
LEADERS & LEGACY

The Quarterly Newsletter for the CEC Leaders & Legacy Division



**Division of Leaders
and Legacy**

President's Message

This summer is an exceptionally busy one for DLL activities. DLL is represented at CEC's annual Leadership Institute (LI) July 7-9 and again at the Special Education Leadership Summit, (SELS) July 9-12. The LI and SELS are fun and informative meetings that advance the work of the Council. If you are ever interested in joining us at either of these meetings, let us know—the invitation is open and we would appreciate your involvement. A special shout out to Richard Sabousky, DLL's new CAN coordinator for representing the interests of DLL at SELS and for advocating for policy and funding for our field.

Our transition from the name *Pioneers* to the *Division of Leaders and Legacy* is almost complete. This week we received 501c3 status with the IRS in our new name. Our new logo is in process—look for that announcement soon.

Convention planning for San Antonio is well underway. DLL is organizing a collaborative session with a number of other divisions regarding trauma informed care and education. We also hope to sponsor a table in the expo exhibit area. If you are planning on attending CEC 2024 in San Antonio and willing to give us an hour or two at our table, please let us know.

Nominations for DLL President elect and committee chairs are open from now and to October 6. Please consider yourself or nominate a colleague for these leadership roles. The Mackie award nominations are also open, with an October 1 2023 deadline. Please consider your colleagues and submit a nomination for this prestigious award.

I hope to see you at the book club meeting, July 20, 2023 at 7:30 Eastern to discuss *Haben: the Deafblind Woman Who Conquered Harvard Law*. It is an engaging book—one that will encourage reflection on our advocacy for accommodations in all areas.

Have a great summer. Stay safe, and keep in touch.

Kathleen Puckett

Bylaws Committee Report

Joan McDonald, Chair



The Bylaws Committee has been very busy these last two years. In addition to updating the Division of Leaders and Legacy's Bylaws in 2022 to reflect current practice in the Division and a major adjustment in renaming the Division from the Pioneers Division (CEC-PD) to the Division of Leaders and Legacy (CEC-DLL), the Bylaws Committee and the DLL Board have updated the Board's Policy and Procedures Handbook.

The Handbook was a major undertaking since so much has changed since the last revision in 2012. The Committee was able to down size the document (by more than half the size) by updating the roles and responsibilities of the Board members, replacing outdated forms with current forms, revising the document to reflect current practice and changes that have been implemented by both CEC and DLL Bylaws changes, and deleting outdated sections and information.

I want to thank the Bylaws Committee (Mike Weinroth, GA; Julie Good, NJ; and Jim Chapple, OH) for their expertise and patience in this tedious work. They are a

great team to work with and provided insight and technical support. I also want to thank each and every member of the DLL Board for taking the time to review sections of the Handbook that pertained to their responsibilities. Their input and suggestions for additions and deletions were extremely helpful and appreciated. This work started under the DLL leadership of Dave Edyburn, then Candace Borger and currently Kathy Puckett. Thank you all again for the support and patience in this process.

I would like to say the Handbook is completed but I cannot. There will be ongoing changes and revisions with more room for refining and compacting the document. The Bylaws Committee decided to complete this major revision with the intention of continuing the process as our Division moves forward. We felt it was important for all our Board members to have a working copy of the roles and responsibilities of our Division along with maintaining some of the history.

I would also like to thank all the members of the DLL. The DLL Board is working hard on your behalf and want to provide the best service we can to our members. You are all leaders. We are the Division of LEADERS AND LEGACY.





The Division of Leaders and Legacy is excited to announce that it will be seeking nominations for the leadership position of President-Elect which will begin January 1, 2024.

Interested members are encouraged to consider this dynamic and rewarding leadership opportunity.

The formal call for nominations will be sent in early July with a due date of October 6th. Self-nominations will be accepted and are encouraged.

Candidates will be asked to provide a photograph that will be used as part of the subsequent ballot along with written responses to the following:

- Years of membership in CEC and DLL, leadership roles served and activities within CEC
- As you think about the future, what is your vision of DLL’s role within CEC and the field of special education?
- What are some of the opportunities and challenges you would like to see the Division address in the near future?
- What unique talents and abilities do you believe you will bring to your role on the Board?

The duties of the President-Elect are included below for your interest.

Duties of the President-Elect: The successful candidate will make a three-year commitment to Division leadership. The first year as President-Elect, this person organizes the Division’s program

at the annual CEC convention, attends monthly board meetings, and participates in quarterly inter-divisional conference calls, as well as the annual CEC Leadership training event. In the second year, this person serves as President of the Division and is responsible for overseeing all divisional activities. Some of these duties include: chairing a monthly meeting of the board, appointing committee chairs, and enhancing the division’s contributions to the Council and other Divisions. In the third year, this person becomes the Past President and attends monthly board meetings and Chairs the Nomination Committee.

