

15th Annual Inclusion Conference

Making Connections Relating to the Curriculum and One Another

Thursday, May 7, 2009

8:00 am—3:15 pm

John M. Clayton Hall & Conference Center
Newark, Delaware



<i>Schedule of Events</i>	
8:00 am	<i>Registration Check In and Break</i>
8:45 am - 10:00 am	<i>Welcome and Keynote Address (general session)</i>
10:15 am - 3:15 pm Workshops (must select only one of the four-hour workshops)	<i>1) The Power of Peers: Peer Strategies to Support Appropriate Behavior and Social Development- Strain</i> <i>2) Bridging Universal to Small Group Supports through the Classroom - Lewis</i> <i>3) Transition to College for Students with Disabilities - Varrassi</i> <i>4) Sorting through Reading and Writing Supports: Making Accessible Instructional Materials Work - Fonner & Marfilus</i>
<i>Lunch on-site (12:15 pm - 1:15 pm)</i>	

Keynote Address - Relationships: They're Essential to Academic Success

Based on decades of acclaimed research, Dr. Strain has demonstrated clearly that academic success is built on a foundation of positive relationships with others. He will draw from his experiences and research to illustrate the importance of this connection in a keynote presentation that will change the way you think about a purely "academic" curriculum.



Phillip Strain, Ph.D. is a Professor of Educational Psychology and Director of the Positive Early Learning Experiences Center at the University of Colorado Denver. Throughout his 34-year career, he has focused his professional efforts on developing, evaluating, and replicating behavioral intervention for young children with autism and children who engage in aggression and anti-social behavior prior to age three. He is a prolific author and has secured over \$34 million in state and federal grant support for his work. He consults all over the world, is on the editorial board of ten journals, and is a frequent grant reviewer for federal agencies.

He is the recipient of career achievement awards from the Division for Early Childhood and the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children. His research on peer-mediated social skill intervention was recognized as being one of the ten most influential discoveries in the field of behavior disorders.

Workshops

1) The Power of Peers: Peer Strategies to Support Appropriate Behavior and Social Development

This presentation will address four basic questions regarding peer-mediated social skills intervention: 1) What are the key skills to teach? 2) How do I teach typical children the intervention skills? 3) How do I embed social skill opportunities through the classroom day and? 4) What outcomes have resulted for students who participated in this intervention? Attendees at this workshop will learn how to select specific curriculum targets and employ strategies to foster peer social skills. They will also learn to assess peer social outcomes and modify their teaching according to the data.

[Phil Strain \(see his bio on Page 1\)](#)

2) Bridging Universal to Small Group Supports through the Classroom

While many schools have the benefit of having behavioral expertise on their PBS team or within their building/district, most schools continue to struggle in building effective systems to support the development and implementation of small group and individual support plans. This session will focus on building a systemic process to implement tier two supports through a combination of universal classroom basics and small group/individual strategies.

[Timothy J. Lewis, Ph.D.](#) has been involved in special education for 25 years. Dr. Lewis has taught students with emotional and behavioral disorders in high school, elementary, and self-contained psychiatric settings. At present, Dr. Lewis is Professor of Special Education at the University of Missouri. Dr. Lewis is the Co-Editor of the journal *Behavioral Disorders*, Associate Editor of the *Journal of Positive Behavior Interventions* and is a member of nine other editorial boards. Dr. Lewis has been involved with developing school-wide systems of behavioral support for over 15 years. He has worked directly with school teams around the world, secured several federal grants to support his research and demonstration efforts, and is a frequent contributor to the professional literature examining various aspects of Positive Behavior Support. Dr. Lewis directs the University of Missouri Center for School-wide Positive Behavior Support, is Co-Director of the national *OSEP Center for Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports* and the *IES Center for Adolescent Research in Schools*. Dr. Lewis has directed research, model/demonstration, and personnel preparation grants and currently oversees all grant activity in the College of Education at the University of Missouri. His specialty areas include social skill instruction, functional assessment, and proactive school-wide discipline systems.

3) Transition to College for Students with Disabilities

Students and parents are often surprised to find that the legislation that provided them with IEPs, accommodations, course waivers etc. is no longer applicable after high school graduation. This program seeks to provide parents, students and others with information on life after high school for students with disabilities who had been receiving services via IDEA or Section 504.

