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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Instructor and Research Assistant at Clemson University Selected as Emerging Leader**

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Jennifer Wagner, an instructor and research assistant with the Eugene T. Moore School of Education at Clemson University in Williamston, S.C., has been selected as an Emerging Leader by PDK International, a global association of education professionals.

The PDK Emerging Leaders program recognizes top educators under age 40 from across the globe for their leadership and vision in the field of education. A review committee composed of past PDK Emerging Leaders selected this year's 18 honorees from a competitive field of applicants, based on their outstanding professional accomplishments.

In addition to being honored at the 2012 PDK International Conference, honorees also have the opportunity to be published by PDK, apply for grants, and participate in PDK initiatives.

"Recognizing the achievements and commitment of these young leaders is vital to PDK's vision of cultivating tomorrow's great educators," said William J. Bushaw, PDK International's executive director. "These inspiring individuals will provide a very bright future for the field of education."

As a former special education teacher and building-level administrator, Wagner saw the difficulties many students encounter when confronted with a challenging curriculum and fast-paced instruction. She has focused her doctoral research on learning best practices to help all children learn at their own pace and level, with increased attention on early intervention and prevention for those who have disabilities or are at risk for developing them.

"I believe all children have a right to be educated in a manner that best suits their unique learning needs," Wagner said. "It is my responsibility as an educator and future leader to ensure that multiple curricular approaches and opportunities are present to help each child master the content."

She has presented at many national and international conferences, including speaking appointments at the International Conference on Learning Disabilities and the International Council for Exceptional Children Convention. In 2011, Wagner was honored with the Outstanding Graduate Student Award in Teacher Education by Clemson University's College of Health, Education, and Human Development.

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### **About PDK International**

Founded in 1906, PDK International is a global association for professional educators. The organization's mission is to support education, particularly public education, as the cornerstone of democracy. More information is online at [www.pdkintl.org](http://www.pdkintl.org).

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