CEC LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
2019

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, & SUNDAY, JULY 5-7
Crystal Gateway Marriott
1700 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Arlington, VA
PRESENTED BY THE COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN
FRIDAY, JULY 5

4-6 PM
REGISTRATION & INFORMATION DESK OPEN

5-6 PM
INTER-DIVISIONAL CAUCUS ORIENTATION

SATURDAY, JULY 6

7-8:45 AM
INTER-DIVISIONAL CAUCUS MEETING

7:30 AM-4:30 PM
REGISTRATION & INFORMATION DESK OPEN

9-10:15 AM
Opening General Session

STATE OF THE PROFESSION: WHERE ARE WE NOW AND WHERE DO WE WANT TO BE?

*Bill Bogdan, Mary Ruth Coleman, Susan Fowler, Julie Bost*

CEC’s State of the Profession Survey yielded critical information about special educators and their practice. Which areas of teaching do they feel confident about? Which areas give them pause? What do they need to succeed as professionals? As unit and division leaders, you’re in an ideal position to apply this information to your organization’s activities to engage members, build loyalty, and impact decisions on the ground level. Through data and conversation, this opening session will share "the state of our profession" and inspire you and your team to lead your members to success!
RECRUITING, RETAINING, AND ENGAGING MEMBERS

Judy Harrison, Alexandra Garvey

“We need to get more members!” The common mantra for unit and division executive leadership teams. But, did you know it’s equally if not more important to keep the members you already have? This session will be your opportunity to share, ask, learn, and explore how to keep your members engaged and build loyalty around your organization.

SUSTAINING GREAT LEADERSHIP IN YOUR UNIT OR DIVISION

Mikki Garcia, Sharon Rodriguez

The Leadership Development Committee met during the 2019 CEC Convention & Expo with members who wanted to get involved in a unit or division. You’d be amazed at what we learned. As volunteer-run entities, units and division must plan in order to “build a bench” that will sustain effective leadership over the long term. During this interactive session, participants will identify leadership opportunities within their unit or division; describe various pathways to those opportunities; identify real or perceived barriers to entering or advancing in the ranks of leadership; and ways to help existing and potential leaders overcome them.

GROWING MEMBERSHIP AND MANAGING DATA

Bryan Reynolds, Darenda Downing

Retention and membership growth benefits CEC, units, divisions, and the field of special education. This interactive session will take the guesswork out of member data and focus on practical solutions to acquire new members, retain existing members, market your unit or division and events, use your own data, and make effective use of CEC’s member and customer data offerings.
THE POWER OF ADVOCACY: CEC RESOURCES FOR NEW CAN COORDINATORS

Deborah Ziegler

This session will help new CAN Coordinators understand their role and responsibilities as CEC’s premiere grassroots advocates and provide techniques for establishing, building, organizing, and maintaining a successful grassroots network. Learn how coalition partnerships can further your advocacy goals, the latest strategies for developing and building positive relationships with elected officials and their staff, and hone your understanding of the legislative and appropriations processes.

LUNCH

ADVOCACY 365: DYNAMIC GRASSROOTS NETWORKS

Deborah Ziegler

This fast-paced and interactive session will focus on analyzing and building an effective CEC grassroots network. Advocates will have an opportunity to identify and discuss critical issues for CEC’s future public policy agenda, learn about successful policy and advocacy strategies to enhance advocacy from other CEC CAN coordinators, and sharpen your unit or division’s advocacy game plan. Come prepared to share your advocacy ideas and influence future outcomes for children and youth with exceptionalities.
SUNDAY, JULY 7

8:30-9:45 AM  CAN Strand

EDUCATION PRIORITIES OF U.S. CONGRESS AND THE ADMINISTRATION: IMPLICATIONS FOR POLICY AND ADVOCACY
Deborah Ziegler

In this wide-ranging session, CEC’s Policy and Advocacy Director will present education policies currently under discussion in Washington, review recent changes, and examine their impact on children and youth with disabilities, gifts, and/or talents. Issues to be discussed include federal appropriations, private school vouchers, teacher and early childhood provider shortages, regulatory reform, Office for Civil Rights guidance, GAO reports, IDEA, ESRA, HEA, restraint and seclusion, school safety, and the presidential election.

