

March 22, 2019

Dear Selection Committee:

This letter will serve as an official nomination for Donna Fisher-Smiley as the recipient of the 2019 Frederick Berg award. I have known Donna as a colleague and friend for many years and I cannot think of anyone at this time more deserving of this honor. Donna's contributions to the field of Educational Audiology have been both numerous and important.

Currently Donna serves as an Audiology Supervisor at Arkansas Children's Hospital and as the coordinator of the EARS Program (Educational Audiology/Speech Pathology Resources for Schools). This innovative program provides onsite, school-based audiology services and specialized speech-language pathology services for early childhood programs and school districts around the state of Arkansas via contracts. Therefore, allowing particularly underserved areas to receive services.

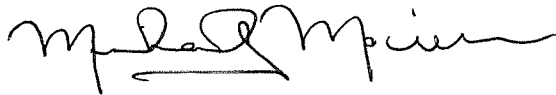
Her written contributions to the field of Educational Audiology include the text *School Based Audiology* (Plural Publishing 2012) written with Dr. Cynthia Richburg, which has become an important teaching tool for audiology students. She has published important journal articles such as *The State of Educational Audiology Revisited* (Journal of Educational Audiology 2009 with Cynthia Richburg), *From Clinic to Classroom, Helping Families of Children with Hearing Loss Navigate the Educational Environment* (Access Audiology 2017), *Shift Happens: Evolving Practices in School-Based Audiology* (Journal of Educational Audiology 2014 with several other authors) and many others that are too numerous to include here.

Donna is a sought after presenter in the field of Educational Audiology and in the last 10 years alone has given nearly 50 different presentations to professional groups throughout the country. She has also been a teacher and mentor to many students over the years during her time as Assistant Professor at the University of Central Arkansas and as an instructor and adjunct professor at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

Amongst her numerous awards, she was elected a Fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in 2018. She has served ASHA as Vice-President for Audiology Practice and is currently serving ASHA as the Chair of the Committee on Leadership Cultivation. She has also served the Educational Audiology Association in the past as treasurer of the association and editor of the Journal of Educational Audiology. Having been past-president of EAA myself, I saw firsthand her commitment and contributions to EAA. She has always been a vocal proponent of what EAA stands for and what EAA's mission is.

It is without hesitation that I nominate Dr. Donna Fisher-Smiley for the Frederick S. Berg Award. Her contributions to the field of Educational Audiology are far-reaching. And I think, most importantly, she has bridged academia, clinical, and educational audiology in a way no one else has. She happily works "in the trenches" giving her insight that others do not have. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you might have or if you should need more information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Macione". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent underline under the name "Macione".

Michael J. Macione, AuD, CCC-A  
Jackson County Michigan Intermediate School District  
Past-President, Educational Audiology Association