

Panelists for the Cognitive Disability Summit
October 28, 2015

1. **Julia Bascom.** Ms. Bascom serves as Deputy Executive Director at the Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN), and oversees ASAN's portfolio regarding cognitive accessibility and accessible communication, with a focus on telecommunication. In addition, Ms. Bascom develops projects that look at ensuring meaningful, authentic, and respectful representation of the Autistic and disability communities throughout our society, and bridging the gap between theory vs. praxis. Ms. Bascom served on the New Hampshire Developmental Disabilities council as well on as her state's team for revitalizing state-wide self-advocacy, and she is the founder of The Loud Hands Project.
2. **Dr. Steve Bauer** is a project officer at the US National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research under the Administration on Community Living. In 1992, he earned his Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer Engineering from SUNY at Buffalo. He is a former co- and principle- investigator for Rehabilitation Engineering Research Centers on Technology Transfer (T2RERC) and co-investigator for a Disability Rehabilitation Research Project on Knowledge Translation for Technology Transfer (KT4TT) - funded by the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research [then NIDRR]. Steve's ongoing professional interests include development and application of health/assistive technology classifications and service provision frameworks, universal design operationalization and application in the product domain (including Information and Communication Technology), technology transfer policy and application, and diverse applications of the World Health Organization-International Classification of Functioning Disability and Health. Steve is often happily gardening, biking, hiking, or reading history...
3. **Peter Blanck, Ph.D.** Dr. Blanck is University Professor at Syracuse University, which is the highest faculty rank granted to eight prior individuals in the history of the University. He is Chairman of the Burton Blatt Institute (BBI) at Syracuse University. Blanck received a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Rochester, a Juris Doctorate from Stanford University, where he was President of the *Stanford Law Review*, and a Ph.D. in Social Psychology from Harvard University. Blanck is Chairman of the Global Universal Design Commission (GUDC), and President of Raising the Floor (RtF) USA. He is a former member of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, a former trustee of YAI/National Institute for People with Disabilities Network, a former Senior Fellow of the Annenberg Washington Program, a former Fellow at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School, and has been a Mary Switzer Scholar. Prior to teaching, Blanck practiced law at the Washington D.C. firm Covington & Burling, and served as law clerk to the late Honorable Carl McGowan of the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.
4. **Stephanie W. Fell** joined FEMA's Office of Disability Integration & Coordination recently, in August 2015, from FEMA's Office of Chief Counsel (OCC) where she advised managers in connection with federal employment matters. Previously, Stephanie

served as a mediator, facilitator, and trainer in the Alternative Dispute Resolution Division of OCC. Stephanie has substantial public and private sector experience as a mediator, legal advisor, and advocate. She has also held several nonprofit program management and development positions over the course of her career. Stephanie received her J.D. from Fordham University School of Law in New York, New York, and a B.A. in History from the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts, and is a member of the New York and District of Columbia bars.

5. **Sabrina Fields** serves as the Vice Chair on the board of the Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program Association (TEDPA). TEDPA brings together the state programs that administer specialized telecommunication equipment distribution programs for persons with disabilities to provide a means of information exchange and assistance. In addition to serving of the TEDPA Board, Sabrina is the Lead Evaluator for the Maryland Accessible Telecommunications (MAT) program and ensures that qualified Maryland residents receive the most appropriate telecommunications equipment. Sabrina has been working with the telecommunications program for about seven years and her previous background is in disability service via respite programs.
6. **Matthew Gerst.** Matthew Gerst is Director of Regulatory Affairs at CTIA- The Wireless Association. Matt leads the association's efforts before the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") on a variety of policy matters, including universal service, 9-1-1 and emergency communications, and access for persons with disabilities. He also represents CTIA on the FCC's Disability Advisory Committee and North American Numbering Council. Matt is a graduate of Ohio University and received his J.D. from New York Law School, where he was editor-in-chief of Media Law & Policy and participated in the Advanced Communications Law & Policy Institute. He is admitted to the bars of New York and Washington, D.C. and also served as an adjunct professor of law in the scholarly writing program at the George Washington University School of Law focusing on the Federal Communications Law Journal.
7. **Amy S. Goldman, MS, CCC/L** is the Co-Executive Director of the Institute on Disabilities at Temple University, PA's University Center of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities. She is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychological, Organizational and Leadership Studies in Temple's College of Education. Her portfolio includes the Commonwealth's statewide program under the federal Assistive Technology Act of 2004 (Pennsylvania's Initiative on Assistive Technology [PIAT]), iCanConnectPA (National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program for PA), PA's Telecommunication Device Distribution Program, as well other local, state, and federal projects related to assistive technology across the life span (early intervention through aging). Ms. Goldman has specialized in augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) throughout her long career as a speech-language pathologist, conducting pre-service training, professional development, and consulting with families and people with disabilities regarding assistive technology. Recent work as included consultation with UNESCO on accessible information and communication technology (ICT) competencies for educators. She is a member of the National Joint Committee on the Communication Needs of Individuals with Severe Disabilities (NJC), the co-

