



Hello CAPHI Colleagues:

They say that “If March comes in like a lamb it will go out like a lion.” I know this refers to the weather but I also think CAPHI is coming into March like a lion after a very successful conference. Check the CAPHI website for a special link to conference photos and PPT presentations. Thanks again to all conference presenters for their wonderful information and willingness to give their time to enrich our understanding of students with physical, health, and multiple disabilities.

In years that CAPHI does not conduct our own conference, we partner with Danbury Elementary School for their tech conference. I typically serve on the conference planning committee on behalf of CAPHI. Please send me your ideas for presentations and I will try to get them covered in the tech conference.

The CAPHI Executive Committee is planning a spring meeting to go over conference evaluations and plan the 2012-2013 year. Besides the Danbury Tech conference, CAPHI can offer workshops to meet member’s needs. Among other ideas, CAPHI plans to offer several trainings about Unique Learning Systems. Let me know what you want CAPHI to do on your behalf.

CAPHI members are busy with professional activities. **Jana Birch** of San Diego has developed an iPad app that is compatible with the needs of students with disabilities. Please contact her at [jbirch@sandi.net](mailto:jbirch@sandi.net) for more information about this exciting opportunity. **Angie** and **Patricia Juarez** are scheduled to present at the Council for Exceptional Children conference in April in Denver. They are expanding their presentation about teacher competencies and an article will be developed for consideration in the Division for Physical, Health, and Multiple Disabilities (DPHMD) Journal. **Michael Maher** and **Aloi Chung** hosted a wonderful tour of Childrens Hospital Los Angeles in mid-February for CSULA students. **Kathy Bays** and **Kathy Ho** hosted similar tours of Saratoga Sub-Acute Facility and Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital for CSULA students in the mid-state area. Finally, **Sherry Best** has been invited to present the showcase session for the Division for Physical, Health, and Multiple Disabilities (DPHMD) at the upcoming CEC conference. The topic is *Past, Present, and Future Perspectives in Physical, Health, and Multiple Disabilities*. In collaboration with Kathy Heller and Patrice Kuntzler, Principal of the Henry Viscardi School in New York State, the presentation will review the status of teacher preparation and service delivery to infants, children, and youth with physical, health, and multiple disabilities in the United States and recommend a research and policy agenda for the national division. This is an exciting opportunity to shape the direction of the field of PHMD at the national level.

As always, now is my time to make a plea for continued involvement of CAPHI members in keeping this organization healthy and growing. Our membership has expanded and we can become even more important as a force for supporting teachers and students in California. I can think of several projects that will heighten our visibility and directly serve our members. The following projects are on my immediate list:

1. Update the CAPHI website
2. Move forward with the statewide X-Box competition (see Steve Hamilton's PPT)
3. Facilitate workshops for 2012-2013

So, contact me with your ideas. It is not too early to start thinking about the 2013 Tech Conference and the 2014 CAPHI Conference. Teachers in San Diego have expressed interest in hosting the 2014 conference. If CAPHI goes to San Diego the following conference should go to Northern California. These conferences seem very far ahead. However, these dates will be upon us faster than we know. The 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Girl Scouts is in 2012 and perhaps CAPHI should borrow their moto of "Be Prepared" for steering our professional future!

*Sherry Best*

Sherry Best,  
CAPHI President