CAN COORDINATORS ARE RECOMMENDED TO ATTEND THE LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE SESSION, "MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA," FROM 10-11:15 AM.
SUNDAY, JULY 7
CONT'D

8:30-9:45 AM

Breakout Sessions

RETHINKING CONFERENCES AND PD EVENTS
Jennifer Bullock, Megan Shea
This session will share the results of CEC’s recent professional development needs assessment to better understand what and how practitioners in the field of special education want to learn. Additionally, recommendations will be provided on offering and hosting webinars and developing and implementing successful professional development programs at the division and unit level.

MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA
Alexandra Garvey, Mason Shelby
Learn how to make the most of your online presence! This session will provide an overview on how to maximize the Higher Logic microsite content management system (CMS), including best practices for maintaining your unit or division’s microsite, where to find resources, and requesting help with the web building process. In addition, you’ll learn some high-level social media practices, tips, and insights to help build engagement, drive users to your site, and expand your reach.

UNIT RESET
Tony England, Amy Hobbs, Jarrod Hobson, Rachel Klein, Mike Salomon, Tara Rinehart
This interactive panel session will highlight Indiana and Virginia CECs’ consultation with CEC Headquarters to assess and improve their unit governance, bylaws, and activities. The panel will then open up for discussion about their successes and challenges as they continue to apply what they learned and strive to meet the needs of their members. Whether you’re a unit or a division leader, come ready for honest conversation and valuable idea sharing.
SUNDAY, JULY 7
CONT’D

10-11:15 AM

Breakout Sessions

CONCURRENT & REPEATING SESSIONS LISTED ABOVE

11:15 AM-1 PM

SUNDAY LUNCH SESSION

Art Herold, Craig Evans

During this session, presenters will share essential information to help your unit or division run smoothly. Topics that will be discussed include: assurance form requirements and deadlines for submission; dues collections and distribution process; review of unit and division structure; maintaining 501(c)(3) status, documentation, insurance, and annual audit; and a Form 990 review and filing requirements.

1 PM

LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE ADJOURNS
BILL BOGDAN, ED.D.

Dr. Bogdan served as CEC President in 1999-2000. He began his career as a special education teacher working with students with multiple disabilities, learning disabilities, and significant emotional disturbances. For more than 30 years, Bill has served in administrative roles that focused on the provisions of special education services at a local, regional, and state level. As his career progressed, he moved into central office positions, finally serving as Assistant Superintendent and Chief Operating Officer for a large, regional educational service center in the greater Cincinnati area. Simultaneously, he served as Executive Director of a federally funded regional special education resource center in Southwest Ohio.

Over the years, Bill’s focus has centered on systems and organizational development with an ongoing passion for supporting schools, school districts, and regional service systems in improving services and structures that support the diverse educational needs of all students, especially those with exceptionalities, gifts, and talents. His efforts in coordinating professional and technical services offered to more than 50 school districts in Southwest Ohio has resulted in strengthened partnerships among school districts, universities, and social service agencies, all committed to serving students and families in a more seamless and cohesive manner.

JULIE IRENE BOST, ED.D.

Dr. Bost is a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Julie has 20 years of experience in the special education field in the public-school setting, including as a special education program administrator and a teacher of students with exceptionalities in both the special education and general education classrooms in grades K-12. Julie currently serves as Membership Chair for CASE and on the CEC Board of Directors. She is also a Past-President of the North Carolina Council for Exceptional Children.
JENNIFER BULLOCK

Jennifer is the Director of Education and Professional Standards and Practices at CEC. In this capacity, she oversees the Council’s digital and customized professional development initiatives, as well as the Professional Standards and Practice work on behalf of the organization. She has extensive experience in instructional design for adult learners, digital program development, program evaluation, research, account management, marketing, and event planning.

MARY RUTH COLEMAN, PH.D.

Dr. Coleman is a Senior Scientist Emeritus at the FPG Child Development Institute at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She directs Project U-STAR PLUS (Using Science, Talents and Abilities to Recognize Students – Promoting Learning in Underrepresented Students). Her projects have included: ACCESS (Achievement in Content and Curriculum for Every Student’s Success), a National Significance Project funded by OSEP, and applications of RTI for young children through the Recognition & Response Project, sponsored by the Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation.