It will address preparation of the student for the college option, college programs for students with disabilities, Section 504 at the post-secondary level and the need for students to understand their disability and to become self-advocates.

Vincent Varrassi has an M.A. in Learning Disabilities and an M.A.T. in Social Studies Education, and was the Campus Director of the Fairleigh Dickinson University Regional Center for College Students with Learning Disabilities from 1999 through 2008 after 27 years working in public education.

He is an Educational Consultant and LDT-C with a private practice in NJ and Delaware that specializes in assisting students with disabilities such as ADHD, Asperger Syndrome and Learning Disabilities succeed in high school and make a successful transition to college and career.

He is a former member of the *Executive Board of the North Jersey Special Education Administrators Association* and the *Executive Board of the New Jersey Association for College Admissions Counseling. (NJACAC)*

He is currently serving on the Editorial Board of the ABC's of College Planning (NJACAC), the Professional Advisory Board of ASPEN (Asperger Syndrome Education Network) and The Disabilities Advisory Board at Bergen County Community College. He has presented at the local, state and national level on the topics of Learning Disabilities, Asperger Syndrome, Executive Function and Students with Disabilities, transition to post-secondary options, and Assistive Technology.

4) Sorting through Reading and Writing Supports: Making Accessible Instructional Materials Work

Having a hard time keeping up with the AT for writing and reading supports? Scott and Kelly bring their most popular conference sessions together into one. It's all about features of electronic reading and writing systems. Throughout this fast-paced session, you will be shown a wide variety of examples in the areas of talking word processors, portable word processors, word prediction systems, graphic outliners, onscreen keyboards and symbol to text processors. Remember, this is NOT about what products are the best or what are most recommended. This fun and whirlwind session is about truly understanding and applying the features in order to make the most informed decisions to best meet the needs of your students and clients.

Kelly Fonner, MS - is a self-employed consultant and trainer in the areas of assistive and educational technology. She has been working with individuals with disabilities since the mid 1970s and with assistive technology since 1983. Her work experiences have been as a teacher assistant, teacher, instructional media specialist and assistive technology consultant in early childhood, preschool and K-12 school age programs. She has consulted to university and adult programs concerning access to technology by persons with disabilities. She speaks internationally on a wide range of topics including technology integration, AAC, computer access, literacy, library access, and assistive technology assessment and implementation strategies. She has taught at the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and for California State University-Northridge in the Assistive Technology Applications Certificate Program and Symposium Series. Kelly has a B.S. in special education, an M.S. in educational technology, and holds an ATACP certificate of learning from CSUN.

Scott Marfilus has been working with individuals with disabilities for the past 24 years. The past 18 years has involved implementing assistive technology at various levels. First within an integrated classroom as a classroom teacher, then implementing a district wide system change within a Public School System by assisting their District Wide Team. He continues to assist teams and individuals in assessing students assistive technology needs. His teaching certifications are in Early Childhood Handicap, Cognitive Disabilities, Emotional Disability, and Learning Disability. He also consults with individuals and businesses to determine adaptations that are needed in work place settings. Scott's focus areas in assistive technology include computer access, and technologies that assist those with cognitive and learning disabilities.

About the Conference

The Inclusion Conference is designed to address the needs of teachers, administrators, childcare providers, and parents interested in creating an inclusive school system and community for ALL children, Birth to 21.

Conference Detail

PREREGISTRATION IS REQUIRED—Registration and payment must be completed by April 20, 2009. Register early, as space is limited. Go to <http://www.dati.org/events/index.php> to register on-line. Only check or credit card payments will be accepted. Make checks payable to the **University of Delaware** (EIN 51-6000297) and forward with your registration form(s) to:

Inclusion Conference
University of Delaware
DATI's Kent County ATRC
100 Enterprise PL
Dover, DE 19904-8200

Cost: \$35 per person; \$17.50 for full-time students. A limited number of stipends are available for parents and child care providers who need this support in order to participate; call (302) 856-1081 for more information.

Schedule: The conference begins with registration and beverage break at **8:00 a.m.** and the workshops conclude at **3:15 p.m.**

Continuing Education Credits: Conference attendees may earn 5.5 professional growth hours with the Department of Education. An application has also been made to the Office of Child Care Licensing Board, and to Delaware's Professional Boards of Regulation for Speech Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, and Registered Nurses for continuing education credits.

