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Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD)  
2007 AUCD Awards

*"A Celebration of Achievement"*

Being honored by your colleagues, by the community you serve, by those who have mentored your growth, or by your organization is a sincere tribute to significant achievement. It is a distinct pleasure for the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) to have within our membership and among those who collaborate with us in national public policy people who are engaged in building the foundations, pushing the frontiers, and creating new horizons in the disabilities field.

The work of each of us is honored by the contributions of those individuals who, working alone and in partnership with others, take us to new heights. The spirit of AUCD is lifted by these people, and we acknowledge their accomplishments by recognizing them in our annual Celebration of Achievement.

The following pages outline AUCD Awards and their criteria. Should you wish to nominate an individual or program for an award, please complete the form included at the end and submit it to the Chair of the Awards Committee. **Nominations will be accepted through September 7, 2007.** The winners will be announced and awards will be presented during AUCD's Annual Meeting, November 10–14, 2007, in Washington, DC.

### *Distinguished Achievement Award*

This award is the highest accolade presented by AUCD and is given to individuals or organizations making distinguished *lifetime* contributions to people with developmental disabilities and their families. The two-page nomination must include a description of the candidate's accomplishments in research, education, and service and a biographical sketch of the individual or organization candidate. Information relevant to the community, scientific, educational, organizational, or political environment in which the candidate's accomplishments were made may be included in the narrative to support the nomination.

### *Outstanding Achievement Award*

The Outstanding Achievement Award recognizes a UCEDD, LEND, or DDRC executive, faculty, or staff member who has demonstrated excellence in three major areas of the field -- teaching, scholarship, and service to the wider community. Nominations must include a one-page statement highlighting the nominee's contributions in two or more of the following:

- Teaching. The nominee should have a demonstrated record of outstanding teaching demonstrated by teaching evaluations from students or colleagues. If the individual has received formal recognition for teaching excellence, please note the award title, source, and the year awarded.
- Scholarship and Research. The nominee should have a record of research and/or publications in the disabilities field which have made an impact on the field. The publications may include books, book chapters, refereed journal articles, research notes, or monographs.
- Community and Public Service. Contributions by the individual to community service working to support people with developmental disabilities and their families is an important factor in this award. Such activities may include service on boards and commissions, government service, and service to advocacy or professional organizations.

### *Leadership in Advocacy Award*

The Leadership in Advocacy Award is presented to an outstanding individual or family member who has exhibited exceptional leadership and self-advocacy skills in the area of developmental disabilities. The nomination should include a two-page description of the nominee's activities that demonstrate the individual or family member's leadership and self-advocacy skills. The description should list agencies and events in which the nominee was involved that have made a significant difference in the lives of individuals with disabilities.

### *Young Professional Award*

This award is presented to professionals in the disabilities field under the age of 40 years who have demonstrated dedication and commitment to people with developmental disabilities and their families through their work as a bridge between the academic sector and the community. Nominations should be limited to one page and include a description of activities exemplifying the nominee's contributions. The nominee's birth date, including the year, should be included on the nomination page.

### *Anne Rudigier Award*

Presented by the Rudigier Family to commemorate the accomplishments and commitment of their daughter Anne, this award recognizes an outstanding student demonstrating a commitment to supporting people with developmental disabilities and their families. Any UCEDD or LEND faculty member may nominate a student. The nomination should include a 2-page description of the nominee's activities while enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program that demonstrate how the student has made a difference in the life of an individual with a developmental disability. Please include the name of the school(s) in which the student is enrolled currently, and the school where activities for which the student is being nominated occurred (if different). Students currently enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program and in good academic standing are eligible. The awardee will receive \$500.

### *Multicultural Council Award for Leadership in Diversity*

The Multicultural Council Award for Leadership in Diversity is presented to an Association member or group in recognition of:

- their exhibited leadership and commitment to advancing programs and practices aimed toward increasing the diversity, cultural, and/or linguistic competencies (in curriculum, services, supports, research, and recruitment) within a Center and the AUCD network as a whole,
- exemplary programs and practices addressing the areas of diversity, cultural, and/or linguistic competencies (in curriculum, services, supports, research, and recruitment) within a Center and the AUCD network as a whole,
- significant contributions in furthering the cause of diversity understanding for the needs of families seeking disability services.

