for California School Administrators*;

WHEREAS, Fred Weintraub's foresight and leadership advanced and supported funding for the federal special education discretionary programs, including personnel preparation, research, innovation, technical assistance, and information dissemination, which contributed to the ongoing enhancement of educational advancements for infants and toddlers, children and youth with exceptionalities, and the professionals who serve them;

**COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN  
REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**Courtesy Resolution**

**Frederick J. Weintraub**

WHEREAS, Fred Weintraub's 46 year professional career was marked by strong beliefs in empowering students, educators, and families; advancing equal access to education for students with disabilities and gifts and talents; implementing the use of an individual education program; providing education in the least restrictive environment; utilizing non-discriminatory assessment; and in applying procedural safeguards for special education programming disputes;

WHEREAS, Fred Weintraub received the Council's most distinguished award, the J. E. Wallace Wallin Special Education Lifetime Achievement Award, for his lifelong contributions to the development and growth of the field of special education;

WHEREAS, in 2014, the Council changed the name of the organization's outstanding leadership award, naming it in honor of Frederick J. Weintraub's extensive leadership to the Council and to the field of special education;

WHEREAS, Fred Weintraub, after his retirement, continued as an advocate for children and youth with disabilities through his work as the Special Education Monitor and Special Advisor to the San Diego Unified School District, the Special Monitor for the Los Angeles Unified School District Special Education Modified Consent Decree, and the Co-Chair of the California Department of Education's Statewide Special Education Taskforce;

WHEREAS, Fred Weintraub advised and consulted with the Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE), the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children (TED), and the Higher education Consortium for Special Education (HECSE);

WHEREAS, Fred Weintraub, chaired the CASE *Design for the Future Report* (2005), which continues to serve as the framework for the strategic plan for the division;

**Now, therefore,**

**Be it resolved** that, the Council for Exceptional Children, at the Annual Meeting of the Council's Representative Assembly in San Diego, California, the 10<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2015, and on behalf of all 17 divisions of the Council duly recognize and honor Frederick J. Weintraub for his vision, lifetime leadership, dedication, and lasting contributions to public policy that positively impacted the development and expansion of special education and the articulation of professional standards to further the preparation and practice of all special educators, and to his influence at the state, provincial, and Federal levels that positively impacted the field of special education and resulted in the provision of appropriate education for infants and toddlers, children and youth with disabilities, and those with gifts and talents.

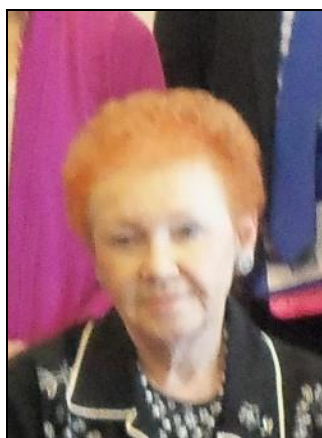
## CEC Supports Collaborative Effort to Continue the CEC-PD Mentor Program

Special thanks to the members of the Executive Board/Committee for spending a full day with CEC-PD helping achieve the Division's work for the year. We heard from CEC President, Jim Heiden and Alex Graham, Executive Director of CEC about an idea to help support the Mentor Program. President Heiden shared a proposal to have a new Mentor Program Steering Committee lead by two Pioneer Division Members. The other members of the steering committee would include a student representative, two faculty advisor representatives, two State/Provincial Unit representatives and the CEC Board Liaison being President Heiden.

CEC also committed to providing staff support for the Mentor Program by adding that support to the job description of the newly hired membership person, Camille Sanders. Also, next year CEC will purchase a software program that will facilitate the matching of Mentors and Mentees. After much discussion, the CEC-PD Executive Board agreed with this proposal. The board also thanked Dr. Pam Gillet and Dr. Linda Marsal for their excellent work and organization of the CEC-PD Mentor program since its inception in 2007. The board also approved the appointment of Jamie Hopkins and Michael Thew as the two PD representatives and leads for the Mentor Program beginning in July 2015.



Linda Marsal,



Pam Gillette

## CEC-PD Showcase 2015

### Showcase - "Bright Futures: Are We There Yet?"

This year's CEC-PD Showcase was presented by CEC-PD board members Linda Marsal, Mentor Program Chair, Mary Ruth Coleman President-Elect, Jamie Hopkins, Immediate Past President and Bill Bogdan, Past President.