coordinator for the AAC strand for the Assistive Technology Industry Association, facilitator for the Association of University Centers on Disability (AUCD) Special Interest Group on Technology, and past chair of the steering committee of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association's (ASHA) Special Interest Group on AAC.

8. **Jodie Griffin** is an Attorney-Advisor in the Telecommunications Access Policy Division in the FCC's Wireline Competition Bureau, where she works on Lifeline issues. Prior to joining the FCC, Jodie was a Senior Staff Attorney for the non-profit organization Public Knowledge, where she advocated for consumers on telecommunications and copyright issues. Jodie is also an Adjunct Professor at the George Washington University Law School. While studying in law school, Jodie was a law clerk for the National Association of the Deaf.
9. **Dr. Phyllis Guinivan** earned a Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University and is a graduate of Delaware's first Partners in Policymaking class and the mother of three young men, one of whom has a developmental disability. Phyllis served as Member Services Manager for the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities prior to joining the staff at University of Delaware's Center for Disabilities Studies (CDS) in 2009. She currently directs two programs at CDS: Family Support and Healthcare Alliance Delaware (Family SHADE), a collaborative alliance of family partners and organizations committed to improving the quality of life for children and youth with special health care needs, and Emergency Preparedness for Individuals with Disabilities (EPID). Her efforts regarding emergency preparedness have focused on helping people with disabilities develop customized emergency plans and providing training and technical assistance to emergency planners and managers to ensure that people with disabilities have full access to emergency services.
10. **Andrew Imparato** has served as executive director of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) since September, 2013. As a disability rights lawyer and policy professional with more than two decades of experience in government and advocacy roles, Imparato has worked with bipartisan policymakers to advance disability policy at the national level in the areas of civil rights, workforce development, and disability benefits. Prior to coming to AUCD, he was senior counsel and disability policy director for Senator Tom Harkin on the US Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions. Before that, he spent 11 years as President and CEO of the American Association of People with Disabilities, a national membership organization working to grow the political and economic power of the disability community. Imparato's perspective is informed by his personal experience with bipolar disorder.
11. **Matthew Kaplowitz** is President and Director of Technology and Innovation for Bridge Multimedia since 2002, has guided the development of accessible web and streaming media tools for individuals with disabilities; been the principal designer of a multi-sensory literacy system for young children with disabilities; and since 2010, led the Bridge project team for three five-year ED/OSEP Technology Access grants for video description and captioning. Bridge Multimedia is currently the largest producer of video

description for network and cable TV in the U.S. Kaplowitz is an Emmy, Peabody, and Grammy Award-winning producer, composer, and sound designer as well as an assistive listening systems engineer and A/V systems integration specialist for ADA-compliant installations for major public spaces including the Bronx Zoo/Wildlife Conservation Society, the Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum, the Vivian Beaumont Theatre at Lincoln Center, and the Nederlander, Richard Rodgers, and Gershwin Theatres, in New York City. Since 2006, Kaplowitz has served on the Executive Board of Chimes International, a disability services and behavioral health organization that serves more than 18,000 people with disabilities, and provides employment primarily through Ability One programs to more than 2,000 individuals with disabilities. He is married to Suzanne Auerbach and parent of a multiply-disabled daughter.

