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ABOUT DCD

The Division for Communication, Language, and Deaf/Hard of Hearing (DCD) is the official division of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) that serves professionals interested in the education of children with special communication needs. The primary mission of DCD is to promote the welfare, development, and education of infants, toddlers, children and youth with special communication, language and learning needs. In addition, DCD seeks to support professional development of service providers and foster the growth in families as they strive to better understand the educational, communication, language, and social/emotional needs of children.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

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- Access to national professional research journal (*Communication Disorders Quarterly*, *Exceptional Children*), service provider publications (*Teaching Exceptional Children*), professional resources, leadership, and service opportunities;
 - Opportunities to collaborate with colleagues across the 17 CEC special interest divisions;
 - Monthly email updates of emerging knowledge and resources from DCD Constituent Chairs;
 - DCD sponsored presentation “slots” at the annual CEC Convention and Expo;
 - DCD promoted CEC Webinar proposal and delivery opportunities;
 - DCD lead initiatives to enhance the learning opportunities and performance of students with communication-based disabilities;
 - Receipt of *Communication Disorders Quarterly* journal; and
 - Membership in a nationwide community of learners committed to enhancing the education of students with unique communication, language, and learning needs.

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DCDCEC.org

Division of Communication, Language, and Deaf/Hard of Hearing

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DCD CONSTITUENT COMMITTEES

Committee on Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Chair: Anna Paulson (anna.paulson {at} state.mn.us)

The Committee on Deaf and Hard of Hearing recognizes that students with hearing losses are educated in a variety of environments and through a variety of approaches. The purpose of this committee is to act as a venue for teachers of the deaf and hard of hearing, their families, and deaf or hard of hearing individuals themselves to gather and discuss the challenges that they encounter on a daily basis. This committee encourages a closer examination of such challenges as access to the general education curriculum, sensitivity to diversity within the population, and a careful understanding of medical and technological advances, among others. It also serves as a forum for proposed solutions. The committee seeks to connect teachers of the deaf and hard of hearing from across the country with one another, so that their concerns may be heard by the broader education community.

Committee on Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers

Chair: Debbie Lively (dlively {at} svsu.edu)

The Committee on Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers focuses on current issues, curricula and family centered practices for young children with speech, language and/or hearing difficulties. The purpose of this committee is to provide an opportunity for educators working with young children who have speech, language and/or hearing difficulties and their families to network, advocate, and reflect on challenges encountered on a daily basis.

Children and Youth Action Network -C.A.N.

Coordinator: Stan Dublinske (standub {at} comcast.net)

CEC's Children and Youth Action Network C.A.N. is an organized group of volunteers who are dedicated to helping advance policy affecting students with disabilities and/or gifts and talents.

Division of Communication, Language, and Deaf/Hard of Hearing

Committee on Speech and Language Learning Disabilities in Children

Chair: Diane Paul (dpaul {at} asha.org)

The Committee on Speech and Language Learning Disabilities in Children supports this work through its focus on the language, literacy, and learning needs of children across the age span who have speech, language, and learning disabilities.

Committee on Severe/Multiple Disabilities

Chair: Susan Bruce (susan.bruce {at} bc.edu)

The Committee Multiple and Severe Disabilities focuses on current issues, curricula and family centered practices for students with speech, language and/or hearing difficulties who also have multiple or severe disabilities. The purpose of this committee is to provide an opportunity for educators working with these students and their families to network, advocate, and reflect on challenges encountered on a daily basis.

Knowledge & Skills Ad Hoc Committee

Chair: Kevin Miller (kevinmiller432 {at} gmail.com)

The representative from this committee serves as the DCD's voice on the CEC Knowledge and Skills subcommittee. The primary task of the committee is to propose, monitor, maintain, and revise professional standards for preparing teachers and other educational service providers who work with children who have disabilities and their families. Recently, the committee completed a comprehensive review and revision of the specialty set standards for preparing teachers who serve children who are deaf or hard of hearing. The committee also created a Code of Ethics and Professional Practice for those severing children who are deaf or hard of hearing.