



**Press Release: Council for Exceptional Children's Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities Announces 2024 Early Career Research Award Recipient**

*(For Immediate Release)*

January 12, 2024

The Council for Exceptional Children's Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities is pleased to announce Dr. Catharine Lory as the recipient of the 2024 Early Career Research Award. This award recognizes those exhibiting exceptional promise at the beginning stages of their career in research related to students with autism, intellectual disability, and/or other developmental disabilities.

Dr. Catharine Lory, an Assistant Professor of Special Education at the University of Las Vegas Nevada, is acknowledged for her research focusing on improving understanding of restrictive and repetitive behaviors (RRB) in individuals with autism, particularly in applied settings. Nominator Jennifer Smith stated, "the impact of her research not only professionally develops teachers and paraprofessionals but also increases positive outcomes and opportunities for children with disabilities and their families." Department Chair, Dr. Joseph Morgan, added, "Her focus on both development of innovative ideas as well as ensuring those ideas are translatable to practice are a demonstration of her potential for leadership in the field of Autism."

This distinguished award is presented by The Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities (DADD), a special interest association within the Council for Exceptional Children—the largest international professional organization dedicated to supporting the needs of students with disabilities. Since its establishment in 1963, DADD has been a leading voice in the field of education for students with autism, intellectual disability, and other developmental disabilities, actively contributing to research dissemination, the creation of nationally recognized professional practice standards, and fostering robust professional networking. The award ceremony is scheduled to take place at DADD's annual conference in Honolulu, Hawaii, on January 18, 2024.

For further information, please contact Dr. Jordan Shurr, DADD Awards Chair, at [j.shurr@queensu.ca](mailto:j.shurr@queensu.ca). Additional details about the Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities can be found at <http://www.daddcec.com/>.