



# Tech Supports for Cognition & Learning

Everyday Applications & Emerging Trends

## 2nd Annual Conference

Friday, May 19, 2017 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Mercy College Rotunda • 555 Broadway, Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522

Co-hosted by



Special thanks to our event sponsors



# Welcome From Our Co-Hosts

Welcome to the second annual Tech Supports for Cognition and Learning Conference. We have collaborated this year with AHRC New York City and the Westchester Library System to broaden our knowledge and resources. Our conference is an opportunity to gather together experts in the fields of technology, education and learning, clinical supports and direct service supports to explore the use of technology to support people with disabilities in ways that maximize their independence and overcome cognitive limitations.

The conference committee has once again gathered a strong list of exciting speakers and presenters. They will provide us with the most contemporary thinking about the use of technology and further explore innovative products that will allow supports for people with disabilities to live independent lives without personal support.

The intent of this conference is to engage and excite a community of thinkers who will continue to build bridges between technology and cognitive supports for people with disabilities. We hope this conference will meet these goals, and engages you as a partner in our future work.

We wish to thank our sponsors, speakers, panelists and exhibitors for their participation. You have contributed to the success of this annual event. We would also like to thank the staff and volunteers from Arc of Westchester and Mercy College.

We hope you enjoy the day ahead.



**Please feel free to ask any of our volunteers for assistance throughout the day. Be sure to view our vendor exhibit during program breaks.**

**WiFi is available on the Mercy Campus. (see insert in bag for detailed access instructions)**

**Logging into Mercy College's Wi-Fi**

- 1. Connect to Mavericks-WiFi**
- 2. Open a browser**
- 3. You will see Mavericks waiver**
- 4. Click Continue to the Internet (you may need to re-connect during the day)**

**If you did not register online, make sure we have your email address. We will email you a link of all of today's presentations and other important information regarding technology and supports. Please complete our evaluation form so we can implement your suggestions for future conferences. Thank you for attending. We hope you enjoy the day.**

# Schedule For The Day

8:00 am Registration, Continental Breakfast, Vendor Exhibits

9:00 am **WELCOME**

---

Joan Toglia, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA, Dean of School of Health and Natural Sciences, Mercy College

Remarks: Timothy L. Hall, JD, President, Mercy College

Proclamation: The Honorable Andrea Stewart-Cousins, New York State Senate  
Richard P. Swierat, Executive Director, Arc of Westchester

## GUEST SPEAKERS

---

9:15 am Tony Gentry, Ph.D., FAOTA  
Associate Professor and Director of Post-Professional Education and Assistive Technology for Cognition Laboratory, Department of Occupational Therapy at Virginia Commonwealth University.  
***Apps for Assistive Technology for an Inclusive Life***

10:00 am Cathy Bodine, Ph.D., CCC-SLP  
Associate Professor, Colorado Construction Industry Endowed Professorship and Executive Director, Assistive Technology Partners, Dept. of Bioengineering, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, University of Colorado  
***Research in Workforce Accommodations for People with Cognitive Disabilities***

11:00 am John Rochford, MS  
University of Massachusetts Medical Schools Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center  
Member of the World Wide Web Accessibility Taskforce  
***Making the Internet Accessible to People with Cognitive Disabilities***

11:45 am Jordan Jankus, Coordinator of Person-Centered and Cognitive Supports, Arc of Westchester  
***The Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities Declaration***

12:00 pm **LUNCH BREAK - NETWORK AND EXPLORE VENDOR EXHIBITS**  
**• VIDEO PRESENTATION BY REGENERON •**

## BREAK-OUT SESSIONS

---

1:30-2:15 pm Break-Out Session Block 1 (see class locations on page 6)

2:30-3:15 pm Break-Out Session Block 2 (see class locations on pages 7-8)

## SPECIAL GUEST

---

3:30-4:15 pm Alice Brouhard, RN  
Colorado Assistive Technology Coalition and Colorado Mountain College  
***Technology for Independent Living***

# About Our Presenters



**Guest Speaker: 9:15 am**  
**Apps for Assistive Technology for an Inclusive Life**

*Tony Gentry, Ph.D., FAOTA, Virginia Commonwealth University,  
Director of Assistive Technology for Cognition*

Tony Gentry is an assistant professor in the occupational therapy department at VCU. He received his BA in History and Literature from Harvard University, his MA in occupational therapy from New York University and his PhD in instructional technology from the University of Virginia. His career has focused on neurological rehabilitation and assistive technology for people with physical disabilities.