### *Council on Community Advocacy Award*

The Council on Community Advocacy Award will be presented to the UCEDD that:

- has exhibited the strongest commitment to support the full and active participation of self advocates and family members on its consumer advisory council;
- has demonstrated leadership in the promotion and use of assistive technology to enhance the lives and participation of individuals with disabilities (i.e. may have a model program);
- has an outstanding record in providing and encouraging best or promising practices in person and family centered principles; and
- utilizes culturally competent approaches and overall consumer accessibility in all aspects of their mission (including publications, activities, and projects).

### *Gold Star Award*

The AUCD Gold Star Award, established in 2002, is presented to a Capitol Hill staffer who exemplifies a true partnership in crafting strong public policy. This award recognizes the staffer for his/her professional and personal efforts to craft policy and implement programs with input from AUCD and the greater disability community, thus supporting AUCD in achieving its mission to advance policy and practice for and with people living with developmental and other disabilities, their families, and communities.

### *Special Recognition Awards*

The AUCD Special Recognition Award is presented to an Association member or group, or to an individual, group, or organization outside of the AUCD, to recognize outstanding contributions toward creating more inclusive communities for people with developmental disabilities and their families. The award is given in recognition of professional and personal efforts in a programmatic area that proactively supports people with developmental disabilities and their families at the local, state, or national level. The nomination should include a description of the program area in which the nominee was centrally involved and a description of the complexity or severity of problems addressed; key organizations or individuals whose involvement in addressing the issue was facilitated by this member or group; use of original, innovative, or effective approaches to address the problem or issue; and contributions to attainment of AUCD goals or national policy positions. If a group or organization is being nominated, the name(s) of key people directly involved in the noted accomplishments should be provided.

### *Meritorious Service Award*

The AUCD Meritorious Service Award is presented to an Association member or group in recognition of professional and personal efforts that proactively support AUCD in achieving its mission to advance policy and practice for and with people living with developmental and other disabilities, their families and communities. The focus of this award is service to the Association in a way that has helped build the capacity of AUCD to support its members and thereby improve the lives of individuals with disabilities and their families.

## Nomination Information

Nominations must include the following on this form:

- contact information on the nominee
- award category
- contact information for the nominating individual
- a brief summary of why the individual, team, or organization nominated deserves this award
- any additional material which may be required for this award (varies by award: please refer to the award criteria located in this announcement for specifics)

### Nomination Period

**Nominations will be accepted through September 7, 2007.** The awards will be announced during the Awards Breakfast of AUCD's Annual Meeting on November 14, 2007, in Washington, DC.

### Submission Instructions

Return this form with the nomination information by email to [lu.zeph@umit.maine.edu](mailto:lu.zeph@umit.maine.edu), fax to **207-581-9446**, or mail to the address below. Contact Lu with questions: 207-581-1207.

Lucille Zeph, Ed.D.

The University of Maine UCEDD

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*Nominations for the Multicultural Council and Council on Community Advocacy awards will be reviewed by each Council respectively.*

*Nominations for the Gold Star Award will be reviewed by the Legislative Affairs Committee.*

*The AUCD Board's 2007 Awards Committee will review nominations for all other awards.*

**Nomination Form**  
 (Submit to [lu.zeph@umit.maine.edu](mailto:lu.zeph@umit.maine.edu))

<b>**Individual Being Nominated</b>	
Title	
Center	
Address	
Daytime phone number	(    )
FAX number	(    )
<b>**Award Category</b>	
<b>**Nominated By</b>	
Title	
Center	
Address	
Daytime phone number	(    )
FAX number	(    )
Signature (I certify that the submission meets all eligibility requirements)	

Nomination Summary: