



Pennsylvania - Delaware Chapter
Association for Education and Rehabilitation
of the Blind and Visually Impaired

Pre-Conference Copy 3-19-2024

At-a-Glance

2024 Penn-Del AER Conference
Shared Stories: Magnifying Our Impact
April 24 – 26, 2024



Wednesday, April 24, 2024

11:00 am, **Registration**, Atrium

Session 1: Opening Session — Wednesday 1:00 – 2:30 pm

Welcome — Central B

Maria Lepore-Stevens, Penn-Del AER Chapter President

Holly Russell, Penn-Del AER Chapter Conference Committee Chair

Keynote Address — “Do Tell! The Power of Stories in Our Professional Practice”

Mary Nelle McLennan, MA, Chief Executive Editor, *The New Review – A Journal of Practice*

Beverage Break — Wednesday 2:30 – 2:50 pm

Central Hallway

Session 2: Concurrent Sessions — Wednesday 2:50 – 4:05 pm

Empowering Deafblind Engagement: Creating a Smock Stay-Put Play Space,
Amanda Whelan, Bethann Molinari, and Jody Alwood-Vargas, Central A

Magnifying Accessible Learning: Utilizing Interactive Notebooks for Students with Visual Impairments,
Caroline Cacchio and Kelsey McGuire, Central B

Integrated Physical Education Experiences of Blind and Visually Impaired Youth,
Lindsay Ball, Central C

What Orientation and Mobility (O&M) Skills are Necessary for Success with a Guide Dog?,
Tommy Strasz, Central D & E

College Prep vs College Ready: Implications for Transition Planning for College-Aspiring Students with Visual Impairments,
Leslie Thatcher, Harris

Session 3: Concurrent Sessions — Wednesday 4:15 – 5:30 pm

Making Personal Financial Literacy Instruction Meaningful and Fun for Blind and Low Vision Transition-Age Students, Carlton Ann Cook Walker, David DeNotaris, and Eileen Rivera Ley, Central A

Promising Deafblind Strategies in Action, Missy Garber, Central B

PaTTAN Updates: We're Here to Support You!, Jennifer Edgar, Greg Gerhart, Tim Knight, and Tess Nasehi, Central C

Teaching Street Crossing and Risk Assessment/Reduction at Modern Signals, Dona Sauerburger, Central D & E

Magnifying Our Impact through Effective Collaboration, Alicia Blevins, Harris

Wednesday Evening Activities

Dinner on your own

4:30 – 7:00 pm, **Silent Auction**, Cameron

Explore the tempting wares that are up for grabs! Bidding starts at 4:30 pm on Wednesday and ends at 5:30 pm on Thursday.

5:30 – 7:00 pm, **University Socials**, O'Reilly's Tap Room & Kitchen

Visit with fellow students and graduates of Salus University and University of Pittsburgh in an informal atmosphere.

7:30 – 9:00 pm, **Meet and Greet Reception**, Central D & E

Meet our presenters, mingle with old friends, meet new ones, share some stories, and much much s'mores!

Thursday, April 25, 2024

7:00 am, **Registration**, Atrium

7:00 – 8:10 am, **Continental Breakfast**, Central Hallway

9:00 am – 5:30 pm, **Silent Auction**, Cameron. Bid on the tempting wares that are up for grabs! Bidding ends promptly at 5:30 pm.

9:00 am – 5:00 pm, **Exhibitor Hall**, Heritage (Exhibitor Hall closed during lunch)

Session 4: Concurrent Sessions — Thursday 8:15 – 9:30 am

Blind Rehabilitation Tricks and Tips Learned in Service to Clients and Patrons with Vision Loss from the Early 1990s to the Present, John Hofmeister, Central A

Your Tech Experience Optimized: Getting the Most Out of Low Vision Assistive Technology, Pete Andolina, Central B

Language, Etiquette, and Disability, Brianna Donnelly, Central C

Problem-Solving Instruction in O&M: A Practical Guide, Fabiana Perla and Jamie Maffit, Central D & E

Bioptic Driver Training, Testing, and Licensure: Similarities and Differences across the United States, Chuck Huss, Harris

Beverage Break — Thursday 9:30 – 10:00 am

Central Hallway

Session 5: General Session — Thursday 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

General Session — Central B

Gold Sponsor Exhibitor Spotlights

Mid-Note Address — “TBD”

Mark Richert, International Program Coordinator, Overbrook School for the Blind; AER President-Elect

Penn-Del AER Chapter Meeting

Maria Lepore-Stevens, Penn-Del AER Chapter President

Lunch and Dessert — Thursday 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Lunch Buffet, Central C, D, & E (Exhibitor Hall closed during lunch)

Coffee and Dessert will be served near the Exhibitor Area in Heritage and in Central A with the Poster Presentations.