Over the past six years, he has conducted a series of community-based research projects focused on exploring the efficacy of portable computers as cognitive aids for individuals who have autism, brain injury or multiple sclerosis. He has published and spoken nationally and internationally within the disability community.



**Guest Speaker: 10:00 am**  
**Research in Workforce Accommodations for People with Cognitive Disabilities**

*Cathy Bodine Ph.D, CCC-SLP*

Associate Professor, Colorado Construction Industry Endowed Professorship, and Executive Director, Assistive Technology Partners, Department of Bioengineering, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, University of Colorado

Dr. Bodine began her career in Assistive Technology in 1985. She joined the faculty of the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in 1996. Today, she is internationally recognized for her leadership in the field of assistive technology and vigorously pursues her passions for new product design, research, service to families and persons with disabilities, and the professional assistive technology community at large through her leadership of Assistive Technology Partners. Dr. Bodine teaches coursework in the areas of technology, disability and aging within the Department of Bioengineering at the University of Colorado.

Dr. Bodine has served as the Principal Investigator (PI) for a number of pre-service professional preparation grants, as well as the Colorado Assistive Technology Act. In addition, she has served as the PI for several research and development projects leading to new designs in AT devices. She is the principal investigator for the Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center. Dr. Bodine served as the Secretary for the Board of Directors of Rehabilitation Engineering Society of North America (RESNA) and is past president of the Rocky Mountain ALS Association Board.



**Guest Speaker: 11:00 am**  
**Making the Internet Accessible to People with Cognitive Disabilities**

*John Rochford, MS  
University of Massachusetts Medical Schools Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center  
Member of the World Wide Web Accessibility Taskforce*

John Rochford is leading a research team that includes IBM and Worcester Polytechnic Institute that will use the power of the IBM Watson supercomputer to simplify web text for people with intellectual disabilities, making it more understandable and accessible. Mr. Rochford has an extensive background in cognitive accessibility research and instruction and is an invited expert at The World Wide Web Consortium, including participation in the Cognitive and Learning Disabilities Task Force.

# About Our Presenters



## Guest Speaker: 3:30 pm Technology for Independent Living

Alice Brouhard, Principal at TechAble LLC  
Colorado Assistive Technology Coalition, University School of Medicine

Alice Brouhard RN is a champion of the use of technology, especially tablet technology, to support people with memory and cognitive challenges. She has worked tirelessly to set up a system that allows her daughter who sustained a serious TBI to live independently, despite significant disabilities.

She sits on the Colorado Assistive Technology Coalition through the University School of Medicine. She speaks statewide and nationally at conferences on the use of high and low tech options to promote self determination and self-sufficiency. Alice is a founding member of Colorado based “Families at the Forefront of Technology” and serves on the steering committee for their annual conference. She has developed and teaches classes at Colorado Mountain College on the use of iPad and iPhones to decrease the fear factor for those just starting out with tech! She is especially proud of the partnering she did with Trinity Services of Chicago in 2015 to “educate Apple” on some of the needs facing those with cognitive disabilities. This education of Apple was through a successful change.org petition - “Kara’s Own Voice.” This petition led to Apple making needed changes to its operating system to better support those with memory challenges! She was a recent speaker at a TEDx event - “Kara’s Own Voice” and Alice’s “idea worth spreading” focuses on the power of technology to assist those with cognitive challenges to lead self-directed lives. Alice, and her husband and daughter live in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. They are recipients of the Garfield County, Colorado Humanitarian Service award - “Inspiring Hope.”

# Our Exhibitors

**AHRC New York City**  
www.ahrcnyc.org

**Arc of Westchester**  
www.arcwestchester.org

**Crick Software**  
www.cricksoft.com

**Digital Arts Experience**  
www.thedae.com

**Enabling Devices**  
www.enablingdevices.com/catalog

**Flaghouse**  
www.flaghouse.com

**Identifor**  
www.identifor.com

**Littman Krooks LLP**  
www.littmankrooks.com

**Logan Tech**  
www.logantech.com

**Mercy College**  
www.mercy.edu



**Microsoft - White Plains Store**  
http://tinyurl.com/os846jo

**New Frontiers for Learning**  
www.nfil.net

**New York Presbyterian**  
www.nyp.org

**Simply Home**  
www.simply-home.com

**Westchester Institute for Human Development**  
www.wihd.org



# Break Out Sessions

## 1:30 to 2:15 pm

Please follow the schedule below to find your break out session block, time and room location.

