# Welcome to the NYSDSC’s

# Fall 2018 Meeting

The NYSDSC Planning Committee would like to welcome each of you to the New York State Disability Service Council’s Fall 2018 Meeting.

We have attempted to provide you with sessions that will challenge your commitment to exploring different philosophical approaches to disability support services, molding policies and procedures around these philosophies and, hopefully, arriving at a support level that makes equal access possible for students with disabilities.

We have created opportunities for you to engage and network with people from other New York State colleges who will become resources for you after we all scatter to our respective campuses when this meeting is over.

We have appealed to our partners in The New York State Education Department and ACCES-VR to advise you and update you on initiatives that impact the educational careers of our students. We hope you will take back what you have learned to your campuses, share with colleagues, and continue your work as valuable post-secondary education professionals.

Lastly, we have invited our colleagues from The Office of Civil Rights to educate you on what is on the legal landscape in disability support services.

We thank you for your investment in our Council and, more importantly, wish you a very inspiring and empowering meeting!

*NYSDSC Planning Committee Members:*

*Catherine Carlson, Columbia-Greene Community College*

*Nancy Carr, Onondaga Community College*

*Tamara Mariotti, Mohawk Valley Community College*

*Don Pool, Jamestown Community College*

*Grace Costello, Mohawk Valley Community College*

*Avery Horowitz, Touro College*

*Melissa Soules, Finger Lakes Community College*

*Jean Vizvary, SUNY New Paltz*

*Megan Riedl, SUNY Canton*

*Jhony Nelson, LaGuardia Community College*

*Daniel Chan, Hunter College*

# New York State Disability Services Council

# Fall 2018 Meeting

# AGENDA

# **Day 1: Thursday, November 29th, 2018**

08:30 to 09:25 am Registration and Full Breakfast

 SALON E

09:30 to 09:55 am Opening Remarks, Catherine Carlson, NYSDSC President

 Grand Ballroom SALON D

10:00 to 10:55 am Reimagining Disability Support, from a Logistical Standpoint

Grand Ballroom SALON D

Christopher Leydon, Coordinator

Office of Student Disability Services

CUNY School of Professional Studies

11:00am to 12:25pm **Updates from the New York State Education Department:**

**Grand Ballroom Salon D**

Kevin Smith, Deputy Commissioner, ACCES-VR;

Leigh Mountain, New York State Education Dept.

Kelly Onorato, New York State Education Dept.

Tamara Mariotti, Coordinator of the Office of Accessibility Resources (OAR) Mohawk Valley Community College, Co-Chair NYSED Advisory Council for SWD in Post-Secondary Education

Learn what is timely and relevant to disability professionals in New York State, i*ncluding P-12 Special Education initiatives that effect our students, NYS ACCES-VR updated funding formula, data collection, legislative updates. Come prepared with questions!*

12:30 to 01:25 pm Lunch

 Salon E

01:30 – 02:25 pm Concurrent Sessions

* 1. Open Networking Activities

TROY ROOM

Designed to get you up and moving and interacting with one another

2.1 Social Model – How Does that Actually Happen?

SCHENECTADY ROOM

 Christopher Leydon, Coordinator

Office of Student Disability Services

CUNY School of Professional Studies

A workshop involving practical suggestions and role playing as to how the Social Model plays out in our offices and on our campuses.

2:30 – 3:55 pm The Legal Frontier

 SALON D

Legal information from our colleagues at The Federal Office of Civil Rights explaining what the current focus is, recent decisions that have shaped our policies and procedures, and what to look for on the horizon of legal compliance in higher education support services.

04:00 to 04:10 pm Break

04:15 to 05:15 pm Sector Meetings

CUNY **TROY ROOM**

SUNY **COLONIE ROOM**

Proprietary & Independent – **SCHENECTADY ROOM**

Happy Hour – Chat’s Lounge - New members are encouraged to attend!

# **Day 2: Friday, November 30th, 2018**

08:15 to 09:30 am Registration/ Full Breakfast

 NYSDSC Business Meeting

 SALON E

09:35 to 10:45 am The Importance of Advocacy at the Legislative Level

 SALON D

 Christopher Rosa, CUNY Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

 Paula Possenti-Perez, Director, Syracuse University

Merrill Parra, Director of Student Disability Services, Lehman College

Have you thought that the power to make a difference on a state level is not in your league? Think again! Let’s talk about how we project our voices outside the boundaries of our campuses to make a difference for our students. We will hear about a very important statewide conversation that may mean state funding for students with disabilities.

