

## President's Message



**Jessica Rueter**

Greetings! Mark your calendars to attend the annual Council for Exceptional Children Convention & Expo that will be held in Boston from April 19–22, 2017. The CEC Convention is an excellent

learning experience and a time to reconnect with old friends and make new friends. While at CEC, make plans to attend the CEDS Business Meeting and Social. The business meeting is open to any CEDS member and will be on Thursday, April 20 at 4:30 p.m. Immediately following the business meeting, make plans to attend the CEDS Social at 6:00 p.m. The social is a time to eat some tasty desserts as well as network and reconnect with colleagues from across the world. When you get to the CEC Convention, look in your Program for the location of these events. Come join us in Boston!

In addition to this excellent learning experience, mark your calendars for the CEDS Conference in Fall 2018. I regret that I was unable to pull together a conference as originally intended for Fall 2017.

In other related matters, the CEDS Executive Board has been working diligently to update the CEDS constitution. During the CEC Convention, we will meet as a board to discuss proposed changes to this document. As soon as we have updated the constitution, we will send the changes to our membership for ratification and final approval.

Finally, I encourage you to check out the CEDS Facebook page. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/>

[groups/204744876302355/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/204744876302355/). We will keep you updated on conferences, current activities of the organization, and opportunities where you can become more involved. While you are on our Facebook page, be sure to “Like us”.

Feel free to contact me at [jrueter@uttyler.edu](mailto:jrueter@uttyler.edu). I am looking forward to hearing from you and meeting you at our professional development venues. See you in Boston in April!



**CEDS Events at the CEC Convention:  
Thursday, April 20**

**CEDS Business Meeting – 4:30 p.m.  
CEDS Social – 6:00 p.m.**

**(Look at the Convention Program for locations.)**

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## Report from the Professional Standards Committee



**Dr. Teresa Oettinger Montani, Chair**

As reported the last newsletter, the CEDS board has voted to move forward with the re-validation of the CEC Advanced Specialty Set: Special Education Diagnostician Specialist. The last time these standards were reviewed was in 2008. Typically, standards are reviewed every seven years. We are now in Stage 1: Preliminary Planning. The first step is to identify the need for the validation study, which we have voted to do. We are now in the process of writing the Conceptual Background paper that includes the responsibilities of a beginning professional in the specialty, the need for validation or re-validation of a Specialty Set, the names of the members of the Validation Team, and a timeline for completing the work and developing a draft for the plan. The Validation team is hard at work, and we hope to complete the conceptual background paper within the next month.

## National Certification for Educational Diagnosticians (NCED) News



National Certification for Educational Diagnosticians (NCED) is the premier national credential for special education assessment professionals who hold high standards of practice. Holding the national certification has many benefits including enhanced professional credibility and visibility, inclusion in the online NCED registry, and structured opportunities for professional development. In addition to these benefits, NCED holders represent highly qualified status as assessment professionals and are permitted to use NCED after their name in reports and correspondence, which assures parents and school officials of rigorous standards of practice.

The NCED examination will be offered on April 21, 2017, in Boston, Massachusetts. There will also be an administration in New Jersey and Texas in 2017; dates are still to be determined. The NCED board is willing to arrange an administration of the NCED examination anywhere in the United States if approximately 10 persons are interested and meet the application requirements. Persons interested in the examination or becoming an NCED are encouraged to visit our website (<http://www.ncedonline.org/>) for more information NCED requirements as well as future exam dates.

*The NCED Board is solely responsible for exam administrations, technical adequacy, and reporting of results of the exam. Any questions about the NCED exam should be directed to the NCED board.*

### Leann DiAndreth-Elkins, Editor

*Communiqué* is the official quarterly newsletter of the Council for Educational Diagnostic Services (CEDS), a division of the Council for Exceptional Children. Subscriptions are by membership to CEDS. Web postings are made when the newsletter is sent to members. The editor encourages responses, ideas, and inquiries. Submissions of previously unpublished material are welcome for consideration.

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#### Assessment for Effective Intervention:

The official quarterly research journal of CEDS is *Assessment for Effective Intervention*, provided through CEDS membership. The primary purpose of the journal is to publish empirically sound manuscripts that have implications for practitioners. Submissions are encouraged; guidelines are available at <http://aei.sagepub.com>

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## CEC Convention



**Sandra Irby, Vice President**

Greetings! As the current CEDS President-elect, I am hoping to have a spectacular turn out at the CEC Convention in Boston from April 19–22, 2017. CEC’s Annual Convention & Expo serves the following purposes:

- Build, maintain, and energize a professional community;
- Provide the highest quality professional development;
- Provide a forum for advocacy and CEC governance;
- Provide information related to policy, philosophy, trends, etc.;
- Provide information on research and effective practices;

- Provide an exhibit showcasing the very best products and services for educators, including state-of-the-art technology solutions;
- Assist individuals with the process of career advancement/employment.

Also, the conference will have an entire strand devoted to our work as assessment and diagnostic professionals. I want to give you an idea of the conference schedule, so that you can plan to attend! Please know that CEDS will hold our Business Meeting and Social back-to-back on Thursday, April 20th. First, you can attend our business meeting from 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM. Plan to follow that up at our dessert reception from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM. At the reception you can network with other diagnostic professionals. Below is an overview of the conference schedule.

### CEC 2017 Convention & Expo Schedule

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

**6 program hours**

Full- & half-day convention workshops  
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. or  
9:00 – Noon or 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

**Sessions**

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.  
2:15 – 3:15 p.m.  
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

**Opening General Session**

5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

**Expo Grand Opening and Welcome Reception**

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 20

**6 program hours**

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.  
Second General Session  
9:45 – 10:45 a.m.  
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
  
Lunch 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.  
2:15 – 3:15 p.m.  
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

**EXPO HALL**

8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**EXCLUSIVE EXPO HOURS**

**9:00 – 9:45 a.m.**  
(Immediately following 2nd General Session)

**12:00 – 1:00 p.m.**  
Lunch in the Expo and Prize Drawings

**4:30 – 5:00 p.m.**  
Prize Drawings

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 21

**6 program hours**

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.  
Third General Session  
9:45 – 10:45 a.m.  
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Lunch 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

1:45 – 2:45 p.m.  
3:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
4:15 – 5:15 p.m.

**EXPO HALL**

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**EXCLUSIVE EXPO HOURS**

**9:00 – 9:45 a.m.**  
(Immediately following 3rd General Session)

**12:00 – 1:30 p.m.**  
Lunch in the Expo and Prize Drawings

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 22

**5 program hours**

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.  
9:15 – 10:15 a.m.  
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Lunch 11:30 – 1:00 p.m.

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.  
2:15 – 3:15 p.m.