AAIDD Interest Network Annual Plan & Yearly Report

Planning and reporting on Interest Network activities designed to fulfil their purpose. (See the *Interest Networks Leadership Manual* for the purpose of the Interest Networks.

Interest Network:

Research Interest Network

Lead Contact Person:

Incoming committee 2023-2024:

Sally Gould-Taylor, Chair sgould-taylor@temple.edu

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Report prepared by outgoing committee 2022-2023:

Jessica Kramer, Chair Katie McDonald, Co-Assistant Chair Steve Erickson, Secretary

2022-2023 Report

For the year that just ended (July 1-June 30), indicate objectives met, activities completed, and funds used. In addition, please note if/how any activities enhanced diversity, equity, inclusion, or justice.

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Goal	What we did	
Objective 1 – Collaborate with other interest	Planned activity 1: In partnership with the SECP, the RIN	
networks.	administered a survey to SECP membership to elicit topics	
	of interest. Priority topics included: Navigating research and	
Planned activity 1: Identify up to 4 research	academia, Getting started with grant writing, Establishing a	
related topics/areas of need for SECP early	robust research portfolio, and Effective research team	
career researchers (e.g., making time for	management.	
writing, identifying collaborators, identifying	Planned activity 2: The RIN hosted two mentorship	
funding sources).	meetings. The first, held on Feb 22, 2023, focused on the	
	topic "Developing a cohesive story about your research." It	
	was attended by 5 SECP members, and facilitated by 4 RIN	
Planned activity 2: Host at least 2 networking	mid-career/senior mentors. The second, held March 22,	
events addressing topics that meet the needs	2023, addressed the topic "Developing a plan to achieve	
of early career researchers and students.	your scholarly goals." Session 2 was attended by 7 SECP	
	members, and facilitated by four RIN senior/mid-career	
	mentors.	
	Funds used: \$0	

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Objective 2 - Support students.

<u>Planned activity 1:</u> Review submitted SECP abstracts for pre-conference Research Colloquium and provide travel awards for SECPs.

<u>Planned activity 2:</u> With support from AAIDD staff, explore how to identify which SECP proposals are students and which are early career professionals to provide research awards to both groups of emerging professionals (or scholars?).

<u>Planned activity 3:</u> Co-host SECP preconference Research Colloquium. Advocate for the optimal time and space for the colloquium based on number of abstracts submitted.

<u>Planned activity 1:</u> The executive committee invited RIN members at-large to review 54 abstracts submitted by SECP individuals. Nine RIN members reviewed abstracts, with each abstract reviewed by 2 RIN members. Based on the average ranking, the RIN awarded travel awards to two students: Jade Presnell, MS, Indiana University, & Emily Van Gaasbeek, MS, Ohio State University.

<u>Planned activity 2:</u> Due to miscommunication, the SECP originally provided abstracts submitted by students and early career professionals. The RIN was able to access other documentation to identify student abstracts. **There is a need to communicate directly with the central office to limit miscommunication**

<u>Planned activity 3:</u> A record number of SECP members presented abstracts at the research colloquium. The free event included four mid-career/senior RIN mentors, RIN executive committee, and SECP members.

Funds used: \$1,000 (\$500 each travel award)

Objective 3 – Advance the field.

<u>Planned activity 1:</u> Explore opportunities to have joint research related activities (e.g., webinars, meetings) with other organizations addressing the needs of people with IDD, such as AUCD-affiliated groups (CORE, IDDRCs).

<u>Planned activity 2:</u> Co-host at least 1 research-related activity with another organization

<u>Planned activity 1:</u> We were unable to identify an opportunity. **Recommend addressing this goal in a forthcoming year**

Planned activity 2: Not completed

Objective 4 - Promote the mission, goals, and principles of AAIDD.

<u>Planned activity 1:</u> Complete review of plain language guidelines and formats used to deliver plain language summaries in IDD journals.

<u>Planned activity 2:</u> Conduct interviews and surveys with journal editors to understand usage of, barriers to, and supports for plain language research summaries.

<u>Planned activity 3:</u> Summarize our findings and provide a proposal to the AAIDD community for the use of plain language research summaries.

<u>Planned activity 1:</u> We reviewed plain language guidelines of 5 leading IDD journals. We summarized plain language practices across journals and documented the supports these journals provide to authors to develop plain language summaries.

<u>Planned activity 2:</u> We were able to conduct 1 interview with a journal representative. We were able to gather additional information through email and exploring journals' websites.

Planned activity 3: The executive committee presented "Promoting uptake and utility of research through plain language summaries" as an Issue Brief at the 2023 AAIDD annual conference. This Issue Brief summarized activities 1 and 2 and provide recommendations related to plain language summaries for journals and researchers.

Funds used: \$0

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Objective 5 – Improve communication	
<u>Planned activity 1:</u> Host at least 1 research-related networking event (may overlap with objective 1).	<u>Planned activity 1:</u> We hosted two research mentorship roundtables, as well as a breakfast RIN membership meetings at the AAIDD 2023 conference. We also co-hosted the SECP pre-conference research colloquium.
	Funds used: \$0

2023-2024 Plan: Goals, Objectives, Activities, and Strategies		
For the coming year (July 1-June 30), describe the planned objectives, activities, and proposed expenditure		
of funds. In addition, please note if/how any activities will address diversity, equity, inclusion, or justice.		
AAIDD Objective Area	RIN Action PLan	
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Objective 1 –	In partnership with AAIDD leadership, the assembly, and the SECP, evaluate the	
Collaborate with other	process of travel award membership to enhance efficiency, impact, and equity of	
interest networks	awards.	
	Proposed expenditures: \$0	
Objective 2 – Support	Planned activity 1: Provide financial support for travel awards to AAIDD, with a	
students	focus on students and early career professionals interested in research.	
	Planned activity 2: Co-host SECP pre-conference Research Colloquium, and	
	collaborate with SECP leadership to create a program that best meets the needs of	
	diverse students and early career professionals.	
	Proposed expenditures: \$1,000 (\$500 x 2 awards)	
Objective 3 – Advance	Planned activity 1: The RIN will co-sponsor webinars/seminars held by RIN	
the field.	members to advance scientific knowledge and resources.	
	Planned activity 2: The RIN will explore opportunities to co-sponsor	
	webinars/seminars with other related organizations (e.g., AUCD, IDDRC) to	
	enhance collaboration and dissemination in the field.	
	Proposed expenditures: \$0	
Objective 4 - Promote	Collaborate with RIN members to identify priority topics from NIH Working Group	
the mission, goals, and	on Diversity (subgroup: Individuals with disabilities) to inform future research that	
principles of AAIDD.	contributes to the autonomy and inclusion of people with IDD, and access to	
	quality health, education, vocational, and other human services and supports.	
	Proposed expenditures: \$0	
Objective 5 – Improve	<u>Planned activity 1:</u> Using the membership list, invite RIN members to participate in	
communication	RIN events and contribute to annual planned activities (e.g., reviewing for student	
	awards, serving as mentors at the SECP Research Colloqium).	
	Planned activity 2: Using the media outlets of AAIDD (newsletter, facebook),	
	advertise RIN events and relevant scholarly events and activities of RIN members.	
	Proposed expenditures: \$0	