There were 25 convention folks in attendance for the two hour presentation. The presenters reviewed the findings of the Bright Futures report from 1998 and led a discussion on the findings as compared to the current state of practice, identifying progress and remaining challenges.

This was followed by a presentation on the Leadership Skills needed by special educators of today and how they can be used with the challenges they are facing. The presentation was excellent and followed up by a presentation and small group discussion by Representative Assembly members. The outcome of the Showcase discussion and the outcomes of the RA discussions will be shared with CEC to help determine whether a new "Bright Futures" study needs to be completed to help today's special educators and CEC members.

Thanks to our CEC-PD presenters for all their time, effort and skills in providing a very positively received Showcase presentation.

Mike Thew



Council for  
Exceptional  
Children

**CEC Pioneers  
Division**

The voice and vision of special education

# CEC Pioneers at the 2015 Annual Convention and Expo San Diego, California



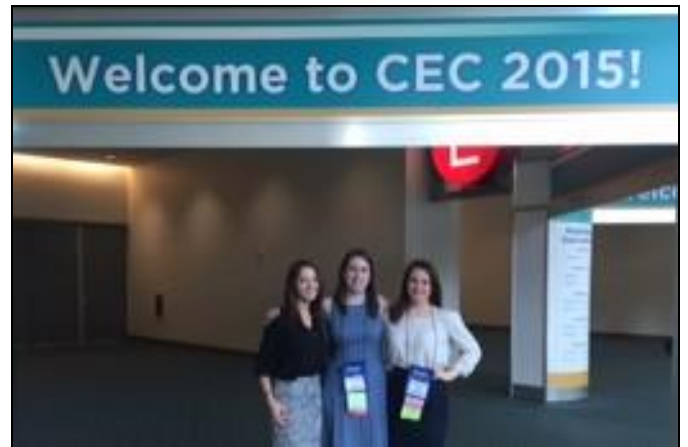
President Mike Thew passes the gavel to President Elect Mary Ruth Coleman at the Board meeting.



Linda Marsal, Mentoring Coordinator, with Mentors and Mentees at the Mentoring Social



Everybody smile! Members of the CEC-PD Board in a photo op.



Drexel University students in the Mentor Program - Rachel Abernethy, Angelique Giannascoli and Ashley Allan



Jamie Hopkins and Mike Thew



CEC President and CEC Pioneers member, Jim Heiden

# 2015 Representative Assembly Report

submitted by Michael Thew and Jamie Hopkins

This year's Representative Assembly focused on two issues of concern for CEC. The first issue involved the 1998 report, "Bright Futures – An Agenda to Achieve Quality Conditions for Teaching and Learning". Discussion groups facilitated by the CEC Board of Directors and CEC Past Presidents, reviewed the following questions:

- How would a current look at the conditions of teaching be useful to CEC and to the field?
- Identify three:
  - Societal trends influencing education
  - Educational trends influencing special education
  - Barriers to high-quality special education
  - Enablers that support high-quality special education programs

The second issue focused on CEC membership. Small group discussions were held regarding what CEC, divisions and other units can do to increase CEC's membership. Themes that arose from this discussion were advocacy, conferences, benefits of membership for professionals, accessibility to technology, universal access to bodies of knowledge, and provision of a valuable experience for the members that ensures satisfaction and will increase member engagement.

The results of both discussions will be tabulated and made available for CEC members. We will forward this information to all Pioneers members when it is received.

Executive Director, Alex Graham, reported that CEC is working to increase CEC membership and increasing revenues. To reduce expenses, some tasks and projects are being outsourced and CEC is operating with minimal staff. The tiered membership model implemented in July 2014 has seen an increase in members leaving the full membership to the basic membership. This has resulted in loss of revenue, but it is hoped that over time the overall number of members will increase to offset this change in membership level.

Reports from the CEC Board of Directors involved a bylaws workgroup that indicated that an attorney is reviewing CEC's bylaws to make sure they are in compliance with federal rules and regulations. A convention workgroup chaired by CEC Past President, Christy Chambers, is reviewing the purpose and processes involved in CEC's annual convention and expo. Conventions have become increasingly more expensive for the average convention attendee and our attendance over the last 10 years has gradually declined. This year's convention attendance was 5,457 with only 4500 paying their way to the convention. The workgroup is reviewing the content, format, timing, location, sponsorship, exhibits, technology and marketing.

Resolutions were also presented and approved at the RA honoring Fred Weintraub and Ken Wyatt, both widely recognized leaders in the field of special education.



