Symposium Schedule

7:45 a.m.  Symposium Opens; Breakfast Available

8:30 a.m.  Welcome & Opening Remarks

8:45 – 10:15 a.m.  Morning Plenary

When Compliance Efforts are Hampered by Organizational Discord
Presenter: Salome Heyward, JD

In this session, we will use OCR rulings and court decisions to illustrate how a significant number of compliance violations are less a matter of a conscious desire to discriminate than a product of organizational missteps and poor methods of administration. Topics that will be discussed include: a) how successful problem solving is often defeated by failing to properly frame issues, as well as, paying proper respect to those things that are important to the participants, b) why understanding the institution’s philosophical approach to providing services is a necessary part of achieving success, and c) how disability services staff should avoid the common pitfalls/traps that the other players in the drama (students, parents, faculty and administrators) set.

10:30 – 11:45 a.m.  Concurrent Morning Sessions

11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.  Lunch

12:45 – 2:15 p.m.  Afternoon Plenary

What to Do When Students with Disabilities Aren’t Coping Well – Forging Partnerships Among Students, Parents, and Disability Support Service Providers

Before college, much of readiness centers upon academic preparation for college admission. Important as that is, it is only one small (and very specific) indicator of a student’s overall collegiate readiness. Yet, social-emotional readiness and executive functioning have proven to be better predictors of college success, especially for those students with learning disabilities and related problems. With soaring rates of anxiety and depression in today’s college students, educators and institutions of higher education are tasked with the challenge
of helping students resolve or recover from a variety of mental health concerns and prevent or manage crises. The college disability service provider is doubly tasked with assisting vulnerable youth, where negative self-stigma (i.e. “being different”) can combust with typical college stressors. But how to be helpful when often students cope by not showing up, are too scared to let on that they’re “in trouble,” and/or introduce themselves in an end of semester panic about impending failure?

Drs. Rostain and Hibbs reveal how parents and educators can foster a growth mindset in students to promote resilience and better coping. They offer a new paradigm for partnering among students, parents, and disability service providers. The major content of this talk is drawn from their new book on college mental health, *The Stressed Years of Their Lives: Helping Your Kid Survive and Thrive During Their College Years* (St. Martin’s Press, 2019).

2:30 – 3:45 p.m. Concurrent Afternoon Sessions

3:45 – 4:30 p.m. Afternoon Snack-And-Chat