



FOCUS on Research

Newsletter of the Division for Research (CEC-DR)

President's Message

Increasing Funding for NCSER

Elizabeth (Betsy) Talbot, *University of Illinois at Chicago*

Dear Colleagues:

I have been pleased and honored to serve as your president this past year. CEC-DR continues to advocate for funding for the National Center for Special Education Research (NCSER), along with members of 22 organizations who are Friends of IES. In March of 2016, Friends of IES, led by **Deb Ziegler** of CEC, hosted an educational session for lawmakers on Capitol Hill to showcase research on transition for young people with disabilities. This session featured **Erik Carter, Laurie Powers, David Test, and Mary Wagner**, and was sponsored in cooperation with Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN), Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR), and Rep. Michael Honda (D-CA).

At the CEC 2016 convention in St. Louis, an interdivisional group of researchers and division leaders, led by CEC-DR, met to brainstorm strategies to increase NCSER funding from the current \$54 million to \$70 million. This interdivisional group continues to meet online (we now have our own CEC community) and make plans for future work. Linda Lewis and I are leading this group on behalf of CEC and CEC-DR.

Given that the political landscape will be driven by the 2016 presidential and congressional elections, we anticipate that a federal budget is unlikely to be passed until 2017, and the government is likely to run on the basis of continuing resolutions until that time. Thus, CEC and CEC-DR (along with Friends of IES) are well positioned through the fall of 2016 to argue for increased funding for NCSER.

Here's our long-term plan:

We shall continue to take advantage of CEC's strong relationship with the Friends of IES. The work of the Friends (and visits to the Hill by CEC-DR members) have clearly been successful this year in stopping proposed cuts to

NCSER and in obtaining the support of 27 members of Congress for increased NCSER funding.

Here's our short-term strategy:

We seek to advocate for NCSER funding at CEC's July 2016 legislative summit and into the fall through visits to the Hill. In advance of the summit, CEC-DR and CEC are preparing documents to share with members of Congress, including a state map showing where NCSER funds have been distributed for the past decade. Many thanks to **Linda Lewis** for preparing the data and to **Deb Ziegler** for working with CEC staff to create the documents. We can't wait to storm the Hill in July on behalf of NCSER!

Clearly, the relentless advocacy of our members and our relationship with Friends of IES continue to make a difference. We especially wish to thank those university federal relations officers who have taken on the fight for NCSER funding; their support and expertise are invaluable. Special education research does make a difference, and so do your voices and your contributions. Let's keep up the fight for increased funding for NCSER in the coming year.

In the meantime, be on the lookout for our new CEC-DR logo, to be unveiled later this summer.

Best wishes for a safe, productive, and restful summer!

Betsy Talbot ■

News and Links:

Friends of IES

<http://www.aera.net/Newsroom/AERAHighlightsE-newsletter/AERAHighlightsApril2014/FriendsofIESLaunchesCoalitionEffort/tabid/15479/Default.aspx>

And the beat goes on ...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=slldMEPvUqA>

In This Issue

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Division for Research 2017 Awards: Call for Nominations

The following awards are open for nominations. Self-nominations are welcome. The deadline for all award nominations is **October 15, 2016**. More information on previous recipients of each award can be found at our website (<http://www.cecdr.org>). All winners will be recognized at the CEC-DR reception at the 2017 CEC Convention.

1. Kauffman-Hallahan Distinguished Researcher Award
2. Distinguished Early Career Research Award
3. Early Career Publication Award
4. Student Research Awards

1. 2017 Kauffman–Hallahan Distinguished Researcher Award

In recognition of the critical importance of research in special education that has made a meaningful impact on the field, CEC-DR seeks nominations for the 2017 Kauffman–Hallahan Distinguished Researcher Award. This award recognizes individuals or research teams whose research has resulted in more effective services or education for exceptional individuals. Recipients of this award are recognized for both the creation of a research base and the work done to translate this research into practice. The recognized work may include, but is not limited to, research articles, paper series, monographs, professional development activities, book chapters, and/or books. The Kauffman–Hallahan Distinguished Researcher Award is funded through earnings from the *Handbook of Special Education*, edited by James Kauffman and Daniel Hallahan and published by Routledge. The award, co-sponsored by Routledge Press, includes \$1,000 and will be presented at the 2017 DR reception at the CEC annual convention. Nominations are sought across all areas of special education as well as all forms of research methodology.

