The Meaning of Professional in an Era of Change

Awards Program

AAIDD 140th Annual Meeting
June 6–9, 2016 | Atlanta, Georgia
2016 AWARDS PROGRAM

Awards Breakfast

Wednesday, June 8, 2016—8:00 am
Presented by: Susan Havercamp, PhD, FAAIDD
Vice President, AAIDD Board of Directors

2016 AAIDD Award Recipients

Presidential Award
Michael Wehmeyer, PhD, FAAIDD

International Award
Sofia Santos, PhD

Leadership Award
John O’Brien & Connie Lyle O’Brien

Research Award
Michael G. Aman, PhD

Student Award
Margaret Mehling, MA

Early Career Award
Karrie A. Shogren, PhD, FAAIDD

Full Community Inclusion Award
Real Communities Initiative Program
of the Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities

Special Award
Gilbert S. Macvaugh III, PsyD

Media Award
Welcome Change Productions
Michael L. Wehmeyer, PhD, is Professor of Special Education; Director and Senior Scientist, Beach Center on Disability; and, Director, Kansas University Center on Developmental Disabilities, all at the University of Kansas. He has directed externally-funded research, development, and leadership training projects pertaining to the education and support of youth and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities totaling in excess of $30 million.

He has authored or co-authored more than 300 journal articles and book chapters and authored, co-authored, edited, or co-edited 32 books on disability and education issues, including issues pertaining to self-determination, positive psychology and disability, transition to adulthood, the education and inclusion of students with extensive and pervasive support needs, and technology use by people with cognitive disabilities. He is co-author of the widely used textbook Exceptional Lives: Special Education in Today’s Schools now in its 8th Edition. His recent books include The Story of Intellectual Disability: An Evolution of Meaning, Understanding, and Public Perception (2013, Brookes Publishing Co.); The Oxford Handbook of Positive Psychology and Disability (2013, Oxford University Press), and Good Blood, Bad Blood: Science, Nature and the Myth of the Kallikaks (AAIDD, 2012). Dr. Wehmeyer is Past-President of the Board of Directors and a Fellow of AAIDD, and is a founding Co-Editor of the AAIDD ejournal Inclusion. He is a co-author of the AAIDD Supports


Dr. Wehmeyer is also a past president of CEC’s Division on Career Development and Transition (DCDT); a Fellow of the American Psychological Association, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Division (Div. 33); and Vice-President for the Americas and a Fellow of the International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. In 1999, Dr. Wehmeyer was the inaugural recipient of the Distinguished Early Career Research Award from CEC’s Division for Research and has received research awards from two other CEC Divisions, as well as AAIDD Region V, among others. He received the 2003 AAIDD Education award. In 2013, Dr. Wehmeyer was awarded the Distinguished Researcher Award for lifetime contributions to research in intellectual disability by The Arc of the United States.

Dr. Wehmeyer holds undergraduate and Master's degrees in special education, and a Masters degree in experimental psychology from the University of Sussex in Brighton, England, where he was a Rotary International Fellow from 1987 to 1988. He earned his PhD in human development and communication sciences from the University of Texas at Dallas, where he received a 2014 Distinguished Alumni Award.
Sofia Santos, PhD, is Assistant Professor in Faculdade de Motricidade Humana, Universidade de Lisboa (Portugal). She received a doctorate in special education in 2007. Her applied research interests concern special education and services and support organizations, and her policy and practice interests focus on rights and self-determination for people with intellectual disability. She has actively worked in support of realigning Portuguese policies towards the quality of life of people with intellectual disability, and redefining institutional roles in order that service organizations may become bridges to community and aware of their necessary role as leaders.

Dr. Santos is responsible for the translation, adaptation and validation of measurement instruments, such as the Adaptive Behavior Scale, Supports Intensity Scale, and Personal Outcomes Scale in Portugal. Her research has focused on transition into adult life, examining the relationships between academic curricula and employability, the barriers and facilitators for engaging in physical activity, and the influence of social contexts on the process of aging with intellectual disability. She has also dedicated time researching intervention modalities to identify best practices for full participation and personal outcomes, evidence-based practices for individualized services and supports, participative management with self-advocates, the use of quality assessments and improvement methodologies, and working with families.

Dr. Santos has authored and co-authored numerous articles, book, and book chapters, and spoken at several national and international conferences. She is reviewer of several international scientific journals and a member of AAIDD’s International SIG. Her commitment to the field extends to her community work and mentorship of undergraduate and graduate students in Special Education and Psychomotor Therapy.

