



WICHITA STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF  
HEALTH PROFESSIONS

March 18, 2019

Educational Audiology Association  
ATTN: Frederick S. Berg Award Committee  
700 McKnight Park Drive, Suite 708  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing this letter to enthusiastically support Donna F. Smiley's nomination for this year's Frederick S. Berg Award. I have known Donna for approximately 14 years. We have worked together on several research projects, and we have written an article, three book chapters, and a textbook together. Specifically, Donna and I wrote an article for the *Journal of Educational Audiology* in 2009, "The 'State' of Educational Audiology Revisited," and our textbook was entitled *School-Based Audiology* (2012, Plural Publishing). Donna's contributions on that article and book were invaluable. She was truly the brains behind the information contained in them!

Aside from her written contributions to the profession, I believe Donna has most definitely "made notable contributions to the field of Educational Audiology on a national level." I became a member, associate editor, and editor for EAA's journal as a result of knowing Donna. Donna Smiley is EAA's biggest advocate! I have heard her talk to other professionals about EAA on numerous occasions. I have heard her cite documents and guidelines published by the EAA in order to make others aware of their existence. Donna is extremely knowledgeable about Educational Audiology – it has been her life and her calling for longer than I have known her. Whenever I've had a question about policy, or maybe even about hearing assistive technology, I know that Donna will know the answer and guide me to the correct solution.

I could go on and on about Donna's worthiness for this award, so please do not interpret the brevity of this letter as meaning I've run out of things to say. I fully believe that Donna Fisher Smiley is deserving of the Fred Berg Award, and I know she will be thrilled to be nominated for such an honor. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like additional information. I'd be happy to supply it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cynthia M. Richburg". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Cynthia McCormick Richburg, PhD, CCC-A  
Audiologist  
Professor, AuD Program Coordinator