The Division of Leaders and Legacy will also be seeking two committee chair positions, one for the Award and Honors Committee and the other for the Communication Committee beginning January 2024. These positions are appointed by the President with approval from the DLL Executive Board. Committee chairs serve a 3 year term which may be extended to a second term.

The main purpose of the Award and Honors Committee is to oversee the nomination and selection of the annual Romaine P. Mackie Leadership Award recipient which is presented during the CEC Annual Convention.

The Communications Committee Chair serves as the editor of the Division of Leaders and Legacy Newsletter, to manage and update the website and to support communication with DLL members regarding the events, activities and actions of the Board.

Please [take a look at the Bylaws](#) for additional information regarding the President-Elect and/or Committees and contact Candace Borger (candace16borger@gmail.com) Chair, Nominations Committee if you have any questions regarding these positions.

The Division of Leaders and Legacy Nominations Committee

**Treasurer's Report
Lorraine McPherson**



The Division of Leaders and Legacy is continuing to be a stable financial position. We have nearly met our annual revenue goals. With our membership trending up and the professional development activities, the Division is growing both in members and financially!

Other news:

- We have moved our banking business to Wells Fargo Bank, giving the Division more access to remote banking features and to other financial services.
- The Board approved moving savings funds into a short-term Certificate of Deposit with the 4.5% interest rate.
- The Division has submitted the application for official 501c3 status. Currently the IRS treats us like a 501c3, but the Division has not been fully designated as such.

Finance Committee is Looking for Members!

Interested in making and spending money? Join us on the Finance Committee! The role of the committee is to help make decisions about how to best use our finances to support DLL in our strategic plan. We will meet monthly via zoom. If you think you might be interested, please contact Lorraine McPherson, at CECDivisionofLeadersLegacy@gmail.com.



[Congress Approves Debt Ceiling Deal with Potential Implications for Education Funding](#)

[NIEER Releases The State\(s\) of Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education: Looking at Equity](#)

[Senator Van Hollen and Representative Lee Introduce Special Education Funding](#)



[Take action today by going to the CEC Legislative Action Center!](#)

Legacy Linkages

Diane Johnson

As the school year comes to a close, we focus more on transitions, finals, and heading for a new space whether from preschool to elementary to middle school to high school to a post secondary option, to a new job opportunity, or to retirement and new adventures. It is also the time of year when awards are given for outstanding achievement and contributions. "Summer" follows and is generally more relaxed and lends itself to reflection and rejuvenation in preparation for the coming fall beginnings created by these transitions await with the promise of new opportunities.

These transitions from an historical perspective are a good time to share material from the October, 1978 issue of Exceptional Children that linked Romaine P. Mackie, for whom DLL's most prestigious award is named, with J. E. Wallace Wallin, and CEC's most prestigious award. (Note: J.E. Wallace Wallin, was a pioneer in the development of clinical psychology and special education in the United States. The J. E. Wallace Wallin Education of Handicapped Children Annual Award was established in 1963 to be presented to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution in special education. It is now called the Special Education Lifetime Achievement Award.) In the excerpts below, the words from Dr. Mackie's citation remind us of the reasons that our Division award bears her name; and her remarks in accepting the Wallin Award provide the link between leadership and legacy building on history, but keeping the focus on continued improvement in our collective work.

Mackie's Award citation read: "The Council for Exceptional Children honors Romaine P. Mackie by presenting to her the 1978 Wallin Award in recognition of her exemplary career spanning 50 years of dedicated service and leadership in exceptional child education. Dr. Mackie has been a teacher of handicapped children. principal of a school for crippled children, and a teacher educator. She served as Chief of the Unit on Exceptional Children, US Office of Education, from 1954-1964, and during her tenure, directed the landmark study, "Qualification and Preparation of Teachers of Exceptional Children." On the international level, Dr. Mackie has been active since 1948, participating in numerous conferences on the education of the handicapped. A devoted and active member of CEC. Dr. Mackie served on Council committees concerned with epilepsy. the gifted, interagency relations, and recently on the International Relations Committee. Conferred upon Dr. Romaine P. Mackie is CEC's highest honor."

Following is Dr. Mackie's acceptance speech:

"Thank you members of the Council for presenting me with the Wallin Award.

I would like to greet all who have come from far and near as testimony of your deep interest in exceptional children. Whatever I have accomplished, I owe to others with whom I have had the privilege of working. Some of you came to the Office of Education to help us. but more often I had the pleasure of coming to your states and local communities where the children and their parents were. Let me again thank you for those experiences and for the guidance you gave me in using the then limited resources of the US Office of Education.

