

NYSDSC SPRING 2018 CONFERENCE AGENDA

I. Day 1: Wednesday, June 27th 2018

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

09:30 to 10:00 am **Welcome Note**, Loren Nowak, President

10:05 to 11:30am **KEYNOTE, Brian T. Rose**

11:35 to 12:35pm Concurrent Session #1

1.1 New Professionals Training

Facilitated by Carolyn Boone, JD, Tompkins Community College

This is a new Professional Training for members with less than three years' experience. We are confronted with challenging situations where we are required to make quick decisions, many of us with little or no support. Understanding Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the statute and the regulations, The Americans with Disabilities Act, and as Amended, as well as applying them to Higher Education takes time and training. This session will explain the intersection of the laws that govern our offices and how we operate under them.

1.2 Legal Ramifications of Having Animals on Campus - Marilyn Bartlett, J.D., Ph.D., - CEO, Advocate for Students and Families, Special Education Advocacy Center, LLC

Dr. Bartlett will bring attendees up to date on the legal issues pertaining to allowing animals on campus. Particular attention will be given to various types of animals, and the purpose for which students are requesting to bring them to campus.

12:40 to 01:40pm **Lunch**
Foyer/Waterside, (weather permitting)

1:45 to 02:45pm **Universal Design on the Educational Landscape,**
Justin Evan Freedman, Syracuse University

Justin Freedman is a doctoral candidate in the Special Education and Disability Studies programs at Syracuse University. His research focuses on disability in post-secondary education, ADHD, and teacher education in inclusive and special education. He has authored or co-authored research articles in journals such as the *International Journal of Inclusive Education* and *Teachers College Record*. Mr. Freedman will share what he has done in terms of conducting trainings for faculty and teaching assistants about Universal Design approaches to postsecondary education and feedback he received from students when flexible accommodations are built in to a course syllabus.

02:50 to 02:55 Coffee Break

Foyer

03:00 to 04:00pm

Concurrent Session #2

2.1 Mental Health on Campus – Nancy Carr, Onondaga Community College, Office of Accessibility Resources

This presentation will address many of the issues discussed at the “Enhancing Resilience” Conference at OCC in April Of 2018. Nancy will review prevention of mental health crises for college students in an age when mental health is a national topic. She will talk about the metamorphosis of this discussion and preventive measures students, parents and college personnel can take to maintain wellness and ensure sound management.

2.2 Managing Student Data using the Titanium Database - Sudi Shayesteh, Hunter College, Director, Office of AccessABILITY; Daniel Chan, Hunter College, Assistant Director, Office of AccessABILITY

The Titanium Database is mainly used to log and track student data within mental health/personal counseling areas. This is a comprehensive tool that is not only used to manage scheduled appointments, but can be customized for the daily operations of any Disability Service office. In this showcase of the Titanium database, we will display how our office has customized Titanium’s fields and formatting, to meet our program’s day to day needs. We will also explore the importance of data collection using the database and how it helps our office to identify our at-risk students, as well as the areas that may require further attention to improve. The aim is as always to increase retention rates and the quality of services for our students through gathering reports and assessing our services.

II. Day 2: Thursday, June 28th 2018

09:30 to 05:15 pm

Visit The Vendors – Visit the companies that produce assistive and adaptive technology for use by your students; and also by your campus professionals

Foyer/Waterside

Ask the Expert! – Financial Aid Expert and Residence Life from Local Campuses may be able to help you, or offer suggestions on how you can connect with your own campus professionals. The administrative processes can be cumbersome. See if a colleague on another campus can help you streamline your administrative efforts.

Foyer/Waterside

What’s Happening in My Neck of the Woods? - Consortia Networking – Gather information on post-secondary disability services professionals in your geographic location and get ideas as to current initiatives on the landscape, what members are doing to collaborate with high school educators, mental health agencies, independent living centers, etc.

Foyer/Waterside

09:30 to 10:40 pm

Concurrent Session #3

3.1 How To Design and Create Accessible Documents – Tanja Stevns, Danish Centre for the Blind

3.2

3.3 Accessible Text Books and Reference Materials – Amy Ratajczak, MA. CCC/SLP, ATP, Bookshare, a division of Benetech

Get students reading quickly and easily! Bookshare is a free digital library of accessible print materials for students with qualifying disabilities. There are currently over 615,000 books, periodicals and magazines available, to be read in an individual's preferred mode of access. Free and low cost assistive technology allows students to read books with highlighting, text to speech/audio, or braille at the same time as their peers. No more waiting for accessible materials!