**#1: Opening Your Windows: Using its Accessibility Features**

**Mercy Hall Room #30**

Overview of the accessibility features of the Windows operating system including its Voice Assistant, Cortana. Presenters will also discuss customer support and training available at local Microsoft stores.

Presenter: Yanil Mena, Teacher, Microsoft Store

**#2: Taking a Byte: Apple Accessibility**

**Mercy Hall Room #31**

Overview of the accessibility features of Mac OS, iOSX and watchOS. For over 30 years, the Mac has shipped with dozens of accessibility features built in, at no additional cost, allowing it to be used right out of the box by people with disabilities. Apple has continued this focus into its newer products and brought accessibility features to the iPhone, iPad and most recently, to its new Apple Watch. Apple continues to set the standard by taking accessibility and learning to a whole new level.

Presenter: Dave Marra, Senior Systems Engineer, Apple Education, Apple, Inc.

**#3: Down with Cyberbullying: A Safer Internet Experience**

**Main Hall Room #238**

The internet, texting, Facebook and Instagram hold such potential for removing some of the isolation that people with I/DD experience. However, this potential must be approached carefully as there are many threats in the “e-Universe” that can negatively affect your reputation and finances. An educated “digital native” is the aim of this presentation.

Presenters: Jordan Jankus, Coordinator of Person-Centered & Cognitive Supports, Arc of Westchester and Rob Caluori, Director of Information Technology, Westchester Library System

**#4: A New Reality: Virtual Reality!**

**Mercy Hall Room #32**

Virtual reality has recently come to market in a useful way. There are several areas of VR that hold potential for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This presentation will outline the roadmap that AHRC NYC will follow to investigate the potential of VR in creativity, employment, environment orientation and relaxation.

Presenters: Philip M Proctor, MA, AHRC-NYC and Carol Ryklin, BA

**#5: Tech for Empowering Neurodiverse Job-Seekers**

**Main Hall Room #240**

Overview of Identifor’s artificial Intelligence-based assessment tools that can empower neurodiverse learners with employment and other supports. Identifor is a prime example of career assessment tools, using cutting-edge technology, that have been developed in recent years to assess transition-age youngsters and young adults with developmental disabilities, improving both the transition aspect of the IEP and the career discovery process. Advanced artificial intelligence based assistive technology has also been developed to help integrate students with autism into the fabric of their classroom, school, home and community and is used to support them with a wide-range of life management needs in employment, housing, university and community settings helping empower them when parents, teachers or aides are not around.

Presenter: Steve Keisman, BA, MA, MS, Vice President Education and Transition Specialist, Identifor

**#6: Multimedia Tools for Self-Advocacy**

**Main Hall Room #241**

In partnership with London’s RIX Centre, WIHD is introducing multimedia advocacy to North America. This presentation will share implementations in the US of the RIX Wiki tool to demonstrate the impact of the ‘Multimedia Advocacy’ approach and invites participants to explore these simple but life-changing technologies.

Presenter: Izel Obermeyer, Occupational Therapist and Director, Assistive Technology Program, Westchester Institute for Human Development

# Break Out Sessions

## 2:30 to 3:15 pm

Please follow the schedule below to find your break out session block, time and room location.

### #7: **Take a Byte: Apple Accessibility**

#### **Mercy Hall Room #31**

Overview of the accessibility features of Mac OS, iOSX and watchOS. For over 30 years, the Mac has shipped with dozens of accessibility features built in, at no additional cost, allowing it to be used right out of the box by people with disabilities. Apple has continued this focus into its newer products and brought accessibility features to the iPhone, iPad and most recently, to its new Apple Watch. Apple continues to set the standard by taking accessibility and learning to a whole new level.

Presenter: Dave Marra, Senior Systems Engineer, Apple Education, Apple, Inc.

### #8: **Tech for Life and Goal Planning**

#### **Main Hall Room #238**

Schenectady Arc has developed 3 apps to better assist in person centered planning and project goal planning. Goal Plan Do, My Life Plan and My Interest Inventory are easy to use and personalize-able. Learn how they work and how people are using it in their daily lives. Liberty Arc will also discuss how they're been using videos to help people tell their personal stories.