Silver Strand Blvd.



San Diego: A great place for the 2015 CEC Convention & Expo



**COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN  
REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**Courtesy Resolution**

**Kenneth Emerson Wyatt**

WHEREAS, Dr. Kenneth Emerson Wyatt was a dedicated special education director, administrator with the U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW), teacher educator, and mentor who had a long distinguished career working on behalf of the education of children and youth with disabilities and preparing special education professionals;

WHEREAS, Dr. Wyatt survived polio and coped with the post-polio syndrome in later years in a most confident and constructive manner always remaining optimistic, exhibiting a positive attitude, showing a keen sense of humor, and serving as a positive and supportive role model;

WHEREAS, Dr. Wyatt received his doctorate in the field of special education from the University of Illinois-Champaign-Urbana;

WHEREAS, Dr. Wyatt was the Special Education Director, Eugene, Oregon; Chief, Special Learning Problems Branch of the Bureau of Special Education for the U. S. Office of Education, HEW; and was Professor Emeritus, Georgia State University, where he derived great pleasure from working with graduate students and teachers who dedicated their careers to working with the atypical student;

WHEREAS, Dr. Wyatt was responsible for initiating the first program in the southeastern United States that prepared teachers to work with students having physical challenges;

WHEREAS, Dr. Wyatt held many leadership positions during his career in the Council including President of the Georgia State Unit; Children's Advocacy Network (CAN) Coordinator for the Teacher Education Division (TED) and the Division for Orthopedic, Physical, and Health Handicaps (DOPHH) (currently the Division for Physical, Health, and Multiple Disabilities, DPHMD); Governing Board Member representing TED, CEC Board of Governors; and Governor-at-Large U.S. serving on the CEC Executive Committee;

WHEREAS, Dr. Wyatt served as President of the International Council for Exceptional Children (1979-1980) during a time of unprecedented executive leadership crises due to the sudden death of long-time Executive Director, William "Bill" Geer, where Dr. Wyatt will be remembered for his determination, administrative acumen, selflessness, and collaborative leadership with the Executive Committee, the CEC Board of Governors, and CEC headquarters staff in maintaining the daily operations of the association, preserving a high level of membership services, moving forward with a long-term organizational plan, and ensuring a successful transition to a new executive director;

WHEREAS, Dr. Wyatt had an abiding interest in the development of CEC in Canada and facilitated a formal and ongoing communication system between the Canadian Council for Exceptional Children and CEC governance which resulted in the passage of a new amendment to the



**COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN  
REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**Courtesy Resolution**

**Kenneth Emerson Wyatt**

CEC Bylaws permitting Canada to nominate and elect the position of Governor-at-Large Canada on the Executive Committee;

WHEREAS, Dr. Wyatt's career manifested itself in service, leadership, dedication, and knowledge as demonstrated through his other professional affiliations including the positions of President, Oregon Special Education Association; founding Board Member of the Oregon Education Association; President, Lane County, Oregon Mental Health Association; Board Member of the United Cerebral Palsy Association; and founding Board Member of the Pearl Buck Center, a special school devoted to offering children, youth, and adults with disabilities and their families appropriate education, services, and supports to achieve their individual goals;

WHEREAS, Dr. Wyatt contributed to numerous professional articles, books, monographs, and research projects;

WHEREAS, Dr. Wyatt received the Council for Exceptional Children's Outstanding Leadership Award for his distinguished service and many lasting contributions to the Council;

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Dr. Wyatt was an eternal optimist and fully committed to ensuring the vitality and longevity of the Council in advancing the education of children and youth with exceptionalities and strengthening the profession;

WHEREAS, after his retirement, Dr. Wyatt moved to Vancouver, British Columbia where he served as an expert resource volunteer advising local government in its planning for playgrounds and in removing physical barriers in existing playgrounds for children and youth with special physical needs;

**Now, therefore,**

**Be it resolved** that, the Council for Exceptional Children, during the Annual Meeting of the Council's Representative Assembly in San Diego, California, the 10th day of April, 2015, and on behalf of the Pioneers Division of the Council (CEC-PD), the Division for Physical, Health, and Multiple Disabilities (DPHMD), and the Georgia State CEC Unit convey deep appreciation and admiration for Dr. Kenneth Emerson Wyatt's dedication, leadership, and many contributions to the Council, most particularly his stewardship and forthright leadership during a period of challenging organizational circumstances, his positive impact on teachers, his efforts to support the expansion of educational services and programs for children and youth with exceptionalities, and his initiative in fostering early advancements in the area of education for children and youth with physical challenges.



