## PRECONFERENCE MONDAY, JUNE 24, 2024

1:00-5:00 pm

### New Providers Training

Debbie Dimitrovski - Daemen University

Kristy Harte - University at Buffalo

Don Pool - Jamestown Community College

This session will be a “mini boot camp” for new professionals; covering the topics that are most useful and helpful to people new to disability-related work in higher education.

### ADA/504 CoordinatorsTraining

Carolyn Boone - ADA/504 Compliance Office - Tompkins Cortland Community College

Are you the Section 504 and or ADA compliance person for your campus? Is this just another one of your hats? Are you also responsible for direct access services for students? For employees? This is the training for you if you answered “yes” to one, two, or all the preceding questions! While not comprehensive (that would take a week!), you’ll come away with a light refresher on the laws, some information on needed policies, procedures, and processes to best serve your postsecondary institution as the Section 504 and/or ADA compliance person. This pre-conference session will include working together with similarly situated colleagues from a variety of higher education institutions.

NYSDSC SPRING 2024 CONFERENCE AGENDA

# **Day 1: Tuesday June 25th**

**Wear Your School SWAG and Represent Your Institution and have a chance to win a prize**

08:30 to 09:00 am Greeting, Registration, and Breakfast

09:00 to 09:15 am Welcome Note**,** Portia Altman, NYSDSC President - Syracuse University

09:15 to 10:00 am Business Meeting

10:15 to 12:00 am KEYNOTE – Scott Lissner - ADA Coordinator and 504 Compliance Officer -Ohio State

L. Scott Lissner has served as the Americans With Disabilities Act Coordinator and 504 Compliance Officer for The Ohio State University since January of 2000 where he is also an Associate of the John Glenn School of Public Policy and a lecturer for the Moritz College of Law, the Knowlton School of Architecture, and Disability Studies. His teaching and public service informs and energizes his work in creating seamless access to the full range of the university’s programs, services, and opportunities. Engaged in community and professional service, Lissner is Chair of the Association on Higher Education and Disability’s Public Policy Committee and a past President of the organization; has served on the boards and advisory committees including The Center for Disability Empowerment, Arts Access Ohio, the National Center for College Students with Disabilities, Access Ohio, the Columbus Advisory Committee on Disability Issues, and the NCAA Mental Health Think Tank. Presentations on disability and access include the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education, Ohio Court Administrators Association, University of Toledo’s Law Symposium on Compliance, a technical assistance tour to Indonesia sponsored by the Department of State, conference sessions and workshops for the Association on Higher Education And Disability, the National Association of College and University Attorneys, The Ohio Attorney General’s Office, the and webinars on building accommodation processes at the Universities of Tokyo and Doshisha in Japan.

## Day 1: Tuesday June 25th Continued

12:00 to 1:00pmLunch

1:00 to 1:50 pm Concurrent Session 1

1.1 **Student panel - The importance of Student Voices on SUNY Campuses**

Alex Jackson he/they Student at SUNY Cortland Disability Ambassador

Destiny Williams she/her Student at SUNY College at Old Westbury

Kaitlin Anzalone she/her student at SUNY Geneseo

Cass Taylor she/her Student at SUNY Binghamton University

Several SUNY Disability Ambassadors have been working on projects on their campuses and want to share the impact they had on their campuses. The disability support effort was paid for by Enhancing Supports funding.

1.2  **Creating an Inclusive Community for Students: Campus Collaborations and Connections**

Maryellen Guardino, Director for the Office of Accommodations and Accessibility - Marist, she/her

Joseph Guardino, Director for the Office of Housing and Residential Life - Marist, he/him,

This session will focus on how accessibility and access on a college campus is not just the responsibility of the disability office, but should be a campus-wide priority and approach. Students are not only learning in a classroom setting, but in their residential environments too. Fifteen percent of the Marist College student population identifies with the Office of Accommodations and Accessibility. This Office has strong connections, both within Academic Affairs and Student Affairs, to meet the learning, emotional, and social needs of the students. Collaborating on neurodiversity trainings and workshops, executing an annual Disability Awareness Week, implementing physical changes to residence halls, establishing online platforms for disability education, and creating disability support groups, are just some of the ways that we strive to make Marist College an accepting and inclusive environment that provides access to all.

