

The CEC LEGACY PROCLAMATION and NECROLOGY REGISTRY

A proposal submitted by the Pioneers Division, now the Division of Leaders and Legacy (DLL), to the CEC Board of Directors in the fall of 2021 requested the creation of a new honor for the Council of Exceptional Children, the Legacy Proclamation and the reinstatement of the CEC Necrology Registry, memorializing the passing of CEC members.

The implementation of both was assigned to a committee comprising five to seven members with experience as past officers in units/divisions, service at the national level, and involvement in an awards/honors selection activity. In addition, a current CEC Board member and a CEC staff liaison are assigned to support the work of the Committee.

The Legacy Proclamation and Necrology Committee (LPNC) was established in April 2023. The program is a partnership between CEC and the Division of Leaders and Legacy (DLL).

THE CEC LEGACY PROCLAMATION

The **CEC Legacy Proclamation** honors an outstanding CEC member who has led and contributed to The Council's various units, divisions, and national governing bodies **AND** has significantly influenced the field throughout a lifelong career.

The Proclamation would honor the member while associating that member's contributions to the history of CEC and the advancements in the special education field, accruing benefits to children and youth with exceptionalities.

More than one Legacy Proclamation may be awarded each year. However, there is no requirement that a Proclamation be presented annually. 2024 will be the first year for this type of honor recognition.

The CEC Legacy Proclamation recipient must:

- demonstrate CEC's core values (visionary thinking, integrity, and inclusiveness).
- have made continuous, sustained, and significant contributions to CEC in CEC-affiliated organizations (chapters, units, divisions, subdivisions) and at the national level (Board of Governors, Board of Directors, Delegate Assembly, Representative Assembly, committees, workgroups, and task forces).
- have made continuous, sustained, and significant contributions to special education in at least two areas (professional development/publications, research, evaluation procedures, administrative organization improvements/operations, practical application of improved teaching techniques, etc.).
- exemplify leadership competencies.

The Legacy Proclamation may be awarded to an active member or posthumously.

The Legacy Proclamation recipient(s) will be:

- provided with complimentary registration to attend the upcoming CEC Convention and Expo.
- recognized at a function/meeting at the CEC convention.
- presented with a printed copy of the Legacy Proclamation.
- featured in an article in an issue of *Special Education Today*.

The Legacy Proclamation would be prepared in resolution format describing the member's sum of knowledge, experience, values, advocacy, and leadership as reflected in specific actions within CEC and the field. The proclamation is designed to "leave a legacy" as a historical document and celebratory event.

The Legacy Proclamation and Necrology Committee will review the nomination and support material, use a rubric for rating each nomination, and recommend to the CEC Board of Directors nominees who meet the criteria. The CEC Board will be the final approving authority.

Nominations for the Legacy Proclamation may only be made by a unit or division.

The call for nominations will follow shortly. Be thinking of deserving colleagues to be honored!

For additional information and questions, please contact [Pamela Gillet](#), chair of the LPNC.

NECROLOGY REGISTRY

Many professional organizations maintain a necrology, which lists members who have passed away during a specific time. The necrology is generally compiled on an annual basis.

Necrology is a way to announce the passing of someone within an organization and commemorate the member's service to the organization and field as part of the group's history.

There was a long-established practice by The Council, remembering members who had passed away during the previous year. Annually at the meeting of the Delegate Assembly and later, the Representative Assembly, the CEC President, as chair of the Assemblies, placed a white rose on the podium, requesting a moment of silence to remember the deceased members. The members' names were also included in the agenda for the Assembly. The listing had the member's name, state/province, federation/unit, and division(s) affiliations. This acknowledgement ended in 2020.

In 2021, the Pioneers Division (now Division of Leaders and Legacy) proposed to the CEC Board of Directors to reinstate an annual necrology with the Division assuming the responsibility.

The proposal was accepted in 2022, institutionalizing the Necrology Registry that will memorialize the passing of CEC members.

Beginning in 2024, there will be an annual listing of CEC members with their unit and division(s) affiliations who have passed away during the year. When contact information is known, a message of condolence will be sent to the member's family, acknowledging the member's service to the field of special education.

The Committee is aware that some units and divisions maintain their necrology. It is anticipated that these can be shared with the Committee so that The Council has a complete annual necrology.

The first" necrology will pay tribute to members who have passed away from 2021-23. Henceforth, the necrology tribute will be done annually.

If you know of a colleague who has passed away from **2021 to the present**, please send their names and unit/division(s) affiliations to service@exceptionalchildren.org to ensure they are included in this vital record.

The final date for submitting the names for the 2021-2023 Necrology Registry will be **Friday, November 17, 2023**. The names of those who have passed away since this date will be included in the next Necrology Registry.

The complete listing of the annual necrology will be included in one of the first 2024 issues of *Special Education Today*.