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DISABILITIES
A Multidisciplinary Journal

An Introduction

On behalf of ACLD, I am pleased to introduce the first issue of ***Learning Disabilities: A Multidisciplinary Journal.*** Since its inception, ACLD has been the major advocate for persons with learning disabilities. In its evolving role, ACLD is publishing a journal to provide a forum for ideas and research concerning learning disabilities. Although there are a number of fine journals on learning disabilities, they are all primarily directed toward the disciplines of psychology and education. ***Learning Disabilities: A Multidisciplinary Journal*** will focus on a variety of fields, including science, technology, public policy, families, education, and other related topics.

It is fitting that this first issue highlights the three keynote addresses at the 25th International Conference of ACLD held in Las Vegas in 1988. Each of these addresses represents a discipline that will be stressed in subsequent issues. Melvin D. Levine, one of the prominent pediatricians in the United States, discusses the tremendous contributions that have been made to the scientific exploration of learning disabilities. As president of the Council of Chief State School Officers and the State Superintendent of the Maryland Public School, David W. Hornbeck shares the progress made in educating children with learning disabilities. G. Thomas Bellamy, Director of the Office of Special Education Programs of the U.S. Department of Education, describes the progress made in federal legislation for persons with learning disabilities.

Also in this issue is a paper compiled by the ACLD Professional Advisory Board under the leadership of Doris Johnson. This paper responds to the need to educate parents in becoming wise consumers for their children with learning disabilities.

The purpose of ***Learning Disabilities: A Multidisciplinary Journal*** is strong and clear—it is to provide a scholarly journal representing the major disciplines concerned with learning disabilities. It will be a refereed journal, but will also include invited papers on current issues, trends, and research. The journal will be directed to both parents and professionals. The specifics of ***Learning Disabilities: A Multidisciplinary Journal*** are currently being determined. Over the next few months these will be communicated to you in ***Newsbriefs.*** I welcome input from ACLD membership on how to create a journal of which we all can be proud.

Esther Minskoff
Editor