



CEC Announces Wendy Gonzales as Member-at-Large of Board of Directors

Arlington, Va. December 15, 2025 - Wendy Gonzales has been elected a Member-at-Large of the Board of Directors of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC). Gonzales will serve until the end of 2029, providing her perspective and skills to the organization.

A committed educator, scholar, and advocate, Dr. Wendy Gonzales has over two decades of experience in special education.

Before transitioning to higher education, she spent 12 years as a bilingual special education teacher in urban school settings, where she worked to ensure access and equity for multilingual learners and students with disabilities.

Her classroom experience continues to inform her work as a faculty member in the Department of Special Education at Northeastern Illinois University, where she teaches courses on inclusive practices, assessment, and instructional technology.

Her professional service includes years of leadership within CEC, where she served on the Leadership Development Committee, and held officer roles in various subdivisions in Illinois.

She credits CEC with shaping her professional identity, from an unsure Ph.D. student at her first conference to a national leader, helping move the work of the organization forward.

Dr. Gonzales holds a Ph.D. in Special Education and focuses her teaching and research on culturally responsive pedagogy, equitable IEP practices, and effective strategies for preparing diverse teacher candidates.

About Us

The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) is the largest international professional organization dedicated to high-quality education that is inclusive and equitable for individuals with disabilities. Learn more at www.exceptionalchildren.org.

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