## Support CEC-PD History Files

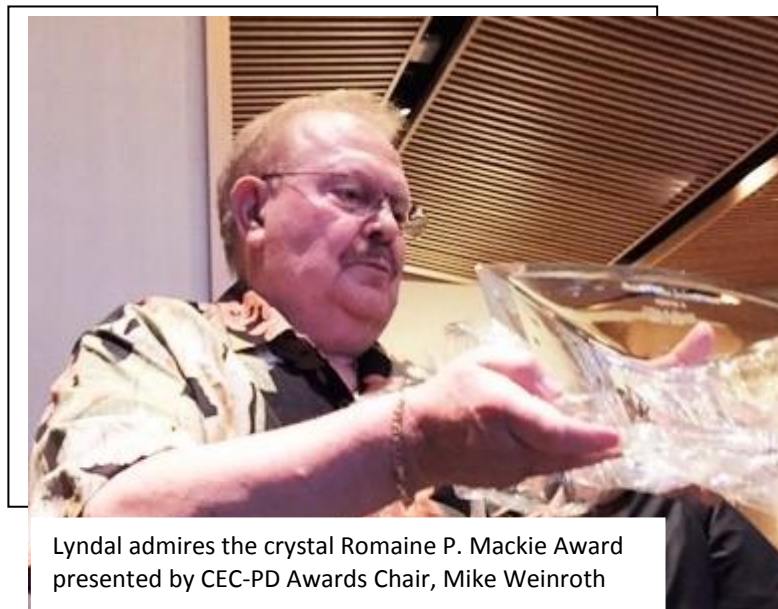
As PD members, you play an important role in helping to collect and maintain the history of the organization. The pictures, programs, information, and other treasures related to the CEC Pioneer Division that you come across as you review files and look at clearing out drawers can be a valued addition to our CEC-PD History Files.

You are encouraged to send these items from the past as well as current materials from the recent convention in San Diego or other PD events to CEC-PD Historian, Diane Johnson, at 3010 Avon Circle, Tallahassee, FL 32312. Be sure to include information that identifies activity and the names of the people involved as well as pertinent dates and other important facts.

If you have questions or wish discuss any items that might require special handling, please contact Diane via email at [dianej99@gmail.com](mailto:dianej99@gmail.com) or by phone at 850-385-5234.

## Lyndal Bullock Receives the 2015 Mackie Award

Dr. Lyndal M. Bullock, Regents Professor in Special Education at the University of North Texas was the recipient of the 2015 Romaine P. Mackie Award at the Council for Exceptional Children Convention in San Diego, CA, April 9, 2015. The Award is annually



Lyndal admires the crystal Romaine P. Mackie Award presented by CEC-PD Awards Chair, Mike Weinroth

presented to an outstanding professional who has demonstrated leadership in CEC and other organizations for an extensive period of time and who has contributed to the field through policy assessment, professional development, publications, service delivery, teacher education and leadership preparation, and research. The award was established as a tribute to Dr. Mackie (1898-2001) who served as a director in the U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. She is credited as a forerunner of the movement to establish Standards for the preparation of personnel to work with students with disabilities.

Lyndal said that this award was especially meaningful to him because he was acquainted with Dr. Mackie and some of his early research was stimulated by Mackie's efforts in delineating competencies needed by personnel working with students with special needs.

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# CEC/CEC-PD Mentoring Program



CEC Pioneers  
Division

The voice and vision of special education

Oprah Winfrey said, **“A mentor is someone who allows you to see the hope inside yourself.”**

The end of the eighth year of the CEC/CEC-PD Mentoring Program is rapidly approaching, and graduation for some of our students. It seems that this academic year has flown by. It was only a few months ago that we were assigning mentees to mentors and now we are winding down this year. It has been an unusual year in that for the first time we had more mentor volunteers than we had mentees. Regretfully, we could not assign all who wanted to work with our students. We have served 14 universities across the USA, 78 students, and have had the involvement of over 84 mentors. Much effort has been made by the faculty advisors and mentors to see that this program is successful and meaningful to the students that we serve.

