

# AUCDigest August 2013

August 2013 | Vol. XIII, Issue 8

AUCDigest August 2013 .....	1
AUCD Central Office News.....	2
Network News – Awards & Honors .....	2
Network News – People on the Move.....	2
Network News - Activities & Resources.....	3
Member Spotlight .....	5
Events .....	5
Employment Opportunities...	7
Stay Connected.....	7
Our Network Members .....	7
Submissions .....	7

# AUCD Central Office News

## Observing the Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act

On the 23rd Anniversary of the ADA, AUCD's George Jesien and Directors of 10 other disability organizations met with President Obama, Valerie Jarrett, Claudia Gordon, and Tom Perez to discuss issues important to the disability community. Topics covered by George and other leaders at the table included transition, employment, the CRPD, and much more. [Read more....](#)

## Emily Ladau, AUCD's Projects Intern is AUCD's Early Career Professionals' August Guest Blogger

AUCD is happy to announce the Early Career Professionals' August guest blogger – Emily Ladau. Emily is a Projects Intern at AUCD under the auspices of the American Association of People with Disabilities Internship Program. She recently graduated summa cum laude with a BA in English from Adelphi University. Please take a moment and read "Power of a Skill: Self-Advocacy". [Read more....](#)

## AUCD Welcomes Richard Davis as Disability Policy Leadership Fellow

Richard Davis is this year's Disability Policy Leadership Fellow. He recently received his Master of Social Work degree from the University of Houston, where he was also a trainee at the Lone Star LEND, participating in numerous clinical rotations throughout the Houston Medical Center and Harris County. [Read more....](#)

## Network News – Awards & Honors

### Dr. Lann E. Thompson Retiring from Riley Child Development Center LEND Program, Indiana University School of Medicine

Dr. Thompson will be retiring from the Riley Child Development Center LEND Program, Indiana University School of Medicine, effective July 31, 2013 after 43 years of service to people with disabilities and their families in Indiana, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Dr. Thompson is appreciated for his enthusiastic devotion to teaching, telehealth, expertise in distance learning, knowledge of transition issues for youth and families, and advocacy for minorities, especially with regard to Native American cultural, employment and health care issues working as a long term board member for the American Indian Center of Indiana. [Read more....](#)

## Network News – People on the Move

### Appointment of Dr. JoAnn Yuen as Associate Director University of Hawaii Center on Disability Studies (MS UCEDD)

Effective August 1, 2013, the Dean of the College of Education appointed Dr. JoAnn W. L. Yuen as Associate Director of the Center on Disability Studies (CDS) at the University of Hawai'i. This position is newly established, general-funded, and tenure track, demonstrating the University's commitment to the University Center of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD). Her areas of professional research span early intervention, post-secondary supports, Creating

Futures through computer-assisted literacy programs, and working extensively in services for adults with developmental disabilities.[Read more...](#)

**Daniel Armstrong, Director of University of Miami Miller School of Medicines Mailman Center for Child Development (UCEDD/LEND) Appointed as Chair of Florida Biomedical Research Advisory Council**

Daniel Armstrong, Ph.D., professor and Executive Vice Chair of Pediatrics, has been elected Chair of the Florida Biomedical Research Advisory Council (BRAC). Armstrong represents the American Cancer Society on the BRAC. The BRAC advises the State Surgeon General on the direction of state-funded biomedical research and recommends funding of research proposals, as determined by open competitive peer review, through the Bankhead-Coley Cancer Research Program and the James & Esther King Biomedical Research Program.[Read more...](#)

## **Network News - Activities & Resources**

**Developmental Disabilities Institute (MI UCEDD) Hosts U.S. Department of State Delegates from Tajikistan**

The Developmental Disabilities Institute (DDI) at Wayne State University has been selected to participate in a U.S. Department of State sponsored Professional Fellows EMPOWER Program, administered by Mobility International USA (MIUSA). This two-way international exchange program aims to expand the capacity of organizations in the U.S. and abroad to promote inclusive communities and advance the rights of persons with disabilities around the world. DDI will send Angela Martin as a representative to Tajikistan to participate in a preliminary exchange visit to build the foundation for a collaborative project and effective international relationship.[Read more....](#)

