



**Division on
Autism and
Developmental
Disabilities**

Press Release: Council for Exceptional Children's Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities Announces 2025 Research Award Recipient

(For Immediate Release)

January 8, 2025

The Council for Exceptional Children's Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities (DADD) is pleased to announce Dr. Kara Hume as the recipient of the 2025 Research Award. This award honors outstanding contributions to research supporting individuals with autism, intellectual disability, and other developmental disabilities.

Dr. Hume, an Associate Professor at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, is dedicated to advancing school and community-based interventions for individuals with autism and developmental disabilities. Her research focuses on autistic children and youth, school-based interventions from preschool through high school transition, and the impact of life skills and physical activity outside of school. She collaborates with youth, families, school teams, and community partners to conduct applied research in real-world settings. Dr. Hume has published over 65 peer-reviewed articles with over 11,000 citations and secured more than \$21 million in research funding. Dr. Melissa Sreckovic noted, "What might be less obvious is the impact she has had on mentoring the next generation of researchers. She has guided countless students, post-docs, and investigators, empowering them to pursue meaningful research that advances the cause of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and autism. Her mentorship has been a cornerstone of my professional growth, and I am just one of many whose careers have been shaped by her generosity, expertise, and encouragement."

This award is presented by DADD, a division of the Council for Exceptional Children, which has supported the education of students with autism, intellectual disabilities, and other developmental disabilities since 1963. DADD contributes to research dissemination, and the development of professional practice standards, and fosters networking among professionals in the field.

The award ceremony will take place at DADD's annual conference in Clearwater Beach, Florida, on January 22, 2025. For further information, please contact Dr. Melissa Savage, DADD Awards Chair, at mns029@uark.edu. Additional details about the Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities can be found at <http://www.daddcec.com/>.