

# Texas Council for Learning Disabilities

A Division of the South Central Region

Fall 2018

### **Mission Statement**

The Council for Learning Disabilities (CLD), an international organization composed of professionals who represent diverse disciplines, is committed to enhancing the education and quality of life for individuals with learning disabilities across their life span. CLD accomplishes this by promoting and disseminating evidence—based research and practices related to the education of individuals with learning disabilities. In addition, CLD fosters (a) collaboration among professionals; (b) development of leaders in the field; and (c) advocacy for policies that support individuals with learning disabilities at local, state, and national levels.

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## **President's Greeting**

Dear TCLD Members,



I hope you all are having a great semester. First, I want to personally thank you for the opportunity to serve as your president and for the diligent work you do each and every day. I also would like to thank Kristi Santi, our Past President, for her continuous support as I strive to follow her footsteps.

In this letter, I am thrilled to share the latest Texas CLD news and incoming initiatives. Many of our members attended the 40th annual CLD conference in Portland, OR. This conference is my most favorite because of the warm welcome I received. I shared my feelings with Joyce Rademacher, CLD Past President, my colleague and my former mentor from TWU, and she said, "We are a Family." Indeed, we are a Family! I was so excited and encouraged to connect with other educators and professionals who share the passion of serving the field of special education. Our executive board members Kristi Santi, Maryam Nozari, and Lesli Raymond also attended the conference and presented their research. Two of Texas CLD members, Judith Voress and Samantha Bos were recognized as recipients of prestigious CLD awards. Judith Voress, the Executive Director of the Hammill Institute on Disabilities, was presented with the Floyd G. Hudson Outstanding Service Award. Judy has been an active CLD member since 1982! Samantha Bos, a special education teacher at the Winston School, was presented with the Teacher of the Year Award. Congratulations, Judy and Samantha!

I want to share an exciting networking and professional development opportunity Texas CLD will be hosting in partnership with the University of Houston. Mark your calendars for February 7th, 2019, and joint Texas CLD for a one-day conference featuring special education expert and WrightsLaw founder Pete Wright. The conference will focus on special education law, assessment, SMART

## President's Greeting (cont.)

IEPs, and strategies for effective advocacy. Please visit our website for details and registration <a href="http://texascld.strikingly.com/">http://texascld.strikingly.com/</a>. I hope to see you in Houston!

Texas CLD is committed to enhancing the education and quality of life for individuals with learning disabilities across the life span. Our organization could not accomplish this mission without your help. Thank you for your support! I encourage you to share information about Texas CLD with fellow educators and other professionals.

I wish you a successful semester and a beautiful Thanksgiving with your families and loved ones.

Mariya Davis, Ph.D.

Most sincerely,

President of the Texas Council for Learning Disabilities

### **Texas Student CLD Chapter News/Announcements**

- The Texas A&M University-San Antonio CLD student chapter, first and only national CLD student chapter, hit a record number of 68 members this Fall. The students are actively serving their university and community. The chapter also started a Public Relations campaign "See the ABLE not the LABEL." As Temple Grandin once said, "In special education, there is too much emphasis placed on the deficit and not enough on the strength." See the ABLE!
- **Members Gallery:** The website has a new section for members to submit accolades regarding research, teaching, and community outreach. We would like to highlight our Texas Chapters accomplishments on a monthly basis as well as in the Newsletters. Please consider submitting on either your behalf or a fellow members behalf.

#### **Texas Council for Learning Disabilities**



#### **Connect with us:**



@texas cld





https://www.linkedin.com/pub/texas-cld-chapter/a5/b78/91b



http://texascld.strikingly.com



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## **Messages from the Board Members**



#### Maryam Nozari: Vice President

I am proud to serve as your Vice President at TCLD this year and feel so honored to be part of such a wonderful organization. I am very much looking forward to working with all of you to promote evidence-based teaching, research and advocacy for individuals with learning disabilities and their families. As a board member, I will continue to expand the TCLD chapter through promoting professional collaboration, providing recourses, and improving social networks.

The TCLD board members would love to connect with you; we are active on all the main social media channels, including Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn. TCLD website is home to our latest events, announcements and recourses. We are so excited about our upcoming event on Wrightslaw on February 7, 2019. It is a great opportunity to learn about special education law and advocacy training program as well as network with some of the highly regarded leaders in the field of learning disabilities.

We would like to hear from you! Please share your experience engaging in research, teaching, and community outreach with us so we can pass it along to all members. On behalf of TCLD board members, thank you all for supporting our mission.

#### Lesli Raymond: Treasurer

I, along with the other members of the Texas Council for Learning Disabilities board, appreciate your membership and are here to serve you. We are continuously looking for ways to utilize your membership dues in a way that will benefit your work with students with disabilities. The Wrightslaw conference we will be hosting in partnership with the University of Houston in February is one example of how we are using TCLD funds to support you. We look forward to hearing from you in what other ways you would like to see your membership dues used.





#### Kristi Santi: Past President

Dear TCLD Members.

Your TCLD board has been working this semester to bring you member benefits that expand your professional growth. We are excited to sponsor a Wrightslaw Conference in Houston February 7, 2019. Active members, as of October 1, 2018 will have an opportunity to register for free and pending a few more details we have one other surprise for our membership. We congratulate our Texas Teacher of the Year and Floyd G. Hudson winners! Both are great representatives of our state. Please consider running for a state office to help us bring in new ideas

to provide our membership with local and state activities. Remember that the 2019 conference will be held in San Antonio. Please contact Mariya or me if you can volunteer on the local arrangements committee.

Best to all! Kristi, Past President



Join the Texas Chapter of the Council for Learning Disabilities (CLD) for a one-day conference featuring special education expert and Wrightslaw founder Pete Wright. Sessions will focus on:



Pete Wright, Esq.

- Special education law, rights and responsibilities
- Assessments to measure progress
- "SMART" IEPs
- Tactics and strategies for effective advocacy

Wrightslaw programs are designed for parents, educators, healthcare providers, advocates and attorneys who represent children with disabilities. The program is not disability specific.



Thursday, February 7 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



University of Houston

Student Center South Ballroom 271 Student Center South Houston, TX 77004-3049



#### **Conference tickets include:**

Three Wrightslaw books Retail value \$62.85 Parking pass Light snacks and beverages Free WiFi



Early Bird Price Price on Dec. 1

General admission with CEU/CLE General admission

\$165 \$200 \$120 \$155