Session 6: Exhibitors and Posters Session — Thursday 1:00 – 2:15 pm

Poster Session — Central A

Exhibitors — Heritage Room

Session 7: Concurrent Sessions — Thursday 2:25 – 3:40 pm

If We Knew Then What We Know Now: Two Teachers’ Experience Teaching the Use of a Refreshable Notetaker to a Novice User, Karen Hornberger and Maci Filopanti, Central B

O&M Roundtable, Doug Williams, Moderator, Central C

Cross Functionality of the Expanded Core Curriculum (ECC): A Recreation and Leisure Skills Story, Erin Weaver, Central D & E

Building a Team: Making Student Supports through Meaningful Collaboration, Jason Gonzales, Holly Short, and Amber Clark, Harris

What's New in Cerebral/Cortical Vision Impairment (CVI)? Quick and Easy Adaptations, Nicole Johnson and Lisa Yochimowitz, Keystone

Beverage Break — Thursday 3:40 – 4:00 pm

Hallway by Exhibitor Hall

Session 8: Concurrent Sessions — Thursday 4:00 – 5:15 pm

Family Matters: An Interactive Discussion of Family Needs and PaTTAN Supports, Tess Nasehi and Greg Lazur, Central A

Making Look and Gaze Detection Data Meaningful to Support Learners with Cortical Visual Impairment, Stephanie Steffer, Central B

TVI Roundtable, Tracy Whitehead, Moderator, Central C

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) in the O&M World, Maureen Army, Central D & E

Let's Get Cooking! Developing an Adaptive Cooking Class for Older Adults with Vision Loss, Jenny Thomas, Harris

Thursday Evening Activities

5:15 – 6:15 pm, **Kutztown University Social,** O'Reilly's Tap Room & Kitchen

Penn-Del AER Awards Banquet and Ceremony, Central C, D, & E

Doors open at 6:15 pm; Banquet at 6:30 pm; and Ceremony follows dinner.

Following the Banquet to 10:00 pm, **Awards Reception,** Atrium. Join us as we toast our award recipients!

Friday, April 26, 2024

Penn-Del AER Spirit Day – Wear your Penn-Del AER logo shirts to show support for our Chapter and be Penn-Del AER proud!

7:00 am, **Registration,** Atrium

7:00 – 8:10 am, **Continental Breakfast,** Central Hallway

Session 9: Concurrent Sessions — Friday 8:15 – 9:30 am

Adult Services/VRT Roundtable, Lachelle Smith, Moderator, Central A

New Approach for Creating Online Course Content Accessible to Multiple Learners, Jule Ann Lieberman, Central B

Dispelling Myths When Choosing Braille Code Options, Frances Mary D'Andrea, Missy Garber, and Greg Lazur, Central C

Incorporating the Expanded Core Curriculum (ECC) into the Classroom, Shawn Musgrove, Central D & E

Complex Traffic Signal Timing, Patty Kerns, Dona Sauerburger, and Bonnie Dodson-Burk, Heritage

This special session, which is part of the Barlow Initiative, is presented in cooperation with the Orientation & Mobility Specialist Association (OMSA).

Session 10: Concurrent Sessions — Friday 9:45 – 11:00 am

Don't Just Listen: Using JAWS and a Refreshable Braille Display from Word to Web, Joel Zimba, Central A

Building Collaborative Team Routines to Increase Outcomes for Young Students with Multiple Disabilities, Sarah Grimm and Debbie Hofmeister, Central B

The Sixth Sense: Fostering Proprioception in Individuals with Visual Impairments, Eric Van Ess and Maria Lepore-Stevens, Central C

Sherlock's Escape Room: Clues to Magnify Your STEM Impact, Erin Weaver, Central D & E

Navigating the Road to Bioptic Driving: A Personal Journey in Pennsylvania, Anna Tellis and Katie Christ, Harris

Break — Friday 11:00 – 11:30 am

Central Hallway

Session 11: Closing Session — Friday 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

General Session — Central B

Footnote Address — "A Wonderful Wednesday at the William Feinbloom Vision Rehabilitation Center: A Case Series"

Dr. Erin Kenny, OD, FAAO

Conference Wrap-Up

Maria Lepore-Stevens, Penn-Del AER Chapter President

Holly Russell, Penn-Del AER Chapter Conference Committee Chair

2025 Conference

We hope to see you at our next Penn-Del AER Conference scheduled for **April 30 – May 2, 2025** at the Best Western Premier Central Hotel & Conference Center.

The Pennsylvania-Delaware Chapter of the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER) supports professionals who provide education & rehabilitation services to people with visual impairments.

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March 19, 2024