The social scheduled for mentors/mentees/faculty advisors at the CEC Convention in San Diego was successful. We had a good turnout of participants from across the various universities, faculty advisors, and mentors. The Pioneers Board of Directors was able to join us and helped sponsor this event. It was a privilege to meet a number of mentors, faculty advisors, and the students face to face. Several of our group stayed, interacting with our students, and helped close the social down. Thank you.

A number of changes in our program will be taking place next year. CEC is going to play a more active role in recruiting and communicating with our mentors/mentees/faculty advisors. President James Heiden and Executive Director Alexander

Graham met with the Pioneers Division Board of Directors at the San Diego meeting and shared that there would be a steering committee to guide the activities of the Mentoring Program. This committee was one of the recommendations to the CEC Board of Directors from the Study of the Mentoring Program conducted by the Pioneers in 2012-2013. As shared by President Heiden and Executive Director Graham, CEC is pledging additional clerical support, computer software, and a page for mentoring in the CEC Community. The Mentoring page is already posted in the CEC Communities. Camille Sanders, the Membership Manager who will be working with the Mentoring Program at CEC, was introduced to the Pioneers Board. A very special welcome to Camille as she will be your CEC Mentoring contact in recruitment and questions for the 2015-2016 academic year. You may reach Camille at: Email: [camilles@cec.sped.org](mailto:camilles@cec.sped.org) or 703-264-9433.

Thank you Pioneers members for your volunteer work and support of the CEC Mentoring Program this year. Its success can be attributed to individuals such as you who work to create a supportive, caring, and information sharing virtual professional relationship between volunteer CEC professional mentor and the CEC student member. This relationship was built through the sharing of the resources of CEC, general state-of-the art education information, resources from the IDEA Partnership, and the individual mentor’s knowledge and background, and actual teaching/administrative experiences of the mentor

Linda Marsal, CEC-PD  
Mentor Program Coordinator



# In Memoriam

## Dr. Frances Connor

Dr. Frances Partridge Connor, Professor Emeritus of Education at Teacher's College, Columbia University, died on March 28, 2015 at her home in Boca Raton, FL. She was 95. Dr. Connor was the head of the Department of Special Education at Teacher's College (TC) for 23 years, from 1966-1989. She was also Director of the Special Education Research and Demonstration Center, and responsible for a multi-million dollar grant which allowed Teacher's College to construct the four story campus building, Thorndike Hall. Under her leadership, TC's Department of Special Education enrolled the largest number of graduate students in the nation in the 1980s. Dr. Connor's association with TC began in 1949 with the award of her Master's degree and subsequently with her Doctorate in 1953.

She also taught at Hunter College's graduate program for several years. Dr. Connor was a sought after special education speaker and consultant, giving hundreds of speeches on educational issues, and consulting on educational programs throughout the nation and in over 60 countries around the world. Her sabbatical years were spent teaching as part of intensive graduate teaching programs in foreign countries. During the memorable year of 1962 she consulted in over 18 countries around the world and even one weekend left after classes on Friday, spoke at Oxford University and was back in time to teach Monday classes at TC.

Dr. Connor was politically active in both Albany and Washington D.C. working to create positive change for disabled children. She served as Chairperson of Governor Hugh Carey's Committee on the Handicapped and was a member of the five person committee which helped close the infamous Willowbrook State School. Her efforts over many years in the 60's and 70's were crucial in the passage of the national law to make mandatory the education of all handicapped children. She served for many years on the National Advisory Committee to the United States Office of Education and was a member of the Steering Committee of the White House Conference on the Education of the Handicapped from 1975-1978. She was a member of the Board of Trustees of Mt. St. Mary College, Newberry, NY from 1970 until her death.

She was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from New Rochelle College. Her work for the Counsel for Exceptional Children led to her presiding over the group in 1963 and 1964, to her being awarded The Best Contribution Award, and the J.E. Wallace Wallin Lifetime Achievement Award. She was also an officer and member of numerous other educational societies. Her extensive and notable research publications and writings are too numerous to name. Her contributions in education and advocacy have changed the world, and she will be remembered fondly by many. Frances Connor was predeceased by her husband of over 50 years, Dr. Leo Connor and two of her three sisters, Anne and Sybil. She is survived by her sister Katherine McIntyre of New York and many nieces and nephews.

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/nytimes/obituary.aspx?pid=174608502#sthash.LSnvAPo4.dpuf>

Joel Mittler remembers that, "To those of us that were fortunate to study under her, we knew her as a tireless advocate for students with exceptionalities, modeling the many ways an academic could impact the field.