Societal views on people with disabilities in Portugal have changed slowly over the last decades. Dr. Santos aims to contribute to a more positive attitude towards people with intellectual disability and for real participation in the community, in particular, monitoring the Convention of the Rights for Persons with Disabilities and the Convention of Rights of Children from the perspective of individuals with intellectual disability.
John O’Brien and Connie Lyle O’Brien of Responsive System Associates learn from people with disabilities, their families, and their allies about building more just and inclusive communities. They use what they learn to advise people with disabilities and their families, advocacy groups, service providers, and governments and to spread the news among people interested in change by writing and through workshops.

For forty years, through writing, workshops, educational events, and consulting, John and Connie have been actively involved in listening to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families, service providers, friends, and others as a way of learning and thinking with them about the supports necessary to help people become active citizens and true members of community life. Their early work was in social role valorization, which led them to work on person-centered services and supports, the design of self-directed services, customized assistance, partnerships, community building, and championing the contributions of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to community life along with direct support workers.

John and Connie have modeled the very kind of collaboration they call for. Together with others, they have written extensively about person-centered planning, community building, and systems change. Their books, *A Little Book About Person Centered Planning* and *Members of Each Other*, are classics in the arenas of individualized supports and community building.

They work in partnership with a group of friends from 12 countries. They are affiliated with the Center on Human Policy (US), The Center for Welfare Reform (UK), and the Marsha Forest Centre: Inclusion, Family, Community (Canada). In writing and teaching about values and strategies, John and Connie have made many contributions, but their largest has been helping professionals, families, caregivers, and individuals reflect on what they are doing, learn from that reflection, and build values-based supports by adapting to the voices of self-advocates and families.
Research Award
Michael G. Aman, PhD

Michael Aman, PhD, is Professor Emeritus of Psychology at The Ohio State University, where he served as Director of Clinical Trials at the Nisonger Center UCEDD. For several years, Dr. Aman coordinated the OSU doctoral program in intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), and he has served on the thesis, candidacy, and/or dissertation committees of 35 graduate students.

Dr. Aman was co-developer of the Aberrant Behavior Checklist (ABC), a tool for assessing behavior problems in people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The ABC has been used in over 400 scientific studies and translated into more than 35 languages. He was also a co-developer of the Nisonger Child Behavior Rating Form (NCBRF), an IDD instrument that has also been widely translated and used in a broad variety of studies.

Dr. Aman has served on advisory boards for several pharmaceutical companies seeking input regarding treatments for children with developmental disabilities. His drug research started in the area of ADHD treatments in typically developing children; he later became interested in the cognitive effects of medicines taken by children with epilepsy. He later began studying medication outcomes in children with disruptive behavior disorders, and in 1997 Dr. Aman’s research team joined the NIMH’s Research Units on Pediatric Psychopharmacology (RUPPs) to participate in pivotal multi-site studies of behavioral medicines in children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Since 1980, he has been studying the effects of behavioral medicines in children with intellectual disability.

Recently, the TOSCA (Treatment of Severe Child Aggression) network, which Dr. Aman organized, published several key medication trials in children with serious aggression. The recently-completed CHARTS studies have looked at the effects of Strattera and parent management, separately and combined, in children with ASD and ADHD; and several reports will flow from this work. Dr. Aman has served on the editorial boards of 12 professional journals, and as associate editor for three of these, including the American Journal on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. He has over 290 scientific publications, including two editions of the popular text, Practitioner’s Guide to Psychoactive Drugs for Children and Adolescents. In 2003, Dr. Aman received a Career Scientist Award from the American Academy on Mental Retardation. In 2011, he was awarded the Edgar A. Doll Award from Division 33 of the American Psychological Association.
Margaret Mehling, MA, is a doctoral candidate in the intellectual and developmental disabilities psychology program at The Ohio State University. She received her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in psychology from The Ohio State University.

Throughout her graduate career, Ms. Mehling has maintained diverse and dynamic research interests including evaluating social skills interventions for individuals with autism, the neurological basis of social cognition in autism, statistical modeling of social outcomes for individuals with disabilities, and treatment process and outcome of psychiatric hospitalization for children and adults with autism.

She is the co-author of five published peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters and has presented research at numerous conferences. Much of Ms. Mehling’s doctoral work has focused on evaluation of a novel, Shakespearian, drama-based social skills intervention, the Hunter Heartbeat Method (HHM), including conducting the first-ever standardized evaluation of this novel treatment modality in collaboration with the Department of Theatre. Ms. Mehling’s dissertation extends her work with the HHM and incorporates her passion for the study of neuroscience with the inclusion of functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) brain scans to evaluate the impact of participating in traditional versus drama-based social skills intervention. Her research represents one of few attempts to measure treatment response by its impact on the brain-basis of social skills deficits in children with autism. As a component of her dissertation, Ms. Mehling developed an fMRI desensitization procedure that enabled 80% her participants to successfully complete their fMRI scan, a completion rate consistent with that of typically developing children. Ms. Mehling’s doctoral work has also been recognized through receipt of The Ohio State University’s Presidential Fellowship, the most prestigious award given by the university to recognize outstanding scholarly accomplishments and potential. Next year, Ms. Mehling will be completing a post-doctoral fellowship focusing on diagnosis and treatment of autism. Ultimately, she hopes to continue her research on social skills interventions and the neurological underpinnings of skill acquisition as an academic investigator.
Early Career Award
Karrie A. Shogren, PhD, FAAIDD

