



AUCD Central Office News

AUCD Disability Policy Leadership Fellow



AUCD is proud to announce Kristina Majewski as the 2012 Fellow in Disability Policy Leadership. Kristina will join us in January of 2012 from the RFK UCEDD in the Bronx where she served as the center's first LEND Law Fellow, focusing her research on the transition from special education to adulthood, as well as the state of available housing options and deinstitutionalization efforts.

Network News - Awards

Jackie Pacha, MA, TX UCEDD, Receives 2011 Bryan-College Station Mayors' Committee on People with Disabilities Community Impact Award

Jackie Pacha, MA, CRC, Executive Director of the Brazos Valley Center for Independent Living, a community outreach activity of the Center on Disability and Development at Texas A&M University, has been named as the 2011 recipient of the Bryan-College Station Mayors' Committee on People with Disabilities Community Impact Award. [Read more...](#)

The Bronx Community Self Advocacy Group Is Selected as the New York State Self Advocacy Group of the Year



At the 2011 state-wide meeting of the Self-Advocacy Association of New York State (SANYS), it was announced that the Bronx Community Self Advocacy Group was selected as the New York State Self Advocacy Group of the Year! The group, which is supported and sponsored by the Rose F. Kennedy UCEDD Center and is advised by the UCEDD's Director of Community Affairs, Joanne Florio Siegel, is the oldest group of its kind in New York State. This year, it is celebrating the 35th anniversary of its founding. [Read more...](#)

Network News - Activities & Resources

University of Rochester's Institute for Innovative Transition Uses Partnerships to Improve Employment for Individuals

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Member Spotlight

Albert Einstein College of Medicine (NY UCEDD/LEND) and The Kansas University (KS UCEDD) Receive Funding from NIH for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research and Treatment



The Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute for Child Health and Human Development, part of the National Institutes of Health, has awarded researchers at [Albert Einstein College of Medicine](#) of Yeshiva University a grant to fund the Rose F. Kennedy Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Center (IDDRC). The grant supports Einstein's

with Disabilities

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has awarded the University of Rochester's Institute for Innovative Transition a \$2.35 million grant to replicate the success the institute has had in developing programs to improve employment opportunities for individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities. Nationwide, only 17 percent of people with developmental and intellectual disabilities are employed and even fewer have obtained competitive employment that earns them at least minimum wage. This project, aimed at dramatically increasing that percentage, will enhance collaboration among the New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), New York State Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC), New York State Education Department and its Office of Special Education, Adult Career and Continuing Education Services-Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR), and the Institute for Innovative Transition at the University of Rochester. [Read more...](#)

NDCPD (ND UCEDD) and Harstad University College Host Intellectual Disabilities Conference



The North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities and Harstad University College, Norway, hosted the "U.S.-Nordic International Conference on Intellectual Disabilities" at the Minot State University's Conference Center,

Oct. 2-4. "It was exciting to have 25 colleagues from Norway here to collaborate and exchange research on intellectual disabilities," said Brent Askvig, NDCPD executive director. The conference themes included: inclusive schools and education; employment opportunities and strategies; health care systems and services; and community living and supports. [Read more...](#)

Ann L. Riley, MSN, Deputy for Administration at Iowa's UCEDD Joins National Advisory Board for Workforce Development



Ann Riley

Most people who work at Iowa's UCEDD wear a variety of hats, and UCEDD Deputy for Administration, Ann L. Riley, is no exception. Recently, Ann has been wearing a new hat since she was recruited to join the National Board of Advisors for the College of Direct Support (CDS), an internet-based curriculum for direct support professionals. She joins representatives of other UCEDDs and organizations from around the country who serve on the National Board of Advisors to provide guidance to CDS in the development of new courses and tools for training and retaining the direct support workforce. [Read more...](#)

PA and ME UCEDDs Partner on Grant to Promote Disability

ongoing efforts to improve the lives of children with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) through combined basic science research and clinical practice. "The Rose F. Kennedy Center was founded more than 40 years ago as one of the nation's flagship centers on mental retardation," said Steven Walkley, DVM, PhD, director of Einstein's IDDRC and professor in the Dominick P. Purpura Department of Neuroscience. [Read more...](#)

The Kansas Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Center at the [University of Kansas](#) (KS UCEDD) is also one of only 15 nationally designated centers that seek to advance the diagnosis, prevention, treatment and amelioration of intellectual and developmental disabilities, and has been funded since 1966 by the National Institutes of Health.