10:50 to 11:30 am Concurrent Sessions

***2.1*** **Reader’s Aid**

***SALON D***

What to know for this year and review of any procedural changes.

Raymond Pierce and Donald McManus, NYSED/ACCES-VR Reader’s Aid Representatives

*2.2* Disability Rights New York

*SALON E*

The Client Assistance Program provides advocacy and assistance for applicants and recipients of ACCES-VR and NYSCB. Learn how to work with ACCES-VR, for your students and for your college administrative offices.

Brenda Shannon, CAP Advocate- Disability Rights of New York

11:35 – 12:10 pm **Student Disability Services Policy Landscape & Best Practices**

**SUNY Offices of University Life, General Counsel, and Compliance**

**SALON D**

 Policy writing is an important aspect of the disability/accessibility services profession. The presenters will provide an introduction to student disability services policies across SUNY and model exemplars across the country. They will share their research on policy standards, common policies, unique policies.

12:15 – 1:00 pm Policy Creation and Management

 SALON D

SUNY’s Offices of General Counsel and Compliance will share best practices pertaining to quality policy development and risk management. They will answer questions related to: When is Policy needed? When is procedure needed? What should the policy-making process entail?

# NYSDSC Fall 2018 Meeting

# Housekeeping Guidelines:

* **Speaking During the Conference** - Please always use the microphone.

We value everyone's opinions during the meeting.

* **Handouts** - Available on the NYSDSC Website and will be updated after the conclusion of the conference.
* **Meeting Start Time** - Arrive a few minutes before the session start time to

ensure the meeting can begin promptly.

* **Cell Phones, PDAs, and Electronic Devices** - Turn off or silence cell phones, PDAs, and electronic devices before the session begin.
* **Exiting During a Session -** If you need to leave the roomduring a session, wait for a break between speakers, if possible.
* **Exiting at the End of a Session** - The conference participants are encouraged

to leave the meeting room promptly so that room turns, equipment changes, and testing can be performed so the next session can begin on time.

* **Personal Meetings or Conversations** - Should be kept away from the presentation areas where it may be disturbing others.
* **Presentation Materials** - Electronic presentation materials are requested from our presenters. If they are provided to us, they are posted on the NYSDSC Website for ease of access.
* **Badges and Identification-** Visibly display your name badge throughout the

conference. At the conclusion of the conference, place your badge in the badge deposit boxes located outside the conference room.

* **Evaluations** -Your feedback is valuable to us. Please take a few minutes to fill out the evaluation form via the Meeting Evaluation Form on the NYSDSC Website.

Thank you and we hope you enjoy your sessions!

**Planning Committee**

**Let’s Gather Together November 29, 2018 at 5:30pm in Chat’s Lounge at The Albany Marriott**

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| cid:CF017E9E-0F44-49E8-9F0A-0598215862FA**fall ’18 meeting** November 29th - 30th Albany Marriott189 Wolf Rd. Albany, NY 12205[Link to Albany Marriott Web Site](https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/albny-albany-marriott/) Meeting Registration Will Be available on the NYSDSC Web Site Soon! | Medical Model to Social Model – Don’t Just Believe It – Live It!────The Importance of Advocating at a Legislative Level────Updates from our partners at The State Education Department, ACCES-VR, et.al.────I Have a Student/Faculty Member/Parent Who…────Make Hotel Reservations Early!(518) 458-8444Make sure you mention the NYSDSC Meeting Room Block to get the group rate of $139 by 11/13/18 |

**New York State Disability Services Council**

**Business Meeting Agenda**

**November 30, 2018 Albany, New York**

Open Meeting – Catherine Carlson, NYSDSC President – Overview of organizational structure, sectors, consortia. Committee work sees that the mission of the NYSDSC Strategic Plan is carried out so that goals of Plan are met.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Minutes from the June 2018 Business Meeting
2. Laptop - SUNY Sector approved the expenditure of SUNY Sector funds to purchase a laptop to house org business. In process.
3. Vote to add Membership and Marketing Representative to the EC was passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