## Day 1: Tuesday June 25th Continued

2:00 to 04:30 pm

2.1 Accommodations Outside the classroom

Scott Lissner - ADA Coordinator and 504 Compliance Officer -Ohio State

Teaching and learning is at the center of the academic enterprise but the mandate for access extends beyond the classroom to all of our programs, services, and benefits. From housing to practice and placements; work-study to study abroad; or dining services to recreational sports how do we provide seamless access.  Can extended time, note taking technologies, and accessible media translate to a nursing rotation or career fair?  What information supports a single room or ESA?  We will explore the boundaries of program access and how to adapt our processes for documenting and identifying and implementing accommodations in a variety of contexts.

Feel free to enjoy dinner tonight. Take this opportunity to gather some fellow NYSDSC members to share a meal and forge new connections.

## Day 2: Wednesday, June 26th

08:00 to 09:00 am Greeting, Registration, and Breakfast

09:00 to 05:15 pm Information Available All Day

Visit The Vendors **–** An opportunity to visit the companies that produce assistive and adaptive technology for use by your students, and by your campus professionals

09:00 to 09:50 am Concurrent Sessions #3

3.1 **Don’t ask, don’t get? How to reach the 65% of students with disabilities who need your support but won’t ask for it.**

Mais Wilsher, Higher Education Partnerships, He\Him

Sixty five percent of students with disabilities won’t ask for your help. In fact, students with disabilities are entering higher education in increasing numbers, and that percentage is likely to be increasing. Disability Services offices do an incredible job at helping students to gain equitable access to learning, and at empowering students to learn independently. But, despite best efforts, even the most hard-working office is unlikely to provide support to all the students who need it - because only 35% of students who know they have a disability self-advocate. And of those only 24% will actively use their accommodation. Why are students not accessing the support available? The main reasons students do not access support are either not being sufficiently aware of these supports, or fears of disclosure and stigmatization of a disability. The answer to the problem seems clear - build accessibility and inclusivity into campus so that students don't need to self-advocate, but how to get there? That's easier said than done.

In this session, we’ll be looking at ways that institutions have been working to reach the 65% of students with disabilities who don't self-advocate. We'll discuss how disability services can advocate for Universal Design for Learning on campus; how partnering with faculty and IT can help you ensure campus tech is accessible; and how some universities are providing Assistive Technology to all students on campus, not just those with accommodations. Attendees will leave with: An understanding of how Universal Design for Learning can help make the classroom accessible for all students Knowledge of how Universities and Colleges are providing assistive technology beyond students registered with the disability services department A case study of how a university created a group of UDL advocates among faculty and support staff.

## Day 2: Wednesday, June 26th Continued

3.2 **“Enhanced Funding” Enhancing Supports & Services for Students with Disabilities for Postsecondary Success (SWDPS)**

Presenter Jamin Totino, Associate Dean of Student Affairs; Skidmore College

Join us for an insightful workshop session where we plunge into the innovative initiatives undertaken by colleges and universities with their SWDPS funds. We'll explore current strategies and brainstorm ideas for future enhancements to campus facilities. This marks the third year of NYSED's initiative aimed at fulfilling legislative goals by allocating funds to disability support offices in postsecondary educational institutions. Don't miss this opportunity to contribute to shaping the future of disability support services on college campuses!

During our discussion, we'll focus on four key areas delineated for fund allocation:

* To supplement funding for supports and accommodations of students with disabilities.
* To support summer college preparation programs to assist students with disabilities in transitioning to college and prepare them to navigate campus facilities and systems.
* To provide full- and part-time faculty and staff with disability training; and
* To improve the identification process of students with disabilities and enhance data collection capabilities.

10:00 to 11:20am Concurrent Session #4

4.1 **The Current Collegiate Mental Health Landscape: Trends, Psychosocial Development, and Academic Impact**

David R Reetz, PhD, Director of Counseling and Psychological Services, He/They, Cornell University

Trends in adolescent development and shifting interpersonal demands set the stage for evolving understandings of the psychosocial needs of college students. This session aims to bridge the gap between the student needs of late adolescents and expected academic demands, providing insights for college health and access professionals.

## Day 2: Wednesday, June 26th Continued

4.2 **Disability Leadership on Your Campus**

Amy Fisk, Director of Accessibility Services, she/her/hers, SUNY Geneseo

Nicole Mucica, Director of Accessibility Services, she/her/hers, SUNY Brockport

Tanya Hoistion, Coordinator of Student Accommodations and Testing Services, she/her/hers, Jefferson Community College

As the field of disability services in higher education continues to grow and shift toward a systems-wide approach to fostering access and inclusion, disability service providers have an opportunity to be movers and shakers on our campuses. The presenters will be sharing information learned from the AHEAD Management Institute on Leadership, important takeaways, and how they are incorporating these strategies into their daily practices. Topics include campus-wide communication, setting expectations, conflict resolution, and optimizing your office's potential. Attendees will have an opportunity to engage in small group discussions and develop their own strategies.