Peter Smith and John Colombo

The bicampus KIDDRC is directed by John Colombo, director of the Life Span Institute and professor of psychology at the University of Kansas main Lawrence campus, and co-directed by Peter Smith, director of the Institute for Neurological Disorders and professor of molecular and integrative

as Diversity in Postsecondary Education



Disability as Diversity panel, left to right: Elizabeth DePoy, Julie B. Kessler, Ann Keefer, Tina Passman and Lu Zeph

The Temple University Institute on Disabilities (UCEDD) and the University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies (UCEDD) are partnering on the replication of Temple's 3-year demonstration project, Ensuring Higher Education Opportunity for All. The project, funded through the U.S.

Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education, advances the message of "disability as diversity" in Temple's undergraduate core humanities curriculum and in diversity training for new faculty and staff. [Read more...](#)

Seventh Annual Midwest LEND Consortium Meeting



Trainees playing the Life Course game

LEND trainees and faculty/staff from Nebraska, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri and Kansas gathered in Omaha, Nebraska on October 9-10, 2011 for the 7th Annual Midwest LEND Consortium. Jody Pirtle, the AUCD Virtual Trainee, joined the group of 63 LEND trainees and 22 LEND faculty and staff for the two-day meeting. [Read more...](#)

EARLY: Early Autism Research and Learning for the Young Child



The Child Development and Rehabilitation Clinic (Oregon Health Sciences University), the Communication Disorders and Sciences Department, and the UCEDD at the University of Oregon now offer an interdisciplinary assessment clinic for infants and toddlers who are at risk for an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). [Read more...](#)

Emerging Leaders Northwest Sponsors Youth Led Transition Activities, (Oregon Institute on Disability & Development)

Emerging Leaders Northwest (ELNW) at the Oregon Institute on Disability & Development at the Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU), UCEDD, is a youth led resource center for young people with disabilities ages 13 - 30 which provides training and resources on leadership, independence, graduating from high school and going on to college, self-advocacy,

physiology at the University of Kansas Medical Center. [Read more...](#)

Events

AUCD 2011: The Journey Continues



See you at the Conference!

Select seats are available for most conference events. Stop by the AUCD registration desk in the hotel's Ballroom level to pick up conference materials, complete your on-site registration, and inquire about adding a workshop or other event to your conference agenda.

Getting to the Hotel

The AUCD 2011 Conference is located just minutes and a free shuttle ride from National Airport at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City. Free shuttles stop at National Airport and at the Crystal City Metro every 15 minutes. You can also call the hotel at 703-418-1234 to check the shuttle schedule or ensure an accessible shuttle arrives at your location. The hotel has two accessible shuttles available for your convenience.

View the [online conference program](#) to plan your trip!

Alliance for Full Participation (AFP) 2011

November 17 - 18, 2011
Gaylord National Harbor Hotel:

employment skills and living a healthy lifestyle. Youth leaders facilitate training for their peers and act as mentors. Youth leaders also gain valuable employment experience by participating in internships in business and non-profit entities. [Read more...](#)

Vermont UCEDD Welcomes New I-Team Director

Darren McIntyre joins the Center on Disability and Community Inclusion (CDCI) at the University of Vermont this month. He takes the helm of the Vermont State I-Team, leading a group of education professionals in collaborative support of Vermont children and youth who require intensive special education. The I-Team is funded by the Vermont Department of Education with five regional offices coordinated through CDCI. [Read more...](#)