**Health Care for Almost All in New York State in 2014 (Rose F. Kennedy UCEDD)**

In the next six months, New York State will take a big step forward in health care reform via voluntary participation in accordance with recent legislation to extend health insurance coverage to the uninsured and permits those with limited coverage to get more for their money. In some ways, the Empire state will be in the vanguard of change and in some ways it will be introducing reform through an unusual form of governance. How this New York State approach will roll out first requires a look at the overall national picture. Article by Arnold Birenbaum, PhD. [Read more...](#)

Updates from the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center (TN LEND/UCEDD)

**Vanderbilt Kennedy Center (TN UCEDD) Member Assists in Development of App to Ease Children's Fears of Clinic Visits/a>**

In order to ease patient anxieties and enable a smoother medical office visit, developmental medicine specialists working in the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt have created a new app for the iPad that allows providers and parents to develop storyboards about common routines. [Read more...](#)

**Vanderbilt Kennedy Center Releases New Study on Training Pediatricians to Decrease Wait Times for Autism Diagnosis in Children**

A three-year study conducted by researchers at Vanderbilt University, entitled "The diagnosis of autism in community pediatric settings: Does advanced training facilitate practice change?"

concluded that training pediatric health care providers to identify and diagnose children with autism will increase speed and accuracy of autism diagnoses.[Read more...](#)

### **Nordic - US International Conference on Intellectual Disabilities (NC UCEDD)**

In June, staff from the North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities (NDCPD) presented at the Nordic - US International Conference on Intellectual Disabilities and attended a series of meetings in Oslo, Trondheim and Lysoya, Norway. Brent Askvig, NDCPD executive director said, "It was an unbelievable opportunity for NDCPD staff to collaborate with international colleagues and exchange research on intellectual disabilities." [Read more...](#)

### **Admissions and Laws Tipsheets Developed by Maine UCEDD and P&A Included in New FPG CONNECT Module on Early Childhood Inclusion**

Two Growing Ideas Tipsheets, Admissions Policies and Practices that Build Inclusive Child Care Communities, and Laws the Support Early Childhood Education, collaboratively developed by the University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies (ME UCEDD) and the Disability Rights Center of ME (P&A), have been included in a new Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute CONNECT Module, Foundations of Inclusion. The two-hour training curriculum is designed to be used by professional development/technical assistance providers in a face-to-face workshop for early childhood professionals. [Read more...](#)

### **Violence Against People with Developmental Disabilities (MT UCEDD)**

Research shows that people with developmental disabilities are among those most likely to experience interpersonal violence. Dr. Rosemary Hughes of The Rural Institute at UM, and her colleagues at Portland State University and the Oregon Health & Sciences University used a community-based participatory research approach to fully include people with developmental disabilities as equal research partners. This project is the most innovative investigation of its kind. Individuals with developmental disabilities helped to design the research, gather the survey data and most importantly, interpret the results [Read more...](#)

### **Health Disparities Conference Resources Now Online (OHSU UCEDD)**

Dr. Willi Horner-Johnson, a faculty member in the Institute on Development & Disability at Oregon Health & Science University, (OHSU UCEDD) led a multi-institute team in organizing Health Disparities Research at the Intersection of Race, Ethnicity, and Disability: A National Conference. The conference was held April 25-26 in Washington, DC. The conference program and presentations are now available online at [www.ohsu.edu/projectintersect](http://www.ohsu.edu/projectintersect).[Read more...](#)

### **PEERS Virtual Coach Study: Social Skills Training for Teens with Autism Spectrum Disorders (Targan Center UCEDD)**

In a new study conducted by Dr. Elizabeth Laugeson, Director of the UCLA PEERS® Clinic, researchers are investigating the effectiveness of a virtual social coaching mobile application in conjunction with an evidence-based social skills intervention for adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), known as PEERS®. During the PEERS® program, parents and teens meet weekly in separate but co-occurring groups for 90-minutes in the evening over a 14-week period. Parents are taught how to help their teens make and keep friends by acting as social coaches outside of the group.[Read more...](#)

### **Birth to Three: The First Three Years Build a Lifetime (SD UCEDD/LEND)**

Christmas day 2011 was supposed to bring Abby and Donny Kuper the greatest gift a family could wish for - a new baby. But Christmas came surprisingly early for the Kupers; on Nov. 21, Gracie Kuper was born five weeks premature. The Birth to Three motto is "The first three years

build a lifetime." For the Kupers, their early Christmas gift of Gracie is ensured a lifetime of limitless possibilities, thanks in part to the Birth to Three program.[Read more...](#)

