

LET'S TALK LD IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE SUMMIT VIEW SCHOOLS
2018 COLLEGE PLANNING AND TRANSITION CONFERENCE
FOR STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DIFFERENCES
PRESENTATIONS AND PANEL DISCUSSIONS
FINAL SCHEDULE

08:00 - 09:00 | EXHIBITORS' FAIR | STUDENT UNION BUILDING PLAZA

09:00 - 09:30 | OPENING ADDRESS, Q&A, Conference Logistics | STUDENT UNION BUILDING

09:30 - 10:15 | KEYNOTE ADDRESS | STUDENT UNION BUILDING

Jonathan Mooney, B.A., Social Impact Entrepreneur, Author, and Advocate

10:15 - 10:30 | BREAK

10:30 - 11:45 | SESSION 1

BREAKOUT 1A - Presentation | ADMINISTRATION BUILDING **BLUE ROOM**

*UNDERSTANDING COLLEGE STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES' RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES & POSSIBLE ACCOMMODATIONS | Elizabeth C. Hamblet, M.S., Learning Specialist, **Columbia University's Office of Disability Services***

When students with disabilities transition to college, the prevailing laws change, and so does the system for receive accommodations. Students who want accommodations are responsible for registering with the appropriate office, and they may have additional responsibilities in arranging their accommodations. Students also have rights, too, though they are not "entitled" to have the same accommodations they had in high school. Learn:

- What students need to do
- What their rights are
- What accommodations may/may not be available, and why.

BREAKOUT 1B - Presentation | ADMINISTRATION BUILDING **YELLOW ROOM**

*MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE: ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY IN HIGHER EDUCATION | Marvin Williams, M.S., Director, Disability Resource Center | **California State University, Stanislaus** | Robert Salinas, B.S., Assistive Technology Coordinator | Services for Students with Disabilities, **California State University, Fresno***

The process for getting assistive technology (AT) in higher education can be difficult because it is so different from middle or high school. Some students first exposure to AT is in college while others may be familiar with some AT, but not what is available at their college. Join us for a look at how assistive technology is provided in college and learn a few of the helpful tools you or your student can use now and in college.

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BREAKOUT 1C - Presentation | ADMINISTRATION BUILDING RED ROOM

SELF-ADVOCACY: KNOW THYSELF! | Dr. Ann Simun, Psy.D., Clinical Neuropsychologist and Principal | Neuropsychology Partners

This interactive session designed for middle and high school students with special needs (including 504 Plans or IEPs). This session will help students understand how their IEPs and 504 can translate to higher education. Participants will have active practice in learning how to define their own specific strengths and weaknesses, and ways to use that information. Specifically, they will understand how to advocate with higher education regarding their needed supports and/or accommodations.

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BREAKOUT 1D -Presentation | ADMINISTRATION BUILDING GREEN ROOM

IT'S ALL ABOUT FIT: DISCOVERING WHAT TYPE OF COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY SETTING IS RIGHT FOR YOUR CHILD (A PARENT'S PERSPECTIVE | Kevin J. Tyrrell, M.S. ARCH/U.D., LEED AP

The journey to prepare children with learning differences for the transition to college is one that can be bittersweet for parents. However, the journey is made easier by appropriate planning. Kevin J. Tyrrell is the parent of two college students: his daughter, a second-year graduate student at local graduate university, and; his son, enrolled as a Junior in a small Academy program within a large private four-year research university. In this thoughtful discussion, Kevin will offer anecdotes and share specific tools and strategies that he developed that were invaluable to his family as they prepared for this critically important transition. Additionally, Kevin will share insights about what specific factors were taken into consideration when weighing which college setting was the right 'fit' for each child.

