

# PATHWAYS TO ACCESS

16TH ANNUAL **DISABILITY** SYMPOSIUM

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

## Biographies

### Plenary Speakers

#### **Jonathan Lichtenstein, M.B.A., Psy.D.**

Dr. Lichtenstein is the Director of Pediatric Neuropsychological Services at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center and an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth. He earned his doctorate in clinical psychology and MBA at Widener University and completed fellowships in Clinical Neuropsychology at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth and the Sports Concussion Center of New Jersey. Dr. Lichtenstein also currently serves as a consultant to concussion management programs at middle schools, high schools, and colleges in New England, and is the neuropsychologist for Dartmouth College Athletics. He is the co-principal investigator and clinical director of Concussion Chalk Talk, a grant-funded school-based concussion management program, which places an emphasis on return to learn and changing the culture around concussion in New Hampshire. His research focuses on test administration, effort, and recovery modalities in concussion management. Recent peer-reviewed publications have concentrated on aerobic exercise, yoga, and mindfulness as interventions to facilitate recovery and improve functioning. Dr. Lichtenstein is also Dartmouth's representative on the Big Ten/Ivy League TBI Research Collaboration.

#### **V.R. Feroze**

V.R. Feroze is Senior Vice President, HEAD of Globalization Services for SAP SE. Based in Palo Alto, Feroze is responsible for the adoption of SAP products worldwide through the delivery of solutions targeted at individual local markets. Before heading Globalization Services, Feroze was the Managing Director of SAP Labs India. Starting at the age of 33, he held this post for over 5 years during which he transformed SAP Labs India into an innovation hub. In 2012, the company was recognized as one of the "Great places to work" in India.

Feroze is a Trustee at Autism Research Trust which supports research at the Autism Research Centre, Cambridge University. He is a Director on the Board of Specialist People Foundation, a not-for-profit foundation with the goal to create one million jobs for people with autism and similar challenges. He co-authored the bestselling book *Gifted: Inspiring Stories of People with Disabilities*.

Among his many recognitions, Feroze was honored as a *Young Global Leader* by the World Economic Forum and selected as one of the leaders in *India's Top 40 under 40*. He was inducted into the *Happiness Hall of Fame* at Stanford in 2016 and won the Eagle Award by Disability Rights Advocates for advancing equal rights for people with disabilities.

## Workshop Presenters

### **Lance Alexis, Ed.D.**

Dr. Alexis has ten years of experience directing a disability services office. He currently serves as a member of the AHEAD Board of Directors as well as the Board of Directors for Empower TN, the Center for Independent Living in Middle Tennessee. He has presented at the AHEAD national conferences on several occasions including presentations that have been similar to the one given today. He currently oversees the Disability and Access Center at Middle Tennessee State University.

### **Manju Banerjee, Ph.D.**

Dr. Banerjee is Vice President of Educational Research and Innovation at Landmark College, Putney, VT. She oversees the Landmark College School of Educational Design, which includes the Landmark College Institute for Research and Training (LCIRT) and Division of Educational Technology and Online Programs (ETOP). Manju has over 30 years of experience in the field of learning disabilities, ADHD, and postsecondary disability services. She is a certified diagnostician and teacher-consultant on learning disabilities. She has published and presented extensively, both nationally and internationally on a variety of topics related to postsecondary students with learning and attention issues.

### **Wendy A. Coduti, Ph.D., CRC**

Dr. Coduti has a master's degree in Human Resource Management/Labor Relations and a doctorate in Rehabilitation Counselor Education, both from Michigan State University. She is an Assistant Professor in the undergraduate Rehabilitation Human Services program and in the master's Rehabilitation Counseling program at Penn State. Her research interests include mental health in the workplace, postsecondary students with disabilities, and the study of hope.

### **Jen Dugger, M.A.**

Jen Dugger is the Director of the Disability Resource Center at Portland State University. She earned her M.A. in Higher Education Administration from Southeast Missouri State University (2006). Prior to arriving in Portland in 2012, she was the Director of the Office of Disability Resources at Drexel University in Philadelphia. She has worked in the field of disability resources and services for more than ten years. Jen is a board member of Association of Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD) and of the ACLU of Oregon. Jen has presented annually at the national AHEAD conference since 2009 on a variety of topics including: successfully incorporating disability into diversity initiatives on campus, the intersections of gender, sexuality, and disability, and using social sustainability and the sustainability movement for the benefit of accessibility and inclusion for people with disabilities. Jen has been the co-chair of the AHEAD LGBTQA Special Interest Group. Jen was recently awarded with the AHEAD Diversity Recognition Award and appointed to the AHEAD Board of Directors.

### **Ann Knettler-Smith, M.A.**

Ann Knettler-Smith has been in the disability services field for over 10 years. She currently serves on the AHEAD Standing Committee for Professional Development and was the Program Chair for the 2015 National Conference. Ann continues to serve AHEAD as a member of the Board of Directors for the Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education (CAS). She currently oversees the Student Accessibility Services Office at Delaware State University. Her passions include education, online accessibility, fostering inclusion and collaboration, and promoting a campus culture that reflects the social justice model of disability.

### **Alice Tweedy McGrath, Ph.D.**

Dr. Tweedy McGrath is the Postdoctoral Fellow for Accessibility at the University of Pennsylvania Libraries. She completed her doctoral work in the English Department of the University of Pennsylvania in August 2016, specializing in eighteenth-century British literature. Her research interests include disability studies, digital scholarship, material texts, queer studies, and writing by women.

### **David Parker, Ph.D.**

Dr. Parker is a postsecondary disability specialist and ADD/life coach at CRG (Children's Resource Group) in Indianapolis, IN. He earned a Ph.D. in Special Education (postsecondary programming) at the University of Connecticut. Three decades of work with students with LD, ADHD, and ASD have included positions as a high school special education teacher, director of a private school for students with dyslexia, administrator of LD/ADHD programs at UNC-Chapel Hill and UCONN, and program manager of an NSF STEM grant project at Washington University in St. Louis. He has presented on postsecondary disability policy and practices in Italy, Japan, Austria, and Kuwait. Dr. Parker helped conduct the first national study of ADD college coaching through Wayne State University. An editorial board member of four peer reviewed journals, he is the author of numerous research articles, book chapters, and books. Along with Sharon Field, his most recent publication is *Promoting Self-Determination in Higher Education: A Key to Retention, Graduation and Post-Graduation Success* (AHEAD, 2016).

### **Brenna Swift, M.S.**

Brenna is a Ph.D. student in English at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She specializes in composition and rhetoric, which encompasses the study of literacy and the design of writing courses in higher education. Her research interests include college equity for students with disabilities and inclusion for students from underrepresented groups. Brenna has worked as a writing tutor and instructor at Colorado College and, more recently, as a learning instructor at the University of Pennsylvania's Weingarten Learning Resources Center. Previously, she was a journalist covering education policy, curricular development, and issues of access in K-12 classrooms.