

**For Immediate Release
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Bay Area School Psychologist Honored by Statewide Association

Jennifer Simmons, a school psychologist with the Diagnostic Center, Northern California, received the Nadine M. Lambert Outstanding School Psychologist Award for her contributions to the profession by the California Association of School Psychologists (CASP) at its annual convention March 13-15 in Burlingame.

Ms. Simmons provides educational and psychological services to Northern California's most difficult to serve special education students. According to colleagues, she also mentors new school psychologists and teachers, serves on several local committees and work groups, and provides resource assistance, consultation and support to local districts, students and families.

She has developed training workshops for teachers on autism, is creating a workshop on delivering the "bad news" (usually diagnosis of mental retardation) to parents in a gentle, yet professional manner, and other sensitive topics that involve special education students and their families. She is fluent in American Sign Language and has worked for the Albany School District, Mill Valley School District, for a non-public school in San Leandro and for the California School for the Deaf in Fremont. She is a resident of Albany.

The Nadine M. Lambert Outstanding School Psychologist Award recognizes the contributions school psychologists have made to the schools, students and profession, and is awarded on a regional basis. Ms. Simmons was recognized as the Outstanding School Psychologist for the San Francisco Bay Area Region.

The California Association of School Psychologists, with about 3,000 members, is the largest state school psychologists association in the country. It provides continuing education, resource and referral and advocacy to school psychologists throughout the state. Formed in the early 1950s, the association works to ensure safe learning environments for all K-12 students.

For more information on CASP and on school psychology, please visit our web site at www.casponline.org. For a photo of Ms. Simmons, please contact Heidi Holmblad at 916/444-1595 or at communications@casponline.org.