10:45 to 11:40 pm

Concurrent Session #4

4.1 Emergency Management for SWDs - Loren Nowak, Clarkson College, Director, Office of Accommodative Services

Emergency situations can be particularly vexing for students with disabilities and those that support them on college campuses. Loren will discuss a recent fire on his campus and what he learned in terms of navigating the whole process for students with disabilities, from planning to training to support during the aftermath.

4.2 Access BSC: A Bridge to Success in College – Lisa Fronckowiak, Buffalo State College, Director, Student Accessibility Services; Sumana Silverheels, Buffalo State College, Technology Accommodations Coordinator

In 2016 Buffalo State College began work on a week long summer transition program for high school students with learning differences. This program would focus on helping students strengthen the skills such as self-advocacy, assistive technology, and study skills. With funding through the Tower Foundation, we welcomed our first cohort of Access BSC students in summer 2017. In this presentation we will share the unique nature of this program and theory behind the design and need for programs such as this. Access BSC is special because it is not only open to students committed to attending Buffalo State College. Additionally, we will share how utilizing current college students with disabilities as mentors has brought many unintentional and unexpected enhancements to the program.

11:45 – 12:55 pm

Concurrent Session #5

5.1 Mental Health Accommodations: "I have a student who..."
Facilitated by Don Pool, LMSW, Jamestown Community Center

As the stigma lessens, and with better treatment options are available, more individuals with Mental Health barriers are attending college. While this is great news for students who can now attain a higher education, many Disability Services Professionals are unsure how to help these students overcome their barriers and gain access to the college environment.

In this session, participants will complete a short exercise to hone their skills and prepare them to work with students with Mental Health Disabilities. After the exercise, the group will have a chance to ask questions in an “I have a student who...” format.

5.2

- 01:00 to 01:55 pm **Lunch – Awards Ceremony**
Foyer/Waterside, (weather permitting)
- 02:00 to 02:55 pm **Open Dialogue: “I have a student /faculty/parent who....”**
Facilitated by Carolyn Boone, Tompkins 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 done that”. This session is designed for an interactive and productive on site conversations by the members of the Professional Development Committee ...
- 03:00 to 03:55 pm **Sector Meetings**
- CUNY -
 - SUNY -
 - Independent -
 - Proprietary -
- 04:00 to 05:00 pm **Wine & Cheese Cool-Down** -Enjoy a celebration sponsored by our generous vendors
Foyer/Waterside, (weather permitting)

III. Day 3: Friday, June 29th 2017

- 08:30 to 09:25am **Breakfast**
- Wrap-Up Session for New Professionals Training Attendees**
- 09:30 to 10:45am **NYSDSC Business Meeting**
Including information with regard to recent advances in Reader’s Aid provisions, conversations with our State Ed partners, Excelsior Scholarship updates, and much more information to bring back to your campuses for your colleagues.
- 10:50 to 12:30 pm **1.2 High School to College Transition Programs for Students with Disabilities**
Panel Members: Gabriella Vasta, SUNY Delhi, Coordinator of Access & Equity Services; Catherine Carlson, Columbia-Greene Community College, Director of Accessibility Services; Katelyn Ouderkerk, Mohawk Valley Community College, Accessibility Resources, Transitional Support Specialist; Marilyn Bartlett, J.D., PhD, CEO, Advocate for Students and Families, Special Education Advocacy Center, LLC

This panel presentation will showcase diversity among transition programs across the state. Panelists will share the history of transition, why it is important, challenges faced, and the different models that have been successful. Additionally, panelists will discuss pathways to building relationships with secondary education professionals and information about collaborating with local organizations. Dr. Bartlett will offer advice as to how to make the orientation process an on-going experience for incoming students.

12:30 to 1:30

Light Lunch

Thank you for joining us for our Spring 2018 Conference. We hope to see you in the Fall in Albany!

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR VENDORS FOR SPONSORING OUR **WINE & CHEESE** CELEBRATION!!

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