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BREAKOUT 1E - Panel ADMINISTRATION BUILDING ORANGE ROOM

WORKING GROUP-TRANSITION TO POSTSECONDARY (PSE): BUILDING A FRAMEWORK AND EMPOWERING STUDENTS, PART 1 | Tom Thompson, M.A., Consultant | **TMLS Consulting** (Moderator), Mark Matsui, M.S., Director, Disabled Students Programs and Services | **Rio Hondo College**, (Facilitator), Rachel De Bruin, M.A., Program Specialist & Transition Coordinator | **Connecting Waters Charter Schools**, (Facilitator)

This panel discussion is organized to launch a new Let's Talk LD project and will begin with brief comments from the Moderator and two Facilitators, followed by Working Group participant discussion and questions. Working Group participants representing high schools and community colleges will be joined by audience participants. The purpose of this session is to:

1. Explore the processes and work of people who support the PSE transition
2. Explore the perceptions and experiences of PSE Disability Resources and Services (DRS) providers who onboard new students with disabilities
3. Discover what is working well locally (LA and Orange County sites) and what is not happening or working poorly
4. Discover ways to strengthen student's readiness (self-knowledge, self-efficacy, awareness of PSE's DRS operations, services and supports).

This discussion will launch a process that will result in three outcomes:

- Creation of a White Paper on Improving Transition to PSE
- Development of a task force to create and pilot 'promising practices' across a group of partner sites, i.e. high school to community colleges
- Collection of data from pilot projects to inform new directions and changes in practices

WORKING GROUP DISCUSSANTS::

*Kris Anderson, M.A., Ed.D. (Candidate), Vice-Principal | **St. Mary's Academy**

*Araksya Arutyunyan, Psy.D., Learning Disabilities Specialist, Disabled Students Programs and Services | **Los Angeles Mission College** and Neurodiversity Specialist | **Moorpark College**

*Rachel De Bruin, M.A., Program Specialist & Transition Coordinator | **Connecting Waters Charter Schools**

*Adam Lalor, Ph.D., Lead Educational Specialist | **Landmark College Institute for Research and Training**

*Grace Colman Losada, Ed.D., Vice President of Education | **Fusion Academy (Fusion Education Group)**

*Mark Matsui, M.S., Director, Disabled Students Programs and Services | **Rio Hondo College**

*David Montalvo, Department of Transition Services (**DOTS**) Teacher, **James Monroe High School (Los Angeles Unified School District)**

*Stacey Shinnick, M.A., Transition Teacher/Career Coach | **Chatsworth Charter High School & Miller Career and Transition Center, Department of Transition Services, Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)**

*Tom Thompson, M.A., Consultant | **TMLS Consulting**

LET'S TALK LD | P.O. BOX 1015 | SOUTH PASADENA, CA 91031-1015 | LETSTALKLD.ORG

11:45 - 12:00 | BREAK

12:00 - 12:45 | SPECIAL SESSION - Panel | STUDENT UNION BUILDING

EYE TO EYE PRESENTS LTLDTALKS COLLEGE TRANSITIONS IN CONVERSATION WITH CURRENT COLLEGE STUDENTS AND RECENT COLLEGE GRADUATES WITH LEARNING DIFFERENCES | Vanessa Montgomery, M.Ed., Diplomat | Eye to Eye National and Teacher | San Diego High School, Moderator

Eye to Eye National's mission is to improve the life of every person with a learning disability. They fulfill their mission by supporting and growing a network of youth mentoring programs run by and for those with learning differences, and by organizing advocates to support the full inclusion of people with learning disabilities and ADHD in all aspects of society. Eye to Eye National Diplomats Vanessa Montgomery and Natasha Hikita lead a lively and honest discussion with current college students who just happen to have learning differences. Hear what these students have to say about their experiences in their respective colleges and universities.

Student Panelists:

*Logan Clark, Scholar | **Pasadena City College**

*Daniel Gillman, B.S. (Candidate, 2022), Scholar | **University of Southern California Dornsife College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences**

*Aidan Harris, B.S. (Candidate, 2020), Scholar | **University of Southern California Iovine and Young Academy** and Co-Founder | **Let's Talk LD**

*Erin Harris, B.A., M.A. (Candidate, 2019), Scholar | **Pitzer College** and **Claremont Graduate University School of Educational Studies** and Co-Founder | **Let's Talk LD**

*Natasha Hikita, B.A., Scholar (Candidate, 2020) | Chapman University and Diplomat | **Eye to Eye National**

*Jesse Monhaupt, B.A. (Candidate, 2020), Scholar | **California Lutheran University**

*Chloe O'Hare, B.A., Alumna of **Landmark College** and **Lesley University** and Regional Enrollment Specialist – West Coast | **Landmark College**