Dr. Coleman has numerous publications, including the 14th Edition of the seminal textbook, Educating Exceptional Children by Samuel A. Kirk, James J. Gallagher, and Mary Ruth Coleman (2014) and Implementing RTI with Gifted Students, edited with Susan Johnsen (2013). She has served three terms (nine years) on the Board of Directors for The Association for the Gifted (TAG), one of which she was President, and on the Board of the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC). She also served two terms (six years) on the CEC Board of Directors. She was President of CEC in 2007.
DARENDA DOWNING

Darenda is the Marketing Manager at CEC. In her 15 years of experience, Darenda has worked across multiple marketing disciplines for large and small associations, as well as a top-ranked marketing agency. With data analysis as one of her core skills, Darenda regularly builds and executes marketing campaigns that save money and deliver results. During her workshop, Darenda will help attendees use their member data to support engagement, retention, and acquisition.

TONY ENGLAND

Tony is Assistant Superintendent of Student Services at Elkhart Community Schools in Northern Indiana. He has worked in special and alternative education in New York, Illinois, and Indiana. Tony has served as a social worker, Dean, Principal, Director of Special Education, and Assistant Superintendent.

CRAIG EVANS

Craig is the Chief Financial Officer and Director of Operations and has been with CEC for four years. Craig has an MBA, holds the designation of Certified Management Accountant (CMA), and has more than 20 years of experience in finance, accounting, and operations with a variety of non-profit organizations.

SUSAN FOWLER, PH.D.

Dr. Fowler has been an active member of CEC since 1975. She was the recipient of the 2018 CEC J.E. Wallace Wallin Award for contributions to the field of special education and served as the former President of CEC (2009), Pioneers Division (2018), and DEC (1992). Her research has been on the provision of high-quality services for young children with disabilities, with a focus on interagency coordination of services for children and families at times of transition between early intervention, preschool, and kindergarten. She has been active in personnel preparation and policy issues in special education. She is Professor Emerita of Special Education at the University of Illinois, where she also served as Dean of the College.
SPEAKERS

MIKKI GARCIA, ED.D.

Dr. Garcia received her doctorate from George Peabody College of Vanderbilt University in educational leadership and special education with a specialization in visual impairments. After completing her doctorate in 1989, she moved to Germany with her family, where she was employed by the Department of Defense Dependent Schools. In 1994, she relocated to Savannah, Georgia, and became a faculty member in the Special Education Department of Armstrong Atlantic State University, where she trained future teachers. A public school advocate at heart, Mikki accepted a position in 2001 with the Savannah-Chatham County Public School System as a Special Education Administrator.

In 2015, Mikki retired after spending her last year as Principal of an elementary school. Dr. Garcia has served as Chairperson of the Georgia State Advisory Panel, been President of Georgia CASE and Georgia CEC, and served on many CEC committees at the national level. Currently, Mikki serves as immediate Past President of CEC and is the Chair of the Leadership Development Committee. While Mikki may be retired from administration, she has definitely not retired from special education. Currently, she serves as a parent advocate and is employed by the State of Georgia as an IEP facilitator and complaint investigator.

ALEXANDRA GARVEY

As Communications Manager at CEC, Alex is responsible for coordinating and developing all CEC communications efforts, including web content, social media, digital strategy, online engagement, media outreach, emails, newsletters, and other written materials related to CEC’s branding, policies, and messaging. Originally from Birmingham, Alabama, she has a B.A. in English from Hamilton College and currently lives in Washington, D.C. Alex came to CEC in March from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, and looks forward to working with the CEC community to empower and support special educators as they advance the success of children and youth with exceptionalities.
SPEAKERS

**JUDY HARRISON**

Judy is the Director of Membership, Marketing, and Communications at CEC. Judy brings a background in special education and association management to her role at CEC, where she oversees a department committed to ensuring that CEC’s membership, marketing, and communications are strong and meaningful.

**ARTHUR L. HEROLD, ESQ.**

Arthur is a partner at Webster, Chamberlain & Bean. His practice involves all aspects of non-profit law, including general corporate and governance, anti-trust, tax, intellectual property, employment, and contract matters. Herold received his B.A. from Tulane University and his LL.B. from Tulane University Law School. He a member of the District of Columbia and Louisiana Bar Associations.

