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President's Message: Pioneers Leading the Way



Joan McDonald, CEC Pioneers President 2017

“Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.”
~Barack Obama

“I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples.”
~Mother Teresa

President's Message Fall 2017

As I reflect back on my Presidency for 2017, I can't believe how much has been accomplished. When I first agreed to pursue this position, I was tentative yet excited about leading a Division with so much talent within the membership. I could not have done this job without the support and hard work of the officers and committee chairs of the Pioneer Division. I would like to express my appreciation to a talented PD Board of

Directors. **Mary Ruth Coleman**, Past President, has been a mentor to me for many years. It has been through her support that I have tried to model her great organizational and communication skills. Her leadership on the “State of the Profession” project has demonstrated her continued commitment to the field of Special Education. My special thanks goes to **Susan Fowler**, President Elect. Without her continued feedback and support, my position would be far more challenging. Her hard work in the survey development for the “State of the Profession” project is greatly appreciated and will be a cornerstone for the

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“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more, you are a leader.”

John Quincy Adams

President's Message continued

future evolution of CEC. She has also managed to arrange presentations for CEC 2018 in the short time turn around given the revised CEC Conference schedule. What can I say about the proficiency and efficiency of our Secretary, **Pam Matlock**? Her documentation of the activities of 2017 is exceptional along with her positive attitude. I have known and worked with **Carol Eisenbise**, our Treasurer, since the early 2000's in a variety of capacities. Her skills in managing and balancing our budget has my full confidence. I know she now lives in Pennsylvania, but I will always think of her as a fellow Zoni (Arizonian).

Gloria Taradash, the Chair of our Honors Committee, is a consummate professional. She managed to make our award recipient, Parthenia Cogdell, (who was not able to attend the CEC 2017 Conference) be a part of the ceremony and participate personally through technology. What can I say about **Linda Marsal**? She is an honest open and active member of the PD Board and has offered her support, knowledge and background to the Constitution & Bylaws Committee as well as to me as President. **Pat Dowey**, our new Membership Chair this year has jumped in and taken her role in membership development

very seriously and her hard work and commitment has made her an invaluable member of the Board. **Pam Gillet**, has been in leader in the organization at all levels and has also been a mentor and supporter for me over the years. She is one of the many go to people for advice and input. Her willingness to continue in her role as Resolutions Committee Chair is certainly appreciated. I know you all hear from our Political Advocacy Committee Chair, **Paul Zinni**, on a regular basis. What a fountain of information he is. This year, more than ever, his updates are appreciated, helpful and timely. It was great to visit Boston and experience it as a local through Paul's knowledge. **Dennis Cavitt's** (Communication Committee) expertise and organizational skills has made the Pioneer Press Newsletter filled with current and useful information. The website is also looking good. Thanks so much for keeping all of us on track with deadlines, etc. for putting together our newsletter and member communication blasts. **Jamie Hopkins** has taken on the role of coordinating the CEC/PD Mentoring Program. She is passionate about her role and always puts the students, new teachers, mentors and the future of CEC in the forefront. I also have had the privilege of working with Jamie in other capacities over the years and appreciate her professionalism and hard work. **Diane Johnson**, another longtime leader in CEC and special education, is the PD Historian and with

her bountiful knowledge and background she is helping the PD in streamlining the Handbook, an awesome responsibility. **Parthenia Cogdell** is the PD Representative to the Knowledge and Skills Committee. She is a lady of grace and knowledge and with her vast experience she is the perfect representative to this committee. Last but not least is **Bill Bogdan**. Bill has taken on the co-chair lead with Mary Ruth Coleman in developing the “State of the Profession” project, a major project and a cornerstone of the leadership that PD has forged.

I can’t say thank you enough to this wonderful group of people who I not only appreciate for their professional knowledge and skills but also for their friendship. I have been proud to be President of the Pioneers Division and represent **all of the members** who have supported our division and CEC through your time and leadership. I wish you all a happy, healthy and productive 2018. I will continue as the Past President next year (and hopefully continue my leadership beyond 2018) and I look forward to your support and participation.

Thank you.

Joan McDonald

President, Pioneers Division 2017

“As we look ahead to the next century, leaders will be those who empower others.”

~Bill Gates~

Looking Forward to CEC 2018 in Tampa!



It seems like CEC 2017 Boston is just behind us, yet it is time to make plans to attend CEC 2018 in Tampa, FL, February 7-10. What we can be thankful for is Hurricane Irma did not do as much damage as anticipated. However, our thought and support go out to those who did have challenges as a result of the hurricane and hope they are recuperating as best as possible. (Our thoughts and support also go out to our colleagues in Texas and Puerto Rico effected by Hurricanes Harvey and Maria.) We owe it to our fellow citizens to attend and support the conference as best as we can for two reasons. The first of course is to support our organization and participate in quality programs and sessions. The second reason is to help support the economy of the city effected by one of this season’s tragic hurricanes, Tampa, FL.

The Pioneers Division is planning three great sessions for you to attend in Tampa. The three presentations address leadership in one form or another.