I. Committee Reports

a. Access Technologies - Jeremy Zhe-Heimerman

b. Awards Committee - Carolyn Malloch, Chair

c. Events/Conference Planning - Catherine Carlson and Megan Riedl, Co- Chairs

d. Nominations Committee - Alissa Shugats-Cummings, Chair

e. Legislative Affairs - Merrill Parra & Paula Possenti-Perez, Co-Chairs

f. Professional Development - Nazely Kurkjian, Co-Chair

g. Website - Sumana Silverheels/Tamara Marriotti, Co-Chairs

II. Treasurer’s Report – To be provided at Spring ’19 Conference

III. Sector Reports

1. CUNY - Jhony Nelson, LaGuardia Community College
2. Independent - Debbie Dimitrovski, Hilbert College, will be coordinating an election for a Chairperson
3. SUNY - Gabriella Vasta, Columbia-Greene Community College
4. Strategic Plan 2016-2021 Update: Further Implementation of the current Strategic Plan – Catherine Carlson, President

**Strategic Plan 2016-2021**

**Fall ’18 Update**

**The vision of New York State Disability Service Council (NYSDSC)** is to provide professional expertise within disability service in higher education in New York State while proactively facilitating change for the benefit of the disability community in higher education.

**The core values of NYSDSC** reside in ourdeep regard for diversity and inclusion. We believe in enhancing the professional community that we serve through advocacy and professional development with specific focus on leadership, accommodation management, and assistive technology, via state-wide collaborations and initiatives. As an official state affiliate of the Association of Higher Education and Disability, the NYSDSC proudly endorses the values and mission of AHEAD.

**The proposed mission of NYSDSC is to:**

* strengthen the professional knowledge and expertise of the membership
* be a resource for affiliated campus communities
* advocate for the equity and dignity of students with disabilities in New York State
* address current and emerging issues with respect to disability, education, and accessibility
* facilitate communication for system change and universal access

**Goal**: To actively promote access to programs, services, and activities in post-secondary institutions through the use of technology (Access and Technology)

*Objectives*:

* To increase access to technology for students with disabilities at our affiliated institutions.
* To provide ongoing education for the NYSDSC members on how to evaluate emerging technology for accessibility.
* To centralize state-wide efforts for access and technology through the NYSDSC website.

Suggested Action Items:

* Develop NYSDSC Access and Technology best practices in the area of assistive technology, 3rd party vendor purchasing, (VPATs), (e.g. ASL interpreting, state contracts for services).

**SUNY Office of University Life has actively pursued and acquired shared pricing agreements with many vendors that offer services for accessible learning:**

**Video Captioning and Transcription: Cielo24 and AutomaticSync**

**Web Reader: ReadSpeaker**

**Live Captioning and Remote CART Services: ai Media, ACS, Karasch Associates**

**Blackboard Ally: SUNY Ops Campuses have a shared pricing agreement.**

 Encourage formation of student advisory committees on technology on campuses

* Facilitate program engagement with IT departments through activity, training and informational materials

**Goal:** To strengthen the professional knowledge and expertise of our membership. (Professional Development)

*Objective:*

* Develop a working group that identifies the professional needs and areas of interest of our membership, and strategies to enhance the delivery of services.

Suggested Action Items:

* Develop and disseminate an assessment tool designed to prioritize members’ interest

**NYSDSC Planning Committee, through outreach before and after meetings and conferences, has received requests for more information on certain topics, such as web site accessibility (provided during Fall ’17 Meeting), ESA legal information (provided during SP’18 Conference) and basic training on creating accessible materials (provided during SP’18 Conference)**

* Analyze data gathered by the assessment tool and report information to membership at the annual June conference and post on the NYSDSC website.
* Develop a working group to research trainings and/or webinars to support the needs as determined by the organization.
* Develop a working group to research and determine funding for trainings each year and to make sure the training program is sustainable.
* Develop a working group to establish a timeline for the launch of training programs using various formats to be inclusive of all members.
* Maintain a new provider training program

**New Provider Training was provided each Spring in a breakout session at the Annual Spring Conference. A sub-committee of established members created an updated New Provider Manual in Fall ’17, which is posted to the NYSDSC web site and available for reference at all times.**

**Goal:**

To utilize the expertise of members to conduct program review for affiliated campuses (Professional Development)

*Objective*:

* Be a resource for affiliated NYSDSC campus communities by sharing best practices.

Suggested Action Items:

* Create program review documents (e.g. CAS or develop our own unique NYSDSC document).
* Identify and train program evaluators.
* Initiate evaluation program.
* Compile data.
* Disseminate statewide.