12:45 - 01:30 | Lunch and Resource Fair | STUDENT UNION BUILDING PLAZA

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01:30 - 02:45 | Session 2

BREAKOUT 2A - Panel | ADMINISTRATION BUILDING GREEN ROOM

TOOLS TO ENHANCE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE (for students with LD/EF) | Marvin Williams, M.S., Director, Disability Resource Center | California State University, Stanislaus, Moderator

Panelist:

*Robert Salinas, B.S., Assistive Technology Coordinator | Services for Students with Disabilities, **California State University, Fresno**

*Patrice Wheeler, BGS, ATP, ATACP, Assistive Technology Specialist | **California State University, Northridge**

*Marvin Williams, M.S., Director, Disability Resource Center | **California State University, Stanislaus**

BREAKOUT 2B - Panel ADMINISTRATION BUILDING RED ROOM

GAINING ACCESS TO COMMUNITY, PUBLIC, AND PRIVATE AGENCY RESOURCES TO SUPPORT YOUR POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION TRANSITION JOURNEY | Danielle Sheppard, M.S., L.P.C.C., Director | West Los Angeles College to Career (C2C) Program, Moderator

Agency and community resource experts will be sharing information about community service agencies (public and private) whose work involves providing services and resources to individuals with learning differences. This panel discussion will specifically highlight the area of strategic college planning and transition services. Through the panel discussion the panelists will provide insights into how their agency provides solution-oriented services and supports to students and this process.

*Bonnie Auerbach, Ph.D., Clinical Director | **Advance L.A. (The Help Group)**

*Ashley Burrell, M.S., CRC, QRP, Senior Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, Student Services | **Department of Rehabilitation**

*Alexis Casillas, J.D., Disability Rights Litigator and Principal | **Law Offices of Alexis Casillas**

*Stephen Kinsey, M.S., Principal | **THG West (Culver City)**

*Barbara Marbach, Education and Advocacy Specialist, **Westside Regional Center**

*Valeria Salceda, M.P.D., Community Relations Specialist, **South Central Los Angeles Regional Center**

*Danielle Sheppard, M.S., L.P.C.C., Director, College to Career (C2C) Program | **West Los Angeles College**

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BREAKOUT 2C - Presentation | ADMINISTRATION BUILDING **YELLOW ROOM**

HOW UNDERSTANDING BRAIN DEVELOPMENT CAN HELP GUIDE THE TRANSITION TO COLLEGE
| *Dr. Karen Wilson, Ph.D., Clinical Neuropsychologist* | **West LA Neuropsychology PC**

Contrary to what many believe, the brain is not fully finished developing until approximately age 25. Therefore, during emerging adulthood, the developmental transition between adolescence and adulthood, the brain is still doing some “fine-tuning,” particularly in those areas associated with executive functioning. In this session, Dr. Karen Wilson, neuropsychologist, will identify areas of vulnerability for emerging adults with histories of AD/HD and other learning challenges, discuss the relationship between executive functioning, risk-taking and changes in mood during this period, and help attendees gain insights into how to support adolescents and young adults as they work to organize their lives, manage their impulses, and achieve success.

BREAKOUT 2D - Panel | ADMINISTRATION BUILDING **BLUE ROOM**

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS COUNSELORS TALK ABOUT HOW THEY ADVISE STUDENTS IN SEARCHES | *Elizabeth C. Hamblet, M.S., Author and Consultant* | *LD Advisory and Learning Consultant* | **Columbia University's Office of Disability Services, Moderator**

The college search and application process can raise a lot of questions for students and their families, and when students have a learning or attention issue, they may have additional questions, including:

- Should they disclose their disability when applying to college and - if so - how?
- How do they evaluate disability accommodations and services at different colleges?
- Should they focus on colleges with fee-for-service LD or ADD program?

A panel of experienced college counselors who specialize in working with this population will answer these and other questions. And a special panel member will discuss how he helps students manage their anxiety on high-stakes admissions exams

*Janet Barakat, M. Ed., M. Ed., Secondary Transition, Transition Specialist | **Pomona Unified School District SELPA**

*Loren R. Grossman, M.S., Ed.D., J.D., Educational Advocate/Independent College Counselor | **The Educational Advocacy Office of Dr. L.R. Grossman**

*Elizabeth C. Hamblet, M.A., Author and Consultant | LD Advisory and Learning Consultant | **Columbia University**

*Jan Kerchner, M.B.A. and Certified Educational Planner (CEP), CEO | **The College Blueprint, LLC**