To submit a nomination for this award (self-nominations are welcome), **email** a copy of each of the following by **October 15, 2016**, to the address of this award’s committee chair:

1. A letter of nomination, NO LONGER THAN 3 pages, addressing each of the following:
 - the research base(s) to which the individual or team has made substantial contributions,
 - the efforts undertaken by the individual or team to translate this research to practice, and
 - the impact of the research on policy, practice, or both.
2. A complete and current vitae for the nominee or each team member
3. Names, email addresses, and phone numbers of up to five references familiar with the nominee’s work

Chair: Edward Polloway (polloway@lynchburg.edu)
Committee Members: Maureen Conroy, Clay Keller, Jacqueline Keller, and Tom Smith

2. 2017 Distinguished Early Career Research Award

In recognition of the critical role of research to both current practice in and the future of the field of special education, the CEC-DR seeks nominations for the 2017 Distinguished Early Career Research Award. This award recognizes individuals who have made outstanding scientific contributions in special education, in basic and/or applied research, within the first 10 years following receipt of the doctoral degree. Nominations are sought across all areas of special education as well as all forms of research methodology. For the 2017 award, nominations of individuals who received their doctoral degree in 2006 or later are sought. The award, co-sponsored by the Donald D. Hammill Foundation, includes \$1,000 presented at the 2017 DR reception at the CEC annual convention and an invited presentation at the CEC convention the following year.

Previous recipients of this award include Alexandra Trout, Jeanne Wanzek, Michael Wehmeyer, Ron Nelson, Patricia Mathes, Rollanda O’Connor, Batya Elbaum, Terrance Scott, Kathleen Lane, Frank Symons, Bryan Cook, Michael Coyne, Erik Carter, Stephanie Al Otaiba, Linda Mason, Kristen McMaster, Paul Morgan, and Brian Boyd.

To submit a nomination for this award (self-nominations are welcome), **email** a copy of each of the following by **October 15, 2016**, to the address of this award’s committee chair:

1. A letter of nomination, NO LONGER THAN 3 pages, addressing each of the following:
 - the general theme(s) of the nominee’s research;
 - important theoretical contributions attributable to the nominee;
 - critical research findings;
 - degree to which the nominee’s work has influenced the work of others both within and outside the field of special education, in the areas of practice, teacher preparation, and future research; and
 - the extent to which the nominee has mentored students or others in research in special education.
2. A complete and current vitae for the nominee
3. Names, email addresses, and phone numbers of up to five references familiar with the nominee’s work

Chair: Mary Brownell (mbrownell@coe.ufl.edu)

Committee Members: Deborah Simmons, Judy Carta, Linda Mason, and Ron Nelson

Chair: Timothy Landrum (*t.landrum@louisville.edu*)
Committee Members: Rollanda O'Connor and Terrance Scott

3. 2017 Early Career Publication Award

CEC-DR seeks nominations for the 2017 Early Career Publication Award. This award recognizes an outstanding research publication by an individual within five years after completing the doctorate; thus, nominees must have completed the doctorate in 2011 or later, and the article under consideration must have been published since 2011. The person nominated must be the sole or first author of the article. The article must be published in a peer-refereed journal prior to the deadline (i.e., "in press" papers will not be considered; submit after publication). The article must be a primary research report (reflecting any research methodology), a meta-analysis, or a research review. It may not be a chapter, theoretical paper, or position or issue article. Nominations are sought across all areas of special education as well as all forms of research methodology.

The committee will initially review all articles submitted and create a short list. Evaluations may be solicited from appropriate scholars in the field based on the topics investigated in the articles constituting the short list. Feedback from these scholars to the subcommittee will be considered and a final decision reached on the recipient(s).

The award will be presented at the DR awards ceremony and reception at the 2017 CEC annual convention. Previous recipients of this award include Sharlene Kiuahara, Allison Bruhn, Chris Lemons, Andrew Wiley, Sarah Powell, Brian Reichow, Karrie Shogren, Ya-Yu Lo, Andrew Roach, Terry Scott, Wendy Murawski, Margaret Beebe-Frankenberger, and Alexandra Hollo.