Substitutes: Prior approval through your Special Education Director in an agreement with DDOE (Karen Jones) is required.

Questions? Contact DATI at (800) 870-DATI select option for Kent or (302) 739-6885; TDD (302) 651-6886; (302) 856-1081 or email rathel@asel.udel.edu.

Need Directions? Call 302-831-2214 or go to http://www.udel.edu/conf/clayton_dir.htm.

Registration Form for May 7, 2009

Educators who have requested subs **check one:**

- I have prior approval for a substitute supported by DOE
- I will not be using a substitute supported by DOE

Name (one form per person)

Title

Affiliation/School

- Business OR Residence

School District (if applicable)

Address

City State Zip

Daytime Phone Evening Phone

E-mail address

Workshop Selection (check only one)

- 1) The Power of Peers: Peer Strategies... - Strain
- 2) Bridging Universal to Small Group Supports through the Classroom - Lewis
- 3) Transition to College for Students with Disabilities - Varrassi
- 4) Sorting through Reading and Writing Supports - Fonner & Marfilus

I require the following **accessibility accommodation** in order to participate:

- Brailled materials
- Large print materials
- Assistive listening device
- Audiotape materials
- Sign language interpretation: ASL or Tactile
- Special meal request _____
(no need to request vegetarian)
- Other (specify) _____

The Inclusion Conference can only guarantee accessibility accommodations if notified of the above by **April 20, 2009**.

Planning Committee*/Sponsors

Autism Delaware

924 Old Harmony Road, Suite 201
Newark, DE 19713
(302) 224-6020; Fax (302) 224-6017
<http://www.delautism.org/>

Center for Disabilities Studies*

University of Delaware
461 Wyoming Road
Newark, DE 19716
(302) 831-6974; Fax (302) 831-4690
TDD (302) 831-4689
<http://www.udel.edu/cds/>

Climb to Employment: Disability Program Navigators and Work Incentive Planning and Assistance Project

Delaware Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
4425 North Market Street, P. O. Box 9969
Wilmington, DE 19809-0969
(302) 761-8300; Fax (302) 761-6611
<http://www.delawareworks.com/dvr/services/climb.shtml>

Delaware Assistive Technology Initiative (DATI)*

University of Delaware
A. I. duPont Hospital for Children
1600 Rockland Road
A&R Building, Room 200
P. O. Box 269
Wilmington, DE 19899-0269
800-870-DATI or (302) 651-6790;
Fax (302) 651-6793
<http://www.dati.org>

Delaware Department of Education*

John G. Townsend Building
401 Federal Street, Suite 2
Dover, DE 19901-3639
(302) 735-4210; Fax (302) 739-2388
<http://www.doe.k12.de.us>

Delaware Developmental Disabilities Council

Margaret M. O'Neill Building
410 Federal Street, Suite 2
Dover, DE 19901
(302) 739-3333; Fax (302) 739-2015
<http://ddc.delaware.gov>

Delaware Head Start Association*

c/o New Directions Early Head Start
321 S. College Avenue
Newark, DE 19716
(302) 831-0478

DHSS/Birth to Three Early Intervention System*

DHSS Main Building
1901 N. DuPont Highway
New Castle, DE 19720
(302) 255-9134
<http://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dms/epqc/birth3/directry.html>

Parent Information Center of Delaware*

5570 Kirkwood Highway
Wilmington, DE 19808
(302) 999-7394; (888) 547-4412
Fax (302) 999-7367
<http://www.picofdel.org>

Conference Mission

- Encourage high expectations for all individuals within a caring, supportive environment where diversity is respected and equality is practiced.
- Share information regarding systemic improvement of programs, policies, and practices to enhance inclusionary educational and community life experiences from birth through age 21.
- Collaborate with families, educators, day care providers, and community members to build acceptance, cooperation, and a belief encompassing dignity, compassion and mutual respect for all individuals.

Attendees said: I liked...
...everything, all the speakers
were phenomenal.
...being able to share ideas
among others and take home
ideas to my district.

Featuring exhibits
and poster
presentations!

Online registration available!
<http://www.dati.org/events>



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A.I. duPont Hospital for Children
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P.O. Box 269
Wilmington, DE 19899-0269

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