Among my recollections are her requirements that we learn the names of all the relevant national public policy leaders, as well as the many organizations and Federal agencies that were influential at that time. In addition, I recall her leadership at Teachers College in their tireless work (many weekends of grant writing) on acquiring funding for Research, Demonstration, as well Personnel Preparation grants. With all her work at Teachers College, Albany, NY, and Washington, DC, I also recall seeing her warmly interact with students with cerebral palsy at national conference presentations.

I am sure others can add their own memories, but Frances Connor was a remarkable person of great significance to our field. It is perhaps ironic that Fred Weintraub would always report on the health of Frances when I would see him at CEC. Sadly, both are now gone."

## June Jordan Fund Helps Preserve CEC History

Another way to support the preservation of CEC history is to contribute to The June Jordan Fund. This fund was established in 1994, by the Pioneers Division in honor of June Jordan, a former CEC staff member. June was instrumental in providing the leadership and support for establishing the Pioneers Division. In addition, she led CEC in the collection of information and documents of historical significance to CEC and the field of special education.

The official title of the fund is "The June Jordan 'I have a Dream' Memorial Fund". The purpose of the fund is to support The Council for Exceptional Children in maintaining the Archives and history of the Council. The Fund is maintained through direct contributions which are then allocated for expenditures to support the expansion and maintenance of the CEC Archives. You may donate to the June Jordan Fund using the form provided to continue this important activity.

### THE JUNE JORDAN "I HAVE A DREAM" MEMORIAL FUND CONTRIBUTION FORM

Mail contributions to:

CEC-PD c/o Dr. Michael Thew, 4524 Valley Acres Road, York, PA 17406

My contribution to the June Jordan Fund is \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Name\_\_\_\_\_ Phone\_\_\_\_\_

Email\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_ State/Province\_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code\_\_\_\_\_

Indicate if in memory/honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide name and address for acknowledgment card:

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City

State/Province

Zip/Postal

Please make checks payable to the CEC-PD and print and/or attach to this form. Thank You!

### Call for Nominations

The Pioneers Division is seeking nominations for the offices of President Elect and Secretary. Elected officers will assume the duties of the respective offices on January 1, 2016.

#### President Elect

The President Elect serves in the President's place with the authority of the President in case of the President's absence or inability to serve. She/he also serves as chair of the Professional Development Committee and is responsible for planning the Pioneers Showcase session at the annual convention while also serving on the CEC Program Advisory Committee for the annual CEC convention. The President Elect serves as the second representative from the Pioneers Division to the Interdivisional Caucus. The President Elect advances to the office of President and then Immediate Past President and commits to serving the division for three years.

#### Secretary

The Secretary keeps a complete record of all proceedings of the Executive Board meetings and the annual Membership Business meeting. She/he prepares correspondence, assumes custody of records, maintains the current listing and contact information for the members of the Executive Board, and provides copies of the Constitution and Bylaws as well as minutes of all official meetings. The Secretary serves a three-year term.

The nominations committee will review all applications and develop a slate of candidates. Elections will be held in the fall of 2015. Individuals may self-nominate or be nominated by a CEC Pioneers Division member. Please complete the Officer Nomination form and send with resume to:

Jamie Hopkins, 217 Miami Lakes Dr., Milford, OH 45150

### CEC Pioneers Division – Officer Nomination Deadline for Submission – June 25, 2015

Please complete the following information, attach nominee's **resume** and mail or email to:

Jamie Hopkins, PD Immediate Past President

[Jamiehopkins777@gmail.com](mailto:Jamiehopkins777@gmail.com)

217 Miami Lakes Dr.

Milford, OH 45150

Name of Individual Submitting the Nomination: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Office of Nomination: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

CEC Experience (state/provincial, national, division, committees/work groups):

CEC Pioneers Experience:

Education Background:

Please describe your goals for the CEC Pioneers Division (maximum 100 words):

Use additional pages if necessary.