To submit a nomination for this award (self-nominations are welcome), **email** a copy of each of the following by **October 15, 2016**, to the address of this award's committee chair:

1. A copy of the article being submitted for recognition. If the article submitted has multiple authors, the contributions of the nominee to the publication should be clearly identified.
2. A letter of nomination, **NO LONGER THAN 3** pages, providing an assessment of the article, including:
 - identification of the research method,
 - the quality of the research,
 - how the study extends the knowledge base, and
 - the impact of the publication.
3. A complete and current vitae for the nominee

4. 2017 Student Research Awards

CEC-DR seeks nominations for the 2017 Student Research Award. This award recognizes high-quality research across multiple research methodologies conducted by students in the course of their undergraduate or graduate special education preparation program. The Division will give up to four awards annually, with one award presented in each of the four areas of research designs or methodologies: qualitative, single-subject, quantitative, and mixed-methods. No award will be given in any research methodology area if an exemplary, high-quality research study is not submitted; thus, there may be fewer than four awards presented in any given year. Nominations are sought across all areas of special education services. The awardee in each research method area will receive a \$200 award and a certificate.

The following criteria must be met in each area:

1. The nominated student must be the sole or first author of the nominated manuscript, and the research study must represent the student's intellectual work.
2. The nominated research study must have been conceptualized and conducted while the first author was a student.
3. The nominated study must not be in press at the time of submission nor have been published prior to submission for the award.
4. The nominated manuscript must not exceed 50 double-spaced pages, not including tables and references. Manuscripts should be formatted according to current APA guidelines.
5. Independent of the methodological area in which the manuscript is submitted, research studies nominated must adhere to standards for high-quality research advocated for in the field of special education and by the Division for Research.

Detailed quality indicators of high-quality research for quantitative, qualitative, and single-subject design studies can be found in the Winter 2005 special issue of *Exceptional Children*, Volume 71(2), edited by Odom et al. Detailed quality indicators of high-quality research for mixed-methods studies can be found in Klingner and Boardman (2011) and Leech and Onwuegbuzie (2010). Applicants are referred to these references for guidance. Please note that the

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Call for Nominations *(continued from page 3)*

“quantitative” category for this award includes group experimental and quasi-experimental designs (Gersten et al., 2005) and correlational designs (Thompson, Diamond, McWilliam, Snyder, & Snyder, 2005).

To submit a nomination for this award (self-nominations are welcome), **email** the following by **October 15, 2016**, to the address of this award’s committee chair:

1. A copy of the paper being submitted for recognition. If the article submitted has multiple authors, the contributions of the nominee to the publication should be clearly identified.
2. A letter of nomination, **NO LONGER THAN 1 PAGE**, containing the following:
 - the title and methodological area in which the research is being submitted for consideration;
 - written assurance that the research was conceptualized and conducted by the nominee while the nominee was a student and has not been accepted for publication; and
 - all current contact information (name, title, position, affiliation, address, telephone number, email address) for the nominator and the nominee.

Chair: Michael L. Wehmeyer (*wehmeyer@ku.edu*)

References

Gersten, R., Fuchs., L. S., Compton, D., Coyne, M., Greenwood, C., & Innocenti, M. S. (2005). Quality indicators for group experimental and quasi-experimental research in special education. *Exceptional Children*, 71(2), 149–164.

Klingner, J. K., & Boardman, A. G. (2011). Addressing the “research gap” in special education through mixed methods. *Learning Disability Quarterly*, 34(3), 208–218.

Leech, N. L., & Onwuegbuzie, A. J. (2010). Guidelines for conducting and reporting mixed research in the field of counseling and beyond. *Journal of Counseling and Development*, 88, 61–69.

Odom, S. L., Bratlinger, E., Gersten, R., Horner, R. H., Thompson, B., & Harris, K. R. (2005). Research in special education: Scientific methods and evidence-based practices. *Exceptional Children*, 71(2), 137–148.

Thompson, B., Diamond, K. E., McWilliam, R., Snyder, P., & Snyder, S. W. (2005). Evaluating the quality of evidence from correlational research for evidence-based practice. *Exceptional Children*, 71(2), 181–194. ■

Thank You!

With the deepest of gratitude, we would like to thank **Dr. Karen Harris** for her leadership as the DR Award Chair. Karen served as the DR Award Chair from its inception (1998) through April of 2016. Karen’s service has been instrumental in making DR awards one of the most prestigious special education research honors in the field. Thank you, Karen!

Don't forget to check us out!

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/divisionforresearch>

CEC-DR website: <http://www.cecdr.org>



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