*Marci Lerner Miller, J.D./ Independent Educational Consultant, Principal | **Miller Advocacy Group**

*Stacey Shinnick, M.A., Transition Teacher/Career Coach | **Chatsworth Charter High School & Miller Career and Transition Center, Department of Transition Services, Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)**

*Nick Standlea, M.B.A., Founder and President | **Test Prep Gurus**

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BREAKOUT 2E - Panel | ADMINISTRATION BUILDING ORANGE ROOM

WORKING GROUP-TRANSITION TO POSTSECONDARY (PSE): BUILDING A FRAMEWORK AND EMPOWERING STUDENTS, PART 2 | Tom Thompson, M.A., Consultant | **TMLS Consulting/Mark Matsui, M.S., Director, Disabled Students Programs and Services** | **Rio Hondo College/Rachel De Bruin, M.A., Program Specialist & Transition Coordinator** | **Connecting Waters Charter Schools, Moderators**

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*Araksya Arutyunyan, Psy.D., Learning Disabilities Specialist, Disabled Students Programs and Services | **Los Angeles Mission College** and and Neurodiversity Specialist | **Moorpark College**

*Rachel De Bruin, M.A., Program Specialist & Transition Coordinator | **Connecting Waters Charter Schools**

*Adam Lalor, Ph.D., Lead Educational Specialist | **Landmark College Institute for Research and Training**

*Grace Colman Losada, Ed.D., Vice President of Education | **Fusion Academy (Fusion Education Group)**

*Mark Matsui, M.S., Director, Disabled Students Programs and Services | **Rio Hondo College**

*David Montalvo, Teacher | James Monroe High School, **Department of Transition Services (DOTS) (Los Angeles Unified School District)**

*Tom Thompson, M.A., Consultant | **TMLS Consulting**

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02:45 - 03:00 | BREAK

03:00 - 04:15 | Session 3

BREAKOUT 3A - Presentation | ADMINISTRATION BUILDING **BLUE ROOM**

*STRATEGIES TO ENHANCE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE (for Students with Learning Differences/Executive Function Deficits) | Rachel Fisher, M.A., Executive Director | **Franklin Educational Services***

Students with LDs and slowly emerging executive functioning skills perform better at school when we help them learn as much as possible, demonstrate their knowledge as best as possible, and build the strongest possible working relationships with their teachers. This interactive session offers practical, real-life strategies to reduce friction when learning and completing assignments, promote organizational skills, and improve self-advocacy. When implemented consistently, these strategies promote academic and organizational skills and encourage a mindful approach to contending with school-related challenges in middle school, high school, and college.

BREAKOUT 3B - Panel | ADMINISTRATION BUILDING **YELLOW ROOM**

*A LOOK AT ACADEMIC AND DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES ACROSS MANY INSTITUTIONS | Elizabeth Hamblet, M.A., Author and Consultant | LD Advisory and Learning Consultant | **Columbia University**, Moderator*

Elizabeth C. Hamblet will moderate a panel of college Disability Support Services professionals. Elizabeth and the other distinguished members of this panel will discuss academic and disability support services across many different types of colleges and universities. This discussion will prove incredibly insightful in providing an inside look into the myriad of services and supports available to students with learning differences.

Panelists:

*Araksya Arutyunyan, Psy.D., Learning Disabilities Specialist, | **LA Mission College**
& Neurodiversity Specialist | **Moorpark College**

*Catherine Calhoun, M.Ed., Director of the Student Disability Resource Center | **Claremont Colleges Services**

*Laura Czajkowski, M.S., Learning Disabilities Specialist | Center for Accessible Education, **University of California at Los Angeles**

*Elizabeth C. Hamblet, M.A., Learning Consultant | **Columbia University**

*Adam Lator, Ph.D., Lead Educational Specialist | **Landmark College Institute for Research and Training**

*Souzan Vanlerberg, M.S., Counselor, Disability Resources and Educational Services | **California State University Northridge**

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BREAKOUT 3C - Presentation | ADMINISTRATION BUILDING RED ROOM

*REIMAGINING "FAILURE TO LAUNCH": UNDERSTANDING AND FACILITATING THE TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD | Dr. Crystal Lee, Psy.D., Clinical Psychologist | **LA Concierge Psychologist***

The label "failure to launch" pathologizes young people's developmentally appropriate journey to adulthood. Learn about the research behind emerging adulthood and see how the unique characteristics of this developmental phase affects the successful transition to independence. Through the lens of emerging adulthood, you'll discover how the transition to adulthood is a process that you can help facilitate. Leave with concrete tools that you can use with your adolescent or emerging adult.