Nisonger Center (OH UCEDD/LEND) Welcomes Visiting Scholar from Spain



Elizabeth Geva
Lopez

The Nisonger Center welcomes Ms. Elizabeth Geva Lopez from the University of Barcelona in Spain as a six-month visiting scholar. Ms. Lopez, a Ph.D. candidate, will be working with Dr. Tom Fish and his team on issues of community inclusion, adult literacy and self-advocacy. [Read more...](#)

Mitchell Levitz (WIHD-NY) to Serve on National Down Syndrome Research Consortium



Westchester Institute for Human Development (WIHD), a University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, applauds the selection of Mitchell Levitz, by the Eunice Kennedy Shiver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health (NIH) to serve as committee member of the Down Syndrome Consortium. As a self advocate with Down syndrome, Mr. Levitz has been instrumental in working on disability issues throughout the Hudson Valley and has been a speaker at conferences across the country. [Read more...](#)

CIDD Investigators to Study Repetitive Behaviors in Autism

CIDD Associate Director Dr. James Bodfish and CIDD investigator Dr. Gabriel Dichter have been awarded a 5-year grant from NIMH to continue their program of research investigating restricted repetitive behaviors and interests in autism. The project will focus on a distinct subtype of repetitive behaviors called circumscribed interests. Circumscribed interests are nearly universal in autism, are clinically impairing, and are characterized by intense focus on a narrow range of subject areas and by the rigid organization of activities

Washington, DC area



The Summit 2011 "Real Jobs--- It's Everyone's Business" aims to increase the number of people with intellectual disabilities in the workforce. By providing innovative approaches to create integrated employment, this interactive conference will encourage attendees to seek a successful career of their choosing.

28th Annual Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability & Diversity

"Living to Our Complete Potential"

The 28th Annual Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability & Diversity (Pac Rim) will bring together a diverse international gathering of academics, community leaders, self-advocates, specialists and officials to Honolulu, Hawaii on March 26-27, 2012. The conference aims to inspire, educate and illuminate - with over 18 topic areas, 200 presentations and several institutes, the program is fertile ground for dialogue and exchange while 'pushing the envelope' to ensure all human beings can live to their complete potential. [Read more and register.](#)

2012 International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual Disabilities (IASSID) World Congress

exclusively around these interests (e.g., collecting, manipulating, excessive question-asking, etc). [Read more...](#)

CIDD Develops Our Fragile X World

Our Fragile X World is an international community of families and researchers dedicated to providing practical information about the world of fragile X. Through internet and telephone based surveys, researchers at Our Fragile X World are gathering information about the needs and experiences of thousands of families from around the world who are affected by fragile X syndrome (FXS). [Read more...](#)

MA ICI Focuses on Assistive Technology

The ICI published an Act Brief entitled "Using AT Act Data to Understand, Plan, and Improve Programs: A National Data Summary of State Assistive Technology Programs." The Center also received funding to operate the Center for Assistive Technology Act Data Assistance (CATADA). [Read more...](#)

CPD at USU (UCEDD/LEND) Dedicates its New Developmental Playground



The Center for Persons with Disabilities at Utah State University celebrated a new milestone recently with the dedication of its new Developmental Playground. The vision for the new playground came from experts at the CPD who are well aware of the many benefits of play: how it stimulates physical and social development, fosters language, and even helps a restless child relax. Nearly 100 people braved cold, rainy weather to witness the event. [Read more...](#)

Submissions

News items may be submitted for consideration to:

Corina Miclea Rotsko

July 9 - 14, 2012
Halifax, Nova Scotia



The 2012 IASSID World Congress, "A World of Potential," will bring approximately 1,500 delegates from around the world to Halifax. The conference will offer several plenary addresses about major advances in the biological, behavioral, and social sciences related to intellectual disabilities. In addition, presenters will share recent research findings in more than 200 concurrent sessions.

Employment Opportunities

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