The first session will be our Showcase Presentation. This session will focus on the status of the survey and hopefully some preliminary results related to the “State of the Profession.” The Pioneer Division has been working with CEC for the past year in the development of the survey through workgroup meetings, focus groups and sample test questions shared at the Leadership Retreat in July. The plans are for a preliminary survey to be sent out later this fall to special and general education teachers. Hopefully the preliminary results will be shared in the session in Tampa. The leaders for this project are: Susan Fowler, Mary Ruth Coleman and Bill Bogdan.

The second presentation is going to be addressing the Mentoring Program. A panel will discuss some of the successes of the program and lessons learned, along with how this program helps to develop leadership skills of participant not only within CEC but in participants’ careers present and future. For additional information contact Jamie Hopkins.

The third session will address encouraging present and past leaders to join and participate in the Pioneers Division. The topic “How to Continue Serving as a Leader in the Field of Special Education After Your Term as a CEC Leader has Ended.” Members of the Pioneers have been long time CEC members and /or have served as a leader at the local, state/provincial or national level. Their background and experience allows them

to continue to be leaders in the field of special education. We would like to encourage past leaders and long-time CEC members to continue to be involved in the field and join and become active members in CEC/PD. For further information contact Paul Zinni and/or Diane Johnson.

I hope to see many of you at CEC 2018. Please check out the CEC Convention Website for details on registration, hotels and sessions.

Joan McDonald, President, Pioneers Division,
2017

“Real leaders are not blinded by the trappings of power but recognize their role as servant.”

~Archbishop Desmond Tutu~

Pioneers Division Happenings at CEC 2018 in Tampa!

Susan Fowler-PD President Elect



The Pioneer Division will hold its annual business meeting and reception on Thursday Feb. 8, 2018 in Orlando Florida. The business meeting will begin at 4PM with an update on the State of the Profession Survey and other activities. A reception will follow from 4:30 to 6:30. The reception will include snacks, and wine/beer for purchase. Come and catch up

with friends, meet the current members of the Board, and attend the presentation of the Mackie Award. The Board meeting for the Division is scheduled from 11AM to 3:00 PM earlier in the day and all members are invited to listen to the Board discussions and speak during the Public Participation section at 11:10. Please check the program for the exact location of board meeting, business meeting and reception.

The Division is sponsoring two sessions this year: Thursday morning and Saturday morning. **Mentoring Teachers as Leaders** is a panel session scheduled for Thursday from 9:45-10:45 and will include Division members who have been active mentors, helping to transform teachers into leaders. They will share their experiences and strategies as will some of the teachers they have mentored. Past CEC Presidents, Fowler, Coleman and Bogdan will present on Special Education: Current and Future Trends on Saturday from 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM, focusing on what we have learned from the last three years' efforts to identify critical trends in the field through the Representative Assembly, Focus Groups and a survey of CEC membership. The interactive session will focus on ways that the educational system must expand capacity to deliver specialized instruction, using a range of delivery options, to address the strengths and needs of increasingly diverse populations of students with exceptionalities.

*"Everybody can be great because everybody can serve... You only need a heart full of grace."
~Martin Luther King Jr.~*

Pioneers Division Mentoring Program

Update

Jamie Hopkins

The Pioneers will be presenting a program on **Mentoring Teachers as Leaders** at the upcoming CEC Convention in Tampa. Presenters include Joan McDonald, Bill Bogdan, Jamie Hopkins, Charlotte Brickhouse (former Doctoral Student Mentee) and Kyena Elrod Cornelius (TED member and Asst. Professor at Minnesota State University, Mankato). The session will focus on effective mentoring for university students and teachers as they develop leadership skills for their profession and within CEC. The session is scheduled for **Thursday, February 8, 2018, 9:45-10:45 in Room 11 at the Tampa Convention Center**. Please plan to join us!

The CEC/CEC-Pioneers Mentoring Program is up and running! Interested Mentors and Mentees may sign up using the following links. Mentees at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KZTJBL9>.

Mentors use

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KZTJBL9>.

For information about the Mentoring Program visit

<https://www.cec.sped.org/Membership/CEC-CEC-PD-Mentoring-Program>.

The Mentor Steering Committee continues to function with experienced mentors representing CEC Divisions, Faculty Advisors and CEC Units. Members include Jamie Hopkins, Chair, Michael Thew, PD, Cheryl Zaccagnini, State Unit, Kyena Elrod Cornelius, TED, Bethany McConnel, TED, Nichole Moore, State Unit, Rebecca Crocker McMullen, Chapter Faculty Advisor, Barbara Washington, Chapter Faculty Advisor, Kaleen Schultz, Student Committee, James Heiden, CEC Past President. Judy Harrison, CEC Director Membership is the staff liaison.

Questions? Please contact Jamie Hopkins, jamiehopkins777@gmail.com.



“The present defines the future. The future builds on the foundation of the past.”

– Lailah Gifty Akita, Think Great: Be Great!