BREAKOUT 3D - Talk | ADMINISTRATION BUILDING PURPLE ROOM

LEGAL ISSUES AT THE INTERSECTION OF COLLEGE PLANNING AND TRANSITION | Alexis Casillas, J.D., Disability Rights Litigator and Principal | **Law Offices of Alexis Casillas**, Moderator

Join us for a discussion with attorneys who specialize in representing secondary school students and post-secondary school students in a discussion about how to best situate yourself/your student for a successful transition between high school and post-secondary life. Topics will include IEP/Section 504/ADA Planning before graduation and after, the differences between your rights in high school and in college/graduate school, and how best to situate yourself to reach your/your student's goals.

DISCUSSANTS:

*Alexis Casillas, J.D., Disability Rights Litigator and Principal | Law Offices of Alexis Casillas

*Marci Lerner Miller, J.D., Independent Educational Consultant | Miller Advocacy Group

*Veronica N. Norris, J.D., R.N., Veronica N. Norris Education Law Attorney

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BREAKOUT 3E - Panel | ADMINISTRATION BUILDING GREEN ROOM

BEST PRACTICES TO ADVANCE A SUCCESSFUL COLLEGE TRANSITION FOR KIDS WITH LEARNING DIFFERENCES (A SCHOOL'S PERSPECTIVE) | Keri Borzello, M.P.A., Head of Schools | Summit View (Valley Glen and Culver City) / James Spellman, M.A., Principal | St. Monica Catholic High School, Moderators

This unique panel will provide you with an insider's look into how Schools approach addressing the unique needs of their learning difference population to ensure that these students have the best possible opportunity for a successful transition to college. These School officials represent schools across a broad spectrum, so this conversation should be both informative and thought-provoking for parents, students, and educators.

Panelists:

*Kris Anderson, M.A., Ed.D. (Candidate), Vice-Principal | **St. Mary's Academy**

*Keri Borzello, M.P.A., Head of Schools | **Summit View (Valley Glen and Culver City)**

*Rachel De Bruin, M.A., Program Specialist & Transition Coordinator | **Connecting Waters Charter Schools**

*Grace Colman Losada, Ed.D., Vice President of Education | Fusion Academy (**Fusion Education Group**)

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Stacey Shinnick, M.A., Transition Teacher/Career Coach | **Chatsworth Charter High School & Miller Career and Transition Center, Department of Transition Services, Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)**

*James Spellman, M.A., Principal | **St. Monica Catholic High School**

04:15 - 04:30 | BREAK

04:30 - 05:00 | CLOSING SESSION | FINAL REMARKS BY CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS

05:00 - 06:00 | Exhibitors' Fair (Exhibit Hall Closes at 6 p.m.)

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**LET'S TALK LD IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE SUMMIT VIEW SCHOOLS
2018 COLLEGE PLANNING AND TRANSITION CONFERENCE SCHEDULE**

08:00 - 09:00 | Exhibitors' Fair (Exhibit Hall Open)

09:00 - 09:30 | OPENING ADDRESS and Q&A

09:30 - 10:15 | KEYNOTE ADDRESS Jonathan Mooney

10:15 - 10:30 | BREAK

10:30 - 11:45 | Session 1

Breakout A

Breakout B

Breakout C

Breakout D

Breakout E

11:45 - 12:00 | BREAK

12:00 - 12:45 | SPECIAL SESSION Eye to Eye Presents ItldTalks College Transitions

12:45 - 01:30 | Lunch and Resource Fair

01:30 - 02:45 | Session 2

Breakout A

Breakout B

Breakout C

Breakout D

Breakout E

02:45 - 03:00 | BREAK

03:00 - 04:15 | Session 3

Breakout A

Breakout B

Breakout C

Breakout D

Breakout E

04:15 - 04:30 | BREAK

04:30 - 05:00 | CLOSING SESSION

05:00 - 06:00 | Exhibitors' Fair (Exhibit Hall Closes at 6 p.m.)

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