We in the office knew Dr. Wallin quite well. He was a very able and energetic man, which was reflected in whatever he undertook, and we enjoyed having him visit us. He usually wrote to us on penny postcards and seldom failed to fill in the margins with handwritten postscripts. He expected prompt replies. For example, if he sent us a card on Monday and did not have an answer by Friday, he might write the Commissioner of Education and complain about our inefficiency. Dr. Wallin recognized the importance of understanding the history of any movement and admonished us in various organizations to keep careful records. So I would like to express appreciation for his leadership in those earlier days.

Great changes have occurred and changes will continue. May I now give two examples.

When I came to work in your US Office of Education in 1947, exceptional children and youth were in a period of great need and, as a nation, we were inadequate in knowledge and resources to meet the situation. On the basis of statistical reports and estimates of prevalence of handicapping conditions, only 10% of the children in need of special education had access to it. Not all states had special education laws or even one person in the State Department of Education responsible for developing and maintaining programs. These statistics, standing alone, show the wide gap between the children in need and the educational provisions for them.

A dramatic story intervenes between then and now. In 30 years, we have moved from provisions for 10% to the mandate under P. L. 94.142 requiring that all handicapped children be identified and placed in appropriate educational facilities with individualized education programs.

In the years ahead, change will also occur and even at a faster rate. Our sense of history, as Dr. Wallin admonished us, may help us focus our efforts in the most worthwhile activities. Many future changes will occur-but from what we can see now, there will be increased emphasis on quality classroom instruction, or to put it another way, excellence in teaching and learning.

Thousands and thousands of handicapped children require instructional programs that offer more than equality of opportunity. Their education will be effective only when broadly conceived not only as teaching the three R's (important as this is) but also as providing for the child's total development. Such instructional programs recognize that learning is in the learner and that it is a creative process.

Such a program enlists the individual child's motivation. The classroom environment fosters respect for the self image of each child and can contribute to the strengthening of the self concept even of severely handicapped children and youth. Such a program makes the classroom a joyous place. It is an enormous factor in preparing the child for adult life in the home, community, and in gainful employment. You as a teacher, as an educational leader, you in this auditorium, may ask yourself, "How can I bring about change?" You in this audience of CEC members have been powerful in bringing about the changes of the last 30 years. When taken together--- collectively--- you have in your hands the ability to bring about the excellence in teaching and creating the environment in which learning (in the broadest, sense) can take place.

Shall we dedicate ourselves to this goal? With what energy is left to me, I would like to commit myself to work for the goal and I ask you to join me by dedicating yourselves to this cause which will ultimately contribute to the quality of American education and American life.

May I again thank you for this honor you have bestowed on me today, for the fellowship in years gone by, for the inspiration, and for the joy of life you have given me."

As is so often the case, these words bridge past, to present, to future, and remind us of our linkage of "kindred spirits" built on our shared legacy across CEC's 100 years of continual progress.

Enjoy your summer, your transitions, and your reflections on our legacy linkages.

2023 Division of Leaders and Legacy Board Members

The following individuals serve on the 2023 CEC DLL Board of Directors. To email any board member, write to us at: cecpioneers@gmail.com

Officers

- President:** Kathleen Puckett (2023)
- President Elect:** Mikki Garcia (2023)
- Immediate Past President:** Candace Borger (2023)
- Secretary:** Jamie Hopkins (2023-2025)
- Treasurer:** Lorrane McPherson (2023-2025)

Committee Chairs

Awards & Honors Committee:

Gloria Taradash (2021-2023)

Communications Committee:

Clinton Smith (2021-2023)

Constitution and Bylaws:

Joan McDonald (2023-2025)

DEC DLL: Legacy Committee:

Pamela Gillet (2023-2025)

Finance Committee:

Lorrane McPherson (2023-2025)

Membership Committee:

Mickie Wong-Lo (2023-2025)

Nominations & Elections Committee:

Candace Borger (2023)

Political Advocacy Committee (CAN):

Richard Sabousky (2023-2025)

Professional Development Committee:

Mikki Garcia (2023)

Other-Voting Members

Historian:

Diane Johnson (2023-2025)

Representative to Knowledge & Skills Committee:

Debi Gartland (2022-2024)

Representative to Project 2020:

Mary Ruth Coleman (2023)

Representative to CEC Division Relations Committee

Parthenia Cordell (2023)

Representative to CEC Leadership Development Committee

Kim Moffett (2023-24)



CEC DLL Calendar



**3rd Wednesday Monthly
4:00 pm ET**



Book Club Meeting

July 20, 2023 at 7:30 Eastern

Haben: the Deafblind Woman Who Conquered Harvard Law.

[Register Here!](#)

September 21, 2023 at 7:30 pm Eastern

Critical Race Theory: An Introduction

[Register Here!](#)

Leaders & Legacy is published four times a year by the Division of Leaders & Legacy of the Council for Exceptional Children.

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