Karrie A. Shogren, PhD, is Associate Professor in the Department of Special Education, co-Director of the Kansas University Center on Developmental Disabilities and Associate Director of the Beach Center on Disability, all at the University of Kansas. Dr. Shogren’s research focuses on self-determination for people with disabilities and the personal and environmental factors that shape its development and expression. Dr. Shogren has expertise in quantitative data analysis and evaluation, and has led multiple studies demonstrating the impact of self-determination interventions on school, employment, and community participation outcomes.

Dr. Shogren has published over 85 articles in peer-reviewed journals, is the author or co-author of 10 books. She is one of the co-authors of Intellectual Disability: Definition, Classification, and Systems of Support, the 11th Edition of the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities seminal definition of intellectual disability (formerly known as mental retardation) and the AAIDD Supports Intensity Scale–Adult and Children’s Version.

Dr. Shogren has received grant funding from multiple sources, including the Institute of Education Sciences (IES). Dr. Shogren is co-Editor of Inclusion and Associate Editor for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (both AAIDD journals) and co-Editor of Remedial and Special Education.
Real Communities is a statewide community organizing initiative, started in 2009 by the Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities (GCDD) to partner with local groups working to build more just communities and to find ways to bring together people with and without disabilities in their local communities around issues that are important to them. Influenced by asset-based community development (ABCD) principles, person-centered values, and purposeful learning, the GCDD supports community organizers and their local groups to work for social justice and to build intentional, reciprocal relationships.

The GCDD strives to learn more about the conditions that encourage all members of a community to contribute to and meaningfully participate in civic life, enhance social connections through collective action, and build more avenues to natural supports and relationships outside of human services. The Real Communities initiative engages people who live at the intersection of multiple marginalized identities, whether they have a disability, are a person of color, LGBTQ, poor, an immigrant or refugee, or have experienced homelessness or incarceration. GCDD and its local partners find ways to build solidarity and reciprocity across and among identity lines and are learning to become better allies with others working to overcome the injustice of social exclusion, whatever its causes.

While the GCDD does not determine the focus of its local partner groups, all partners are committed to a fully inclusive future. The GCDD’s Real Communities initiative has supported local groups to work on issues such as food justice, mass incarceration, the death penalty, family support for immigrant parents, neighborhood-based relationship building and connection projects, community based transportation in a rural area, community gardening, and TimeBanking.
Gilbert S. Macvaugh III, PsyD, is a third-generation clinical psychologist in independent practice in Mississippi. Dr. Macvaugh is fellowship-trained and board-certified in forensic psychology, specializing in forensic mental health assessments in criminal, civil, and juvenile cases. He earned his undergraduate degree in psychology in 1996 from Fort Lewis College (recipient of the Anderson Henio Prize in Experimental Psychology and Psi Chi Regional Research Award), Master of Arts in clinical psychology in 1999 from UMass-Dartmouth, and Master of Science (2002) and Doctor of Psychology (2004) degrees in clinical psychology from Antioch University-New England (recipient of the Gene Pekarik Memorial Award for Research on Psychological Practice). Dr. Macvaugh completed his pre-doctoral internship in clinical psychology at Worcester State Hospital and his post-doctoral fellowship in forensic psychology at UMass Medical School.

During his early career position with Forensic Services of Mississippi State Hospital, Dr. Macvaugh conducted court-ordered evaluations for Mississippi Circuit Courts and held adjunct teaching appointments at Millsaps College and University of Mississippi Medical Center. He has published journal articles and book chapters on various aspects of forensic mental health assessment and has presented at state, national, and international conferences. In his current practice, he regularly evaluates defendants who are charged with capital murder to assess their competence to stand trial, sanity, competence to waive Miranda, and for sentencing purposes. He is consulted on death penalty cases throughout the country, particularly those involving claims of intellectual disability pursuant to the United States Supreme Court’s decision in Atkins v. Virginia. He has testified in numerous “Atkins hearings,” and his scholarship in this area is cited in law review articles, court decisions, and amicus curiae briefs to the United States Supreme Court.