Pioneers Romaine P. Mackie

Leadership Award

Call for Nominations

Gloria Taradash~Chair Honors and Awards
Committee

The Pioneers Division is pleased to present a call for nominations to select the recipient of the Romaine P. Mackie Leadership Award. This award was initiated in 1993 to honor a person who has demonstrated leadership over time in programs for exceptional children and youth. The award was named for Romaine P. Mackie who was a commissioner of education and a devout supporter of special education in the very early years. She was a pioneer in the early development of special education as a profession within the field of education. Romaine Mackie was an active member of the Council for Exceptional Children and promoted the mission of the Council in all the work with which she was involved. She was a significant person who provided leadership for the development of a section within the U.S.

Department of Education designated for Special Education. For these reasons, the Pioneers Division established the award in honor of her impact on the field of special education. She is honored by selecting and presenting this award to an individual who best represents leadership in the field of special education. This award is presented in the form of a selected commemorative item at the annual Business Meeting held at the CEC convention.

The criteria for selecting the recipient of this award is as follows:

Award Criteria

- Length of service in the field
- Documentation of continuous leadership during the time span of the nominee's career
- Leadership position within the various units of CEC (state/provincial, chapter, subdivision, division)
- Leadership positions at the national level in CEC
- Acknowledgement by others of the nominee's leadership (letters of support – minimum two - maximum four, other awards/honors bestowed)
- Significance of leadership contributions made
- Leadership in the development of programs and services for exceptional children and youth
- Leadership in the development of diagnostic/assessment tools and procedures for children and youth
- Leadership in advocacy efforts on behalf of exceptional children and youth
- Leadership activities in the area of consultation, teacher education and personnel development activities
- Leadership activities in the area of consultation, teacher education and personnel development activities
- Publications in the area of special education (journal articles, monographs, curriculum guides, books)

The application form can be found at page 12 of this newsletter

Applications must be postmarked by January 3, 2018.

Applications may be submitted to Dr. Gloria Taradash at gтарadash@gmail.com.

The mailing address is 26 Cedar Hill Place NE, Albuquerque, NM 87122.

Call for Pioneer Division Historical Documents:

We are in the process of adding some additional pages to our website. One of the pages we would like to develop is a historical archive page of Pioneer Division materials. Please forward your documents to Dennis Cavitt: dennis.cavitt@acu.edu

It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge.
~Albert Einstein

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The principle goal of education is to create men and women who are capable of doing new things, not simply repeating what other generations have done.

~Jean Piaget~



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Workgroup on State of the Profession

Co-Chairs Bill Bogdan
Mary Ruth Coleman

Preserving CEC's History

The June Jordan Fund was established in 1994, by the Pioneers Division in honor of June Jordan who was 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 documents and other types of information 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 CEC in maintaining the Archives and history of the Council. The Archives are maintained by a CEC Archivist who holds a non-voting position on the CEC-PD Board. The Fund is supported by direct contributions to the Fund. These funds are then allocated for expenditures to support the expansion and maintenance of the CEC Archives.

In the past, the support for the CEC Archives consisted of providing dollars from the June Jordan Fund to purchase supplies needed by the CEC Archivist, and to provide assistance to the Archivist by other members of the Pioneers Division in preparing and in placing materials in the CEC Archives. It is hoped that the plan developed by the History Initiative Work Group will provide additional opportunities to share, as well as, preserve the history of CEC and CEC-PD.

Please consider donating to the June Jordan Fund using the form below to assist with this important activity.

The June Jordan "I Have a Dream" Memorial Fund Contribution Form

Mail contributions to: Carol Eisenbise, 4528 E. Catalina Ave., Mesa, AZ 85206

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

Name: _____ Phone/email: _____

Address: _____
Street City State/Province
Zip/Postal Code

Indicate if your contribution is in memory/honor of:

Please provide name and address for acknowledgment card:

Name: _____

Address: _____
Street City State/Province
Zip/Postal Code

Please make checks payable to the Pioneers Division of the Council for Exceptional Children and attach to this form. Thank You!

2016 Romaine P. Mackie Annual Award for Leadership

Purpose: The Romaine P. Mackie Award is to honor an outstanding professional who has demonstrated leadership in CEC and other organizations for an extensive period of time in various areas within the field: service delivery, teacher education and professional development; research; policy; assessment; publications. The individual should be nominated by someone who is familiar with the nature and quality of his/her work and who can speak to the nominee's character.

The Award is named for Romaine P. Mackie who was a U.S. Commissioner of Education, a devout supporter of special education in the early years, and an active member of CEC who promoted the mission of CEC in all of her work.

Nomination Materials Include:

- Completed Nomination Form (below)
- Letter of nomination
- Brief vitae or resume of the nominee
- At least two (2) letters of support (no more than four (4), please)

Nomination Form

Nominee's Name: _____ Email Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____ Telephone Number: _____

CEC Membership Number: _____

Nominator's Name: _____ Nominating Unit: _____

Nominator's Email: _____

The brief vitae or resume for the individual nominated should include educational background, employment history, length of service, special projects undertaken, awards received, and other information which will assist the Awards Committee in making a decision.

All nominations and materials must be received by **Friday, January 3, 2018.**

Submit your nomination packet electronically to:

Dr. Gloria Taradash,
Honors and Awards Committee Chair
gtaradash@gmail.com