

Wednesday, November 8, 2017

12:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

PC6 Assistive Technology for a New Generation

Chair: Jennifer Topple, M.S., CCC-SLP, Director of Assistive and Instructional Technology, The Howard School

For many years, the academic help provided to students with dyslexia was limited to remedial language instruction and resource support, including basic accommodations giving students extra time to complete assignments. While those traditional supports remain important, the rapid development of assistive technology has led to a dramatic increase in independence for dyslexic learners and allows them to thrive alongside their nondyslexic classmates. This engaging half-day symposium helps attendees understand the why and how of AT implementation in 21st-century classrooms. Presenters highlight the educational approach of the universal design for learning (UDL), and the latest and most effective AT tools are demonstrated and discussed. The session wrap ups with a testimonial from a college student who was once a struggling writer, but because of assistive technology, is now pursuing a degree in writing.

Setting the Stage for AT Implementation: Neuroscience Foundations to Reach Every Learner

Karen Janowski, M.S.Ed.

This fast-paced, interactive workshop is based upon a play in three acts. The first act explores the neuroscience necessary for learning: joy, curiosity, and engagement and the important role the amygdala plays. The second act investigates the principles of the universal design for learning (UDL), including multiple means of representation, expression, and engagement. The final act invites the audience to customize the ending of the performance to meet the needs of the students with whom they work. Attendees identify one new concept and create an implementation plan specific to his or her unique professional role.

Postcards From the Cutting Edge: A Road Trip of Assistive Technology for Students With Dyslexia

Jamie Martin, B.A.

Jamie Martin invites you to take a fantasy road trip across the United States. Your journey takes you from Seattle, Washington to Atlanta, Georgia. Along the way, you make stops at some of the country's most famous landmarks and explore assistive technology tools that have proven invaluable to the academic success of students with dyslexia. Jamie is your tour guide as you learn about dictation technology, word prediction, text-to-speech, electronic graphic organizers, and more. This could be the most important adventure of your life!

From Struggling Storyteller to Masterful Writer: Tales From a Successful AT User

Annie Hine

Annie Hine is a junior at Savannah College of Art and Design, working to get her BFA in writing. She is a former struggling writer, who talks about how the introduction of AT in middle school changed her attitude about reading and writing and resulted in her desire to become a professional writer.

Disclosure: Jennifer Topple, Karen Janowski, Annie Hine have no relevant financial relationships to disclose. Jamie Martin may receive speaking fees and honoraria. There are no nonfinancial relationships to disclose.