Dr. Macvaugh served on AIDD’s death penalty task force and coauthored several chapters of The Death Penalty and Intellectual Disability (AIDD, 2015). He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Professional Psychology, Fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Psychology, and Member of the American Psychological Association, American Psychology-Law Society, and Mississippi Psychological Association, for which he serves as chair of the psychology-law task force. He is licensed to practice psychology and certified to perform civil commitment evaluations by the Mississippi Board of Psychology, for which he provides the training and examinations for psychologists pursuing the board’s civil commitment certification. He is President/Owner of Clinical & Forensic Psychology Services, Inc., with offices located adjacent to the Washington County Courthouse in Greenville.
Welcome Change is a production company that is committed to giving a voice to people and stories that are traditionally not depicted in media. The goals of telling a story and welcoming change frame our productions. We believe a good story can educate, motivate, and transform us.

Alice Elliott, the company owner, received an Academy Award nomination in 2002 for directing the documentary short subject, *The Collector of Bedford Street*, that tells the story of her neighbor, Larry Selman. Even though he lived at the poverty level, Larry committed his life to raising money for others. His intellectual disability did not hinder his passion for community involvement and philanthropy. With the help of the AAIDD and The Arc of the United States, the film has become a teaching tool used all around the world to show there are many forms of intelligence. The International Kiwanis continue to use *The Collector of Bedford Street* to teach young Key Leaders the principals of service leadership. Over 20,000 students have been trained using this film.

Welcome Change also makes training films for corporations, agencies, and non-profit organizations that use high quality visuals and people with disabilities telling their own stories. Welcome Change produced the PBS-Award winning documentary *Body & Soul: Diana & Kathy* (2007), as part of a trilogy of short films that change our perceptions of ability. This film was also the recipient of the 2007 AAIDD Media Award and the 2008 Council on Foundations’ Henry Hampton Award for Excellence in Film and Digital Media.

In 2012 Alice Elliott received a Guggenheim Fellowship towards the completion of several films and in 2013 she received a National Endowment for the Arts Grant. She recently completed *Accommodation*, three short films about accessibility.

Welcome Change has an active social media presence and regularly tweets disability news. Welcome Change is currently developing an app for Washington DC visitors on the history of disability rights, and looking at empathy and disability through virtual reality.
About AAIDD Awards

AAIDD honors selected individuals or groups who have made outstanding contributions to the field. A call for award nominations is issued in the fall of each year and awards are presented at the annual meeting of the Association. Areas in which awards for outstanding contributions or special achievement may be given are:

**Education**
Awarded for significant contributions to dissemination of knowledge in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities.

**Full Community Inclusion**
Awarded to culturally responsive programs that have succeeded in full community inclusion and participation.

**Hervey B. Wilbur Award for Historic Preservation**
Awarded for contributions to historic preservation of the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities and/or the Association.

**Dybwad Humanitarian Award**
Awarded for promotion of human welfare and social reform.

**Early Career Award**
Awarded for a recognized contribution to or achievement in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities by an individual in the early stages of their career.

**International**
Awarded for outstanding contributions in research, education, service, or advocacy that has had an impact on people with intellectual and developmental disabilities within a particular country or across national lines.

**Leadership**
Awarded for courage and dedication resulting in an outstanding contribution to the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities.

**Media**
Awarded for significant contributions in depicting Americans with disabilities in a positive light.

**Research**
Awarded for formulations and investigations that have contributed significantly to the body of scientific knowledge in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities.

**Service**
Awarded for contributions to improved service to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

**Special**
Awarded for an unusual or significant contribution or achievement not covered by other award categories.

**Student**
Recognizes student contributions in service, leadership, or scholarship to the field intellectual and developmental disabilities.
### Past Presidents

The history of the AAIDD is long and distinguished. Our tradition, professional standing, and leadership in the area of intellectual and Developmental disabilities are exemplified in the persons of our Presidents. Our former Presidents are:

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<td>Hervey B. Wilbur, MD</td>
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<td>G. A. Doren, MD</td>
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<td>H. M. Knight, MD</td>
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<td>J. Q. A. Stewart, MD</td>
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<td>Miss Mattie Gundry</td>
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<td>C. Stanley Raymond, MD</td>
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Past Presidents (con’t.)

1947–1948 Lloyd N. Yepsen, PhD 1982–1983 A. Gail O’Connor, PhD
1964–1965 Harvey A. Stevens 1999–2000 Bernard R. Wagner, PhD
1972–1973 Michael J. Begab, PhD 2007–2008 David A. Rotholz, PhD
1977–1978 Margaret J. Giannini, MD 2012–2013 Marc J. Tassé, PhD
1978–1979 Richard C. Scheerenberger, PhD 2013–2014 James Thompson, PhD
Save the Date

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June 26–29, 2017 | Hartford, Connecticut

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