**Best practices are shared on an informal basis through the ListServ. Several sessions during the Annual Spring Conferences are devoted to sharing practices and programs for the betterment of the group and for use as models. Examples include:**

**Managing student data through the Titanium database (SP’18)**

**A Bridge to Success in College (SP’18 Transition Programing session)**

**Mental Health and Accommodations (SP’18)**

**Emergency Management for SWDs (SP’18)**

**Testing Center Inclusion (SP’18)**

**Goal:**

To utilize the expertise of members to design campus wide staff and faculty development activities via webinars, conferences and publications while affirming their role in ensuring access (Campus Development)

*Objective*:

* Engage campus communities in delivery of accommodations for SWD by providing pertinent training materials and establishing collaborative efforts

Suggested Action Items:

* Encourage members to plan webinars and other related on line trainings
* Develop online faculty training modules based on existing topics of concern to be used during faculty orientations
* Develop list of trainers and speakers on related areas to be shared with members via NYSDSC website
* Promote UDL in pedagogical practice through research and presentations

**Goal:** To enhance opportunities for inter/intra institutional collaboration. (Collaboration)

*Objectives:*

* To build a collaborative, comprehensive, and sustainable platform for inter institutional collaborations

Suggested Action Items:

* Develop a working group to build a program for colleague-to-colleague collaboration
* Co-present with faculty members at affiliated institutions on issues of disability

**Several members presented jointly with Faculty on the use of Blackboard Ally for reviewing accessibility of digital materials**

**Goal**: To actively advocate for the equity and dignity of students with disabilities in New York State. (Leadership)

*Objectives*:

* To develop and foster working relationships with agencies and organizations in New York and at the national level to further the mission of NYSDSC to enhance educational opportunities for our diverse and emerging student populations.

**On-going State discussions include partnering with ACCES-VR, NYSED, Advisory Council to NYSED for SWDs. The Legislative Affairs Committee, Tamara Mariotti, Nazely Kurkjian and many other members actively seek discussions to further the inclusion of students with disabilities.**

* To facilitate communications for universal access, develop and foster relationships with the administration and members of postsecondary institutions to further the mission of NYSDSC, and to enhance the educational opportunities for our diverse and emerging student populations.

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Suggested Action Items

* Maintain effective relationship with the state education department and state and federal congressional and legislative committees. Strategize other key relationships that need further development (e.g. ACCES-VR,OPWDD, CBVH, LDA, Parent Orgs, AHEAD and Veteran Organizations)
* Review the current Reader’s Aid legislation as it impacts affiliate members and advocate for program changes that will benefit our students.

**On-going discussion. Fall ’17 saw an increase in the cap from $1,000 to $4,000 and discussion continues.**

* Create annual plan of action for developing relationships
* Identify all necessary legislative action on an annual basis.

**Recent legislative activity includes supporting the “Enhancing Supports for Students with Disabilities” legislation suggestion. Spring ’17 success was been made along these lines to include students with disabilities in NYS scholarship funding.**

* Assign responsibilities within the NYSDSC membership to address the action plans noted above,
* Include students with disabilities in the process when possible.

**Current ideas include an “Advocacy Day” on February 11th to show support from students and education professionals for the Enhancing Supports…legislation.**

* Identify key NYSED personnel who will take responsibility for posting HEDS data following completion and submission of the annual HEDS report by our college campuses for follow up purposes.

**Leigh Mountain, our data collection advisor at NYSED, presented on the importance of data collection and is now actively advising our group on what the collected data revealed.**

* Evaluate the HEDS data and develop common presentation and provide information to the administration at member colleges across the state.
* Train NYSDSC members to read HEDS data and develop individualized reports pertinent to their institutions.

**Spring ’18 and Fall ’18 meetings include definition discussions and instructions for the new Print Disability category.**

**Goal**: To build an inclusive environment. (Diversity)

*Objective*:

* To acknowledge that disability is diversity and a matter of civil rights.

**Fall ’18 sessions discussing the Social Model, it’s intersection with Compliance, and how it actually plays out on our campuses.**

Suggested Action Items:

* Develop and distribute training materials on UDL principles which supports the diversity of our learners on our affiliated campuses
* Collect stories from our students regarding their perspectives on disability and diversity to be posted to the NYSDSC website

**Sp’18 session from Justin Freedman, a SWD and a graduate student studying the self-identification process. Justin shared his experiences, the experiences of four students he studied and the effectiveness of the process.**

* Advocate for diversity and inclusion as a critical component of our campus’ culture through related activities

**Goal**: To build understanding that providing access is an institutional responsibility (Diversity, Advocacy)

*Objectives*:

* To acknowledge that disability is diversity and a part of civil rights

Suggested Action Items:

* Develop and continue collaboration with advocacy groups for individuals with disabilities in NYS, which impacts students in higher education (e.g. NYSED Advisory Council for students with disabilities in postsecondary education)