11:30 to 12:20am Concurrent Session #5

5.1 **Accessibility, Compliance and more: - practical solutions for creating accessible media**

Dr. Lars Ballieu Christensen, Senior Accessibility Advisor, Sensus

Tanja Stevns, Special Education Teacher, Sensus

While we struggle to get publishers and instructors to create accessible material and embrace the accessibility standards, students with disabilities continue to face the barriers of inaccessibility and unsuitable formats. In this session, Sensus will present its approach to remediation and accessibility. Furthermore, Sensus will discuss how conversion and remediation technologies such as the SensusAccess alternate media and conversion service within D2L Brightspace and the SensusComply remediation portal for WCAG compliant can contribute towards inclusive learning environments and how the same technologies can be used to support agency and independence later on in life.

## Day 2: Wednesday, June 26th Continued

5.2 **Visit with the Vendors**

Take this opportunity to visit with the vendors that we have available all day today.

12:30 to 01:30 pm Lunch – Awards Ceremony starting at 1:00pm

01:40 to 02:30 pm

6.1 Open Dialogue: “I have a student /faculty/parent who….”

Starr Wheeler - ADA Compliance Officer, SUNY Oswego

Don Pool - Coordinator of Accessibility Services, Jamestown Community College

Come to ask questions, present an issue, or simply come to listen! This is an opportunity to draw on the experience and expertise of your fellow colleagues who “have been there and done that”. This session is designed for an interactive and productive on-site conversation. Come gain practical, hands-on advice that you can implement to your daily activities in your own office.

02:30 - 3:00 Coffee, Networking and Connecting with Vendors!

Energize your afternoon with a cup of joe while making meaningful connections with Assistive Technology leaders and our NYSDSC members. Don't miss out on this prime opportunity to expand your network and explore exciting collaborations!

03:00 to 03:50 pm Sector Meetings

* + - * CUNY
      * SUNY
      * Independent
      * Proprietary

04:00 to 05:30 pm Unwind with Wine & Cheese!

Sip & Socialize: Join us for a relaxing get-together where all members of NYSDSC can mingle and enjoy delicious refreshments courtesy of our generous sponsors. Take this opportunity to unwind and engage in casual conversations with our vendors. Dinner is on your own!

## Day 3: Thursday, June 27th

08:30 to 09:25 am Greetings and Breakfast – NYSDSC Committee Meetings

**Join the Conversation:** Dive into the work of NYSDSC Committees! Take a seat with your chosen committee(s) and add to discussions about ongoing projects and exciting prospects for the future. If you're not already part of a committee, seize the chance to explore one that interests you and listen in on the engaging dialogue. Committees include Access Technologies, Awards Committee, Conference Planning Committee, Government Relations, Nominations Committee, and Website Committee.

09:30 to 10:20 am

7.1 Passing the Torch: A senior professional and a new professional share how they forged a dynamic collaborative process for disabled student programming and changing campus wide perspectives.

Sue Mann Dolce Ph.D., she/her, Associate Director University at Buffalo

Hannah Premo, they/them, Outreach Program Coordinator, University at Buffalo

Learn about the development of an Accessibility Resources Program Coordinator Position from a senior professional and meet the new professional in the role. Explore the exciting work they have accomplished together this year, including the Disability as Diversity Campaign and the Disabled Student Peer Mentoring program. Presenters will discuss their roles and how they worked and leveraged their strengths as senior and new professionals. Survey data from Peer Mentors and Mentees, the Neurodiversity Student Survey and ideas and other information from the Disability as Diversity Campaign will be shared. A Disability as Diversity sweatshirt will be raffled off to interested attendees.

## Day 3: Thursday, June 27th Continued

10:30 to 11:50 am

8.1 DeafTEC: Technological Education Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Student

Theresa Johnson, M.Ed., Associate Director, DeafTEC, National Institute for the Deaf, Rochester Institute of Technology

**DeafTEC**: Technological Education Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students, a National Science Foundation Advanced Technological Education Center of Excellence, serves as a resource for high schools and community colleges that educate deaf and hard of hearing students in STEM related programs and for employers hiring deaf and hard of hearing individuals. Come learn about this state-of-the-art program!

11:50-12:00 Closing remarks

Tanya Hoistion, Jefferson Community College- President NYSDSC

**Thank you for joining us for our Spring 2024 Conference!**