Presenters: Laurel Skultety, MS, CCC-SLP, Schenectady Arc; Susan Kohler, Ph.D., Schenectady Arc; and Elizabeth Cardella, Liberty Arc.

### #9: **Lights! Camera! Action! - Tell Your Digital Story**

#### **Main Hall Room #240**

This interactive workshop will present digital storytelling as a valuable learning and reflection tool for parents and professionals. Presenters will demonstrate an innovative multimedia editing application. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own device and participate in creating stories. Discussion includes applications with special needs individuals.

Presenters: Matt Lewis, Senior Instructional Designer, Office for Teaching Excellence and Engaged Learning; Dr. Ilene Rothschild, Associate Professor, Department of Special Education School of Education; Mustafa Sakarya, Assistant Professor, Director of Libraries, Libraries Academic Technology & Online Learning; Dr. Sabrina Timperman, Associate Professor, Veterinary Technology Program, School of Health and Natural Sciences

### #10: **CanPlan App: Making Independence Possible**

#### **Main Hall Room #241**

People with developmental disabilities display significant deficits in everyday performance. The use of technology may assist in increasing their everyday performance. This breakout session will expose participants to the implementation of a task-specific sequencing approach using the CanPlan© application. Participants will practice using the app and discuss a variety of implementations.

Presenters: Amiya Waldman-Levi, Ph.D., OTR/L, Mercy College Occupational Therapy Program, Graduate OT Students, Madeline Allen, Sherly Kornhaber, Jack Reisman, and Holly Vasselo

### #11: **Instructions by the Non-Technical**

#### **Main Hall Room #242**

In this presentation, we will show:

- How we implemented an outcome driven technology project that promoted independence.
- The mechanism by which we sustain continual growth and organizational enthusiasm.
- Staff development methods that are individualized to the needs of the individual through a technology toolkit.
- How use a technology adoption profile assessment developed with General Electric Global Research.

Presenters: Philip M Proctor, MA, Technology Leader, AHRC-NYC and Charles Umaña, Technology Development Specialist, SHRC-NYC

# Break Out Sessions

## 2:30 to 3:15 pm

Please follow the schedule below to find your break out session block, time and room location.

### #12: Tech Supported Living Opportunities

#### Main Hall Room #236

Customized assistive technology can create outcomes that overcome disparities in the ability to live independently. Individuals stay connected with their families and caregivers while living independently and safely. We will discuss technology that supports common challenges including: medication management, cooking safety, flooding, falls, environmental controls, and telehealth.

Presenters: Meghan O'Sullivan, At Home Technologies, and Anne Murphy,  
Director of Home and Housing Development, Wildwood Programs

### #13: Technology Supporting Social Participation

#### Mercy Hall Room #30

Occupational therapists provide intervention for all occupational needs across multiple contexts, including the virtual context. This presentation provides evidence-based, tangible strategies to show therapists how they can re-think technology and see it not as a barrier, but instead as an exciting portal for greater social participation of individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities.

Presenter: Rondalyn Whitney, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA

## Visit the Flaghouse Snoezelen Room

### Mercy Hall Room #29A - Walk in all day long!

**FLAGHOUSE**

Resources for Sport, Recreation, Special Needs & More Since 1954!

A Snoezelen® Multi-Sensory Environment (MSE) incorporates a specialized selection of sensory equipment and materials that can help clients adapt their responses to sensory stimulation and to advance education and therapy goals. Each Snoezelen MSE is tailored to meet the needs of specific populations according to age and ability. The blends of sights, sounds, textures, aromas, and motion provide stimulation of the primary sensory systems and can be modified to meet each participant's sensory needs.



***Thank you for attending our conference!***

If you require a certificate of contact hours, please visit the registration desk at the end of the day. Please complete our evaluation form so we can implement your suggestions for future conferences.



*The Rights of People with Cognitive Disabilities  
to Technology and Information Access*

[www.colemaninstitute.org/declaration](http://www.colemaninstitute.org/declaration)

A link of presentations will be emailed to you within a week or you can visit:  
[www.arcwestchester.org/techconference2017](http://www.arcwestchester.org/techconference2017)