



FOCUS on Research

Newsletter of the Division for Research (CEC-DR)

President's Message

Urgent, Relentless, and Goal-Directed

David Lee, *Pennsylvania State University*

Change can be bittersweet. With change comes excitement, but also the realization that things will be different. To that end, each year the members of the Division for Research hold an election for officers. As new officers take their positions, people who have served the Division well over the past few years move on to serve the field (and often DR) in other ways. We have a group of dedicated people who have worked tirelessly to make the research to practice link more evident. I would like to thank Kristen McMaster (President), Betsy Talbot (Past President), and Nancy Mamlin (Treasurer) who have all provided strong leadership, mentoring, and ideas for our group. We also welcome Kathleen Lane (Vice President) and Anne Foegen (Treasurer) to the Board.

The mission statement of the Division for Research indicates that we exist to advance research related to individuals with disabilities and/or who are gifted. Our

goals are to promote equal partnerships with practitioners in designing, conducting, and interpreting research in special education. The Division for Research actively engages in activities to promote research in special education. Two recent activities, the CEC-DR Single-Case Workgroup and the response to an IES request for comments, are examples of how our group can make a difference. We are certainly stronger together.

One of our points of focus for this year will be on increasing DR membership—we simply need more members in order to accomplish our goals. There are two steps you can take right now to help DR in this effort. As a first step, please consider speaking with your colleagues and students about becoming an active member of DR. Second, please renew your membership—you are an important part of the team.

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Support CEC-DR Advocacy and Early Career Research Activities!

As part of our long-range financial planning strategy, CEC-DR encourages you to consider making a special contribution in the form of a sponsorship of the advocacy work, as well as the early career and scholar development activities that DR supports on a regular basis, including travel to the annual Legislative Summit in July, Student Research Awards, and our Early Career Workshop held at CEC every 2–3 years.

We would greatly appreciate any contributions, in any amount, that you would like to make. If you would like your contribution earmarked for a specific use, consider the following activities, events, and expenses, and include a note on your check. Suggested donation amounts are also noted below.

Event/Award/Expense	Suggested Donation
Sponsor the annual DR scholars	\$50–\$100
Sponsor a student research award	\$100–\$200
Help cover expenses for the early career workshop at CEC	\$100–\$500
Sponsor a DR member to attend the CEC Legislative Summit	\$250–\$500

Supporting advocacy work and new scholars through CEC-DR is strongly aligned with our mission of advancing research related to the education of individuals with disabilities. It is also an excellent way to garner interest and encourage involvement of the future leaders of our field.

*If you wish to contribute, please send a check payable to **CEC-DR** to:*

Anne Foegen
316 Crystal St.
Ames, IA 50010

We are a 501c3; your donations are tax-deductible.

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK US OUT ONLINE!

Visit DR's website:
<http://www.cecdr.org>

Follow DR on Twitter:
<https://twitter.com/CECDResearch>

Like DR on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/divisionforresearch>

Division for Research Public Policy News

You can check out the latest on CEC's NCSER advocacy here: <https://www.cec.sped.org/Policy-and-Advocacy/Current-Sped-Gifted-Issues/More-Issues/Special-Education-Research>

Research Matters

CEC-DR has launched an initiative we're calling "Research Matters" to collect stories about how research in special education and related fields is making a difference for exceptional children, people with disabilities, and their families. We envision a series of one- or two-page stories designed to be used in an array of advocacy efforts, particularly in communicating with policymakers and other stakeholders about the problems special education researchers are addressing, and especially research that is funded with federal dollars.

We encourage DR members to submit their own research 'stories,' so that DR can share them with members as well as with stakeholders who want to know how research in special education matters, and why federal funding for research is vital.

To read research stories and to learn how to submit your own research stories, visit <http://www.cecdr.org/news/new-item4>. ■

Tell Us YOUR RESEARCH story!

@divisionforresearch

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Share your research, conferences you are presenting at, advocacy efforts, or how you are using research to support the educators, service providers, and individuals with disabilities you work with!

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