**AMY HOBBS**

Amy is the Director of Special Services for Warsaw Community Schools in Warsaw, Indiana, in the same district she’s worked her entire career. Over the past 26 years, Amy has taught Intense Interventions in both a centralized program for North Central Indiana Special Education Cooperative (NCISEC) and the HS Intense Interventions classroom, and was previously a Transition Coordinator. She eventually went on to lead the NCISEC, which is comprised of 6 school districts that operate under a decentralized model. In addition to being an active member of the Northeast Roundtable of ICASE and serving as a representative on the Dispute Resolution Subcommittee, Amy recently became the Indiana CEC President.

**JARROD HOBSON**

Jarrod is currently a K-5 special education teacher in Henrico County Public Schools. He works primarily as a co-teacher in the general education classroom. He is a graduate of Radford University, which led to his initial involvement in Virginia CEC.
SPEAKERS

RACHEL KLEIN
Rachel has served as the Secretary and Treasurer for Virginia CEC since 2017. She is a graduate of Radford University’s five-year master’s program in K-12 special education and holds dual licensure in general and adapted curriculum. She currently works at Margaret Beeks Elementary School in Blacksburg, Virginia, as the third grade case manager and co-teacher.

BRYAN REYNOLDS
Bryan is the Database and Membership Manager at CEC. He has more than 15 years of experience in IT and database support, studied computer science at the University of Buffalo, and holds certification in various software and operating systems.

TARA RINEHART, PH.D.
Dr. Rinehart is the Director of Special Services for the MSD Wayne Township and has worked in the district since 2011. She was an Elementary Principal and worked at the Indiana Department of Education as the State Response to Intervention Specialist as well as an Exceptional Learners Specialist with Special Education Complaints, Disproportionality, and Parent Involvement. She holds her Ph.D. and Ed.S. from Indiana State University, M.S. in Educational Administration from Butler University, and B.A. in Special Education from Arizona State University. Dr. Rinehart has been a Special Education Department Chair and special education teacher and currently serves on the Indiana CEC Executive Board.

SHARON RODRIGUEZ
As CEC’s Executive Services and Governance Coordinator, Sharon supports the Executive Director and the Board of Directors and serves as the staff liaison to the Leadership Development and Representative Assembly Committees. Sharon has also supported many of CEC’s workgroups over the years. Prior to coming to CEC in 2008, Sharon worked for a credentialing organization in C-suite and governance support and with the organization’s professional practice and ethics committee. She also assisted with project management of a for-profit subsidiary.
MEGAN SHEA

Megan is the Manager of Professional Development and Standards at CEC, but is best known as the voice you hear at the beginning of CEC webinars. She has held a variety of roles at CEC in the education, standards, marketing, communications, and membership departments. Megan graduated from Georgetown University with a double major in Management and Operations/Information Management, and lives in Baltimore with her husband and her dog.

MIKE SALOMON

Mike is the President of the Virginia Council for Exceptional Children and an Administrative Coordinator of Assistive Technology in Prince William County, Virginia. Mike first became involved with CEC as a student while attending Radford University, where he received his B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies and his Master’s degree in Special Education. He is currently pursuing an additional master’s degree in Education Leadership at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia.

MASON SHELBY

Mason is the Digital Communications Specialist at the Council for Exceptional Children and assists with updating and maintaining the various web platforms of the organization, including tech support for the unit and division microsites on community.cec.sped.org. A northern Virginia native, Mason graduated from James Madison University with focus on interactive media and graphic design. He brings to CEC a wealth of real-world educational experience from working on high-profile multimedia projects at George Washington's Mount Vernon estate and museum.
SPEAKERS

DEBORAH ZIEGLER, ED.D.

Dr. Ziegler is the Director of Policy and Advocacy at CEC. She has broad public policy experience at the international, national, state, and local levels. Dr. Ziegler works to further the overall goals of CEC through improving policies affecting children and youth with exceptionalities and the professionals who work on their behalf at all levels of government. In her position, she is responsible for providing leadership and direction for the association’s public policy agenda, including policy development, implementation, and analysis; information collection and dissemination; and maintaining a grassroots network of Children and Youth Action Network (CAN) Coordinators.