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## THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMITTEE

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The goal of the AAIDD Student and Early Career Professional Committee (SECPC) is to develop and implement strategies that foster the involvement and representation of students, recent graduates, and junior faculty / executives within AAIDD. The SECPC Committee is currently engaged in a variety of efforts to achieve this goal, including teleconferences, scholarships, a clearinghouse, promoting the service of students on committees, a Guide program, and developing and maintaining the AAIDD Student and Early Career Professional website [www.aaidd.org/ECP](http://www.aaidd.org/ECP).

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## COMMITTEE INVOLVEMENT

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The committee meets via teleconference once per month to provide one another with updates and to share ideas. Though various committee members lead each of the different efforts, we are interested in including more students and new members in our activities. Please contact Melissa DiSipio ([mdisipio@pmhcc.org](mailto:mdisipio@pmhcc.org)) or Judith Gross ([jgross@ku.edu](mailto:jgross@ku.edu)) if you would like to learn more about becoming involved in this active committee.

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## CURRENT LEADERS OF THE SECPC COMMITTEE

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Melissa DiSipio (co-chair;  
[MDiSipio@pmhcc.org](mailto:MDiSipio@pmhcc.org))

Judith Gross; (co-chair;  
[jgross@ku.edu](mailto:jgross@ku.edu))

Karrie Shogren (Board liaison)  
([kshogren@illinois.edu](mailto:kshogren@illinois.edu))



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## AAIDD STUDENT AND EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE

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FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:  
[WWW.AAIDD.ORG/ECP](http://WWW.AAIDD.ORG/ECP)

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## STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Through the generosity of AAIDD members, a fund was created to raise money for student scholarships to support student attendance at the Annual Meeting. Students can simultaneously apply for this scholarship when they submit a presentation for the Annual Meeting. After selecting the presenters for the Annual Meeting, the program committee then selects the winner(s) from those students who will be presenting.

**HOW YOU CAN BE INVOLVED:** Donate \$5, \$10, \$15 or more dollars to this fund so we can continue to recognize the excellent work of students in AAIDD.

## TELECONFERENCES

The SECPC strives to offer teleconferences on topics specific to the needs of students and junior professionals in the fields of intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). The speakers are members of AAIDD who have made significant contributions to the field. Recent topics have included: authorship issues, the job search process, and writing for publication. All teleconferences are free and are advertised on the Early Career Professionals page at [www.aaid.org/ECP](http://www.aaid.org/ECP) and through e-mail announcements. If you are interested in receiving these announcements, please send an e-mail to Loui Lord Nelson: [lordnelson@raiseinc.com](mailto:lordnelson@raiseinc.com)

**HOW YOU CAN BE INVOLVED:** Contact Loui Lord Nelson to join the team at [lordnelson@raiseinc.com](mailto:lordnelson@raiseinc.com)

## NEWSLETTER

The SECPC recognizes the importance of student involvement in AAIDD. To this end, we create a newsletter to inform students and early career members about activities, announcement, and research conducted by others. The newsletter is an opportunity to connect with other students and early career professionals around the world through idea generating and article writing.

**HOW YOU CAN BE INVOLVED:** Contact Judith Gross at [jgross@ku.edu](mailto:jgross@ku.edu) if you are interested in being involved in the creation of our newsletter.

## THE CLEARINGHOUSE

The Intellectual/Development Disabilities Clearinghouse will provide direction and guidance to students who are looking for universities and colleges providing training and research opportunities in the field of I/DD. A comprehensive list of universities and colleges providing training and/or research in this area for post-doctoral, graduate or undergraduate studies will be included. This clearinghouse will not include special education certification programs or teacher education programs because these clearinghouses already exist.

**HOW YOU CAN BE INVOLVED:** If you are enrolled in a program that meets the description above, please e-mail information about it to Nina Zuna at [nzuna@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:nzuna@austin.utexas.edu)

## GUIDE PROGRAM

The Guide Program matches experienced AAIDD fellows with students and new members based on interests or locality. AAIDD Guides commit to providing students and new members with information about opportunities to become involved in AAIDD for two years. This allows students and new professionals to network and develop relationships with established individuals in the field of I/DD. Guides encourage new members to continue their academic and/or professional work in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities.

**HOW YOU CAN BE INVOLVED:** Sign up to be a part of the guide program. Contact Luchara Sayles Wallace ([Luchara.wallace@wmich.edu](mailto:Luchara.wallace@wmich.edu)) or Meghan Burke ([meghanbm@gmail.com](mailto:meghanbm@gmail.com)).

## EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONAL WEBPAGE

The Early Career Professionals webpage on the AAIDD website is a central location for all information related to enhancing and supporting your career in I/DD. Led by an editorial committee, this section of the AAIDD site is growing to meet the needs of our student and early career professional members.

**HOW YOU CAN BE INVOLVED:** Visit this section of the website and send your suggestions/requests/compliments to the co-editors: Nancy Miodrag ([nancy.miodrag@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:nancy.miodrag@vanderbilt.edu)) and Shelley Watson ([swatson@laurentian.ca](mailto:swatson@laurentian.ca)).