## 2015 CEC-PD Officers and Committee Chairs

### **President**

Michael Thew  
4524 Valley Acres Road  
York, PA 17406  
H-717-757-6342  
C-717-891-2316  
[Mdthew@gmail.com](mailto:Mdthew@gmail.com)

### **President Elect**

Mary Ruth Coleman  
Univ of NC at Chapel Hill  
CB# 8185  
Sheryl-Mar Building  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-8185  
919-962-7375  
[maryruth.coleman@unc.edu](mailto:maryruth.coleman@unc.edu)

### **Immediate Past President**

Jamie Hopkins  
217 Miami Lakes Dr.  
Milford, OH 45150  
513-560-0506  
[jamiehopkins777@gmail.com](mailto:jamiehopkins777@gmail.com)

### **Secretary 2012-2015**

Nancy Riggan  
108 Prairie Road  
Carterville, IL 62918  
618-889-3744  
[sonerai@frontier.com](mailto:sonerai@frontier.com)

### **Treasurer, 2015-2017**

Carol Eisenbise  
4528 E. Catalina Ave.  
Mesa, AZ 85206  
480-272-9879  
[carol\\_eisenbise@msn.com](mailto:carol_eisenbise@msn.com)

### **Awards and Honors Committee 2014-2016**

Michael Weinroth, Chair  
200 River Vista Drive, Unit 411  
Atlanta, GA 30339  
C 404-375-1188  
[mikeweinroth@aol.com](mailto:mikeweinroth@aol.com)

### **Constitution & Bylaws Committee 2013-2015**

Diane L. Johnson, Chair  
3010 Avon Circle  
Tallahassee, FL 32312-2447  
H-850-385-5234  
[Dianej99@gmail.com](mailto:Dianej99@gmail.com)

### **Finance Committee, 2014-2016**

Hellen Bogie, Chair  
710 Kananaskis Dr.  
Kingston, ON K7P 0A9 Canada  
H-613-389-4801  
[hmbc@sympatico.ca](mailto:hmbc@sympatico.ca)

### **Membership Committee 2014- 2016**

Susan Fowler  
288 Education Building  
1310 S. 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Champaign, IL 61820  
217-244-6178  
[safowler@illinois.edu](mailto:safowler@illinois.edu)

### **Nominations & Elections Committee 2015**

Jamie Hopkins  
217 Miami Lakes Dr.  
Milford, OH 45150  
513-560-0506  
[jamiehopkins777@gmail.com](mailto:jamiehopkins777@gmail.com)

### **Professional Development Committee 2015**

Mary Ruth Coleman  
Univ of NC at Chapel Hill  
CB# 8185  
Sheryl-Mar Building  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-8185  
919-962-7375  
[maryruth.coleman@unc.edu](mailto:maryruth.coleman@unc.edu)

### **Resolutions Committee**

Pamela K. Gillet, Chair  
413 Courtlea Oaks Blvd.  
Winter Garden, FL 34787-  
H-407-654-6708  
[pamelagillet@aol.com](mailto:pamelagillet@aol.com)

### **Political Advocacy Committee 2014-2016**

Paul Zinni, Chair  
76 Twin Brook Lane  
Taunton, MA 02780  
H-508-822-6258  
C-508-326-8204  
[paulzinni@gmail.com](mailto:paulzinni@gmail.com)

### **Communications Committee**

Lee Sherry, Chair  
5802 Bob Bullock Loop  
Suite C1 #84-187A  
Laredo, TX 78041  
H-704-921-0600  
[lee.sherry@uncc.edu](mailto:lee.sherry@uncc.edu)

### **Coordinator CEC/CEC-PD Mentoring Program 2015**

Linda Marsal  
4005 Brookstone Drive  
Winterville, NC 28590  
252-353-8919  
[lmarsal@embarqmail.com](mailto:lmarsal@embarqmail.com)

### **Historian 2011-2015**

Diane L. Johnson  
3010 Avon Circle  
Tallahassee, FL 32312-2447  
H-850-385-5234  
[Dianej99@gmail.com](mailto:Dianej99@gmail.com)

### **Representative to Knowledge & Skills Committee**

Parthenia Cogdell  
117 Harrington Circle  
Willingboro, NJ 08046-1827  
609-877-4646  
608-706-0988  
[parcogdell@comcast.net](mailto:parcogdell@comcast.net)

### **Representative Assembly Members 2015**

Jamie Hopkins, Past President  
Michael Thew, President

### **Registered Agent**

Gerald J. Reynaud  
4622 Holly Court  
Kansas City, MO 64116  
H-816-452-1553  
[gireynard@gmail.com](mailto:gireynard@gmail.com)

### **CEC Interdivisional Caucus**

Michael Thew, President  
Mary Ruth Coleman, President Elect



**Pioneers Press**

Lee Sherry  
5802 Bob Bullock Loop  
Suite C1 #84-187A  
Laredo, TX 78041

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