



*The Advocate*

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### **President's Final Message**

It has been an honor to serve NCPEID as its 31<sup>st</sup> President. I thank all Board of Director (BOD) members, as well as, Executive Committee (EC) members whom I served alongside during my tenure as president. I also give my gratitude to past presidents, Drs. Tymeson and Dillon for their support and continued engagement in this great organization. Of course, leaders of this organization often rise from and return to its general membership, and so most importantly I thank all of the members of NCPEID and look forward to continuing to support this organization and the leaders it produces. I am excited to remain engaged, and that my first supportive role as NCPEID Immediate Past President will be to our new President Dr. Michelle Grenier.

### **Strategic Plan Accomplishments**

During my tenure as president, NCPEID accomplished numerous goals across the four strategic plan priorities (i.e., improve organizational performance, establish user-friendly mechanisms for information accessibility, provide meaningful information and resources to key stakeholders that support advancement of adapted physical education and adapted physical activity, diversify, grow and retain membership).

#### **Improve Organizational Performance**

To improve organizational performance, NCPEID was able to accomplish numerous goals across the 2-year period guided by the 2018-2020 strategic plan. This included the revision and update of the NCPEID bylaws that were published in 2019. In addition, the goal of strengthening a system for strategic planning, evaluation, and communication was achieved. This was accomplished by adopting the 2018-2020 Strategic Plan in 2018, as well as, updating and reporting on progress toward goal achievement. Furthermore, the goal to improve various organizational policies and processes was addressed. This goal was addressed by evaluating, refining and/or reducing the number of documents and/or mechanisms used (e.g., streamlining) for financial transactions. In addition, executive committee and board of director meetings were held monthly across the 2-year period. Furthermore, the goal to continue to improve NCPEID members' satisfaction of the organization was addressed by developing and administering a membership survey to collect data that can inform organizational practices to meet the needs of NCPEID's members.



### **Establish User-Friendly Mechanisms for Information Accessibility**

To establish user-friendly mechanisms for information accessibility, NCPEID was able to accomplish numerous goals across the 2-year period guided by the 2018-2020 strategic plan. For example, NCPEID was able to provide a more user-friendly website experience for its members compared to the website utilized prior to 2018. Moreover, NCPEID leadership evaluated the existing NCPEID website and determined new website content structure. Another goal was to develop two cyclical publication formats. NCPEID was able to develop and establish one cyclical publication. More specifically, NCPEID was able to re-establish the quarterly publication entitled *The Advocate*. Finally, the goal to identify and determine NCPEID social media engagement strategy was addressed by determining and assigning a NCPEID social media manager.

### **Provide Meaningful Information and Resources to Key Stakeholders that Support the Advancement of Adapted Physical Education and Adapted Physical Activity**

To address the above strategic priority, NCPEID was able to accomplish several goals. One goal was to develop higher education professional resources. NCPEID was highly active in publishing and providing links to resources valuable to this membership constituency. NCPEID also addressed the goal to develop emerging scholars and early career professional resources. An example was the newly published national directory on the NCPEID website of higher education programs in APE/APA, as well as, the periodic job posting website updates. Another goal accomplished to address the strategic priority of providing meaningful information and resources to key stakeholders that support the advancement of APE and APA was the development and delivery of a successful annual conference. In 2019, NCPEID developed and successfully delivered an annual conference that was held at the University of South Carolina in Columbia South Carolina. Unfortunately, the 2020 annual conference was cancelled due to public health concerns resulting from the SARS-coV-2 (i.e., COVID-19) pandemic. As a response to the cancellation, NCPEID leadership was able to develop and deliver four webinars, entitled Consortium Conversations Series, addressing teaching in APA-APE during the COVID-19 pandemic. This webinar series successfully reached over 150 individuals as attendees and included over 10 expert panelists addressing topic areas such as practicums, field placement, as well as, teaching in higher education. The final goal addressed in this strategic priority was to develop strong advocacy activity for APE/A. Numerous strategies were enacted and accomplished under the appointed advocacy chair.

### **Diversify, Grow and Retain Membership**

Two goals were addressed within this strategic priority. The goal to strengthen member retention through increased NCPEID communication, and the goal to raise NCPEID's national profile. Membership renewal communication and ease of renewal was developed and launched. Furthermore, NCPEID maintained its collaborative relationship with mission-aligned organizations (e.g., SHAPE America APE/APA Special Interest Group). In addition, NCPEID explored new collaborations with organizations that may yield positive future outcomes (e.g., NCHPAD).

### **Things to Consider**

I am confident that under the leadership of new president, Dr. Grenier, NCPEID will continue to add to its rich history as a leading organization in the field of adapted physical education/adapted physical activity. I encourage the NCPEID EC and BOD to continue to keep advocacy initiatives for physical



education (PE) and physical activity (PA) for individuals with disabilities as a top priority. In addition, I encourage NCPEID leadership to further develop and publish resources that are helpful for all of our members and various constituents (e.g., researchers, practitioners, parents, students, etc.). I really look forward to how the EC and BOD will utilize the NCPEID website for making accessible the resources generated.

Finally, I encourage NCPEID to continue to prioritize diversifying and growing its membership. I am really humbled and inspired by all of the talented young professionals who are engaging with this organization and assuming leadership positions. I hope that practitioners and higher education professionals alike will continue to develop and engage in an equity-minded approach in their educational practices. Specifically, I encourage my colleagues in academia to continue to prioritize recruitment and retention efforts of students from historically marginalized populations into their adapted physical education/adapted physical activity programs, consequently introducing them to this great NCPEID organization of which we hope they become members. And in so doing, I look forward to the day that those student members transition into professional members. Moreover, I look forward to the day that one of those professional members transitions into President, the second from a racially minoritized group, of this great organization.