### **2013 APHA Disability Section Scholarships**

The Disability Section of the American Public Health Association (APHA) announces up to four \$1000 Career Enhancement Scholarship opportunities for 2013. These scholarships can be used by the awardees as desired, including to defray expenses for attendance at the Disability Section Scientific Program and Business meeting at the 2013 American Public Health Association Annual meeting in Boston, MA from November 2-6, 2013." [Read more...](#)

## **Member Spotlight**

### **TRIAD Service AmeriCorps Member Captures Miss Amazing Title During Mississippi Pageant (MS UCEDD)**

Rachel Barnes walked away with a title befitting that description when she was named Miss Amazing for the State of Mississippi at the Petal Community Center. Winning the distinction of Miss Amazing is not what makes this young woman so amazing. Her abilities far exceed any one category. One of those qualities is her willingness to serve others. She is participating in her second year on national service as a member of the TRIAD Service AmeriCorps Program which is component of the Institute of Disability Studies at The University of Southern Mississippi.

[Read more...](#)

## **Events**

### **Upcoming AUCD Webinars**

#### **EIEC Webinar: How Persistent are Developmental Delays in Young Children in the US?**

August 27 | 4:00pm - 5:00pm EST

This presentation will explore this issue using data from 2 longitudinal samples of US children. The findings have important implications for how developmental services should be configured.

[Read more about our webinars and register.](#)

### **AUCD 2013: You're Invited**

November 17-20, 2013  
Washington, DC

The [2013 AUCD Conference](#) provides a special opportunity for you to share your interests, talents, and perspectives in the areas of promoting inclusion, increasing diversity, and a wide range of disability related topics with others in our network and our partners. [Read more...](#)

### **2013 AUCD Awards Nominations**

Who do you know that deserves recognition? Nominate an outstanding individual, group, or program today for an AUCD award. Every year at the AUCD Conference, we honor individuals, groups, or programs for their exemplary work and service. [Read more...](#)

### **Society for Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics 2013 Annual Meeting**

September 27-30, 2013  
Baltimore, MD

The Society for Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics (SDBP) is an international organization dedicated to improving the health of infants, children, and adolescents by promoting research, teaching and clinical practice in developmental and behavioral pediatrics. [Read more...](#)

### **2013 Southwest Conference on Disability**

October 8, 2013  
Albuquerque, NM

Themes for 2013 include the following: The Rehabilitation Act At 40: Promises Kept, Promises Still To Keep; Assistive Technology: Opening Doors For People With Disabilities; When The Community, Business and Government Collaborate, People With Disabilities Work. [Read more...](#)

### **14th Chronic Illness and Disability Conference: Transition from Pediatric to Adult-based Care**

October 17-19, 2013  
Houston, TX & Live Broadcast

This conference provides a state-of-the-art update on issues involved in healthcare transition for youth and young adults with chronic illness and disability and their families from pediatric to adult-based services. [Read more...](#)

### **Next Chapter Book Club & Beyond: A conference on literacy for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities**

October 18-19, 2013  
Chicago, IL

The purpose of this conference is to share insights, experiences, and strategies on literacy and lifelong learning for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. [Read more...](#)

# Employment Opportunities

Please check the [Employment page](#) on our website for opportunities within the AUCD network.

## Stay Connected...

[Latest Updates](#)

[AUCD on LinkedIn](#)

[AUCD on Facebook](#)

[AUCD Trainees on Facebook](#)

[NIRS on Facebook](#)

[Follow George Jesien](#)

[AUCD on Flickr](#)

[AUCD on YouTube](#)

## Our Network Members

University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service (UCEDD)

- Visit the [UCEDD page](#).

Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) programs

- Visit the [LEND page](#).

Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Centers (IDDRCs)

- Visit the [IDDRC page](#).

## Submissions

News items may be submitted for consideration via the  
[AUCDigest Submission page](#).

This newsletter is in part supported by the Association, Administration on Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) through a technical assistance contract for the URC, Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) through a technical assistance contract for the ITAC, and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for a National Professional Organization for Persons

with Developmental Disabilities. The content of this material does not necessarily reflect the views and policies of any federal agency. No official support or endorsement by federal agencies is intended nor should be inferred.

[AUCD](#) | 1100 Wayne Avenue, Suite 1000, Silver Spring, MD 20910