12. **Cheryl J. King**, Ms. King has been an attorney-advisor with the Federal Communications Commission since 1997, serving in the former Cable Services Bureau working on rulemaking and enforcement from 1997-2002. She has been with the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau, Disability Rights Office (DRO) since July, 2002. Ms. King has extensive experience working in Congress on disability and social policy issues, as a legislative and political staff person for four United States Senators and as the legislative director for a ranking member of the House Commerce Committee. She currently serves as the FCC's "agency point of contact" to the Interagency Coordinating Council on Emergency Preparedness and Persons with Disabilities that was created in July 2004 by Executive Order #13347 and the Disability Integration Working Group of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). On detail to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in 2005, Ms. King was deployed as the Federal Disability Subject Matter Expert to the Joint Field Office in Austin, Texas in the aftermath of hurricane Katrina and Rita. On detail to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Office of Disability Integration and Coordination in 2012-2013, Ms. King was deployed as a Disability Integration Advisor to the Joint Field Office in New Jersey in the aftermath of hurricane superstorm Sandy. Ms. King has a long history of advocacy and dedication to disability and social issues. From 1992-1994, Ms. King was Assistant Secretary for the Office of Planning, Innovation and Government Relations in the Indiana Family & Social Services Administration (IFSSA), the state agency that administers Federal and state programs for people with disabilities. She has been a speech, hearing and language therapist in public schools and in private pediatric and geriatric residential facilities. Ms. King is a graduate of Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN (BS) and the Columbus School of Law, Catholic University of America, Washington, DC, (JD).
13. **Margaret A. Nygren, EdD**, has served as the Executive Director & CEO of the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD) since 2010, following six years of service at the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD). She currently serves as a member of the Disability Advisory Committee (FACA Advisory Committee) of the Federal Communications Commission, member of the Down Syndrome Consortium (non-FACA Advisory Committee) of the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute Of Child Health And Human Development within the National Institutes of Health, member of the National Alliance for Direct

Support Professionals Advisory Committee, and member of the Relias Learning Advisory Board. Dr. Nygren's previous positions include a Fellowship in the Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Group at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in Baltimore, Director of the Center on Aging and Disabilities at the Lieutenant Joseph P. Kennedy Institute in Washington, DC, and Director of Family Support Services and Director of Mental Retardation Services at Kit Clark Senior Services in Boston. She has served on numerous scientific and conference planning committees, advisory boards, federal grant review panels, and editorial boards of scholarly journals. Dr. Nygren earned a Doctorate of Education in Organizational Leadership from Nova Southeastern University, a MA in Clinical Psychology from West Virginia University, and a BA in Psychology from Beloit College.

14. **Robert Pearson** is the Accessibility Officer for Accessible Media Inc. (AMI) in Canada and has been functioning, influencing, and engaging in the accessibility industry since 1999. Mr. Pearson joined AMI in 2011 as Director, Accessible Digital Media responsible for leading AMI's efforts to improve the accessibility of digital media, develop AMI's relationships with accessibility focused organizations and to liaise with the CRTC. In his role as Accessibility Officer, his focus is on maintaining AMI as a leader on media accessibility by setting accessibility standards, shaping organization policies and encouraging the development of industry solutions that contribute to creating an inclusive environment.
15. **Jamie Arasz Prioli** is a self-employed consultant and trainer in the areas of assistive technology and home accessibility. She has been working with individuals with disabilities since the early 1990s and with assistive technology since 1995. Ms. Prioli has presented on emergency preparedness and people with functional needs in national webinars and conferences, e.g. presentations on innovative practices at the PA Disability Employment Summit (2012), Assistive Technology Industry Association (ATIA) (2012 - present), and the RESNA Annual Conference (2012 - present). Jamie has published several articles on emergency preparedness and persons with functional and access needs (ARC of PA, 2012). Throughout her long career as an assistive technology professional, she has specialized in identifying and providing assistive technology solutions for individuals of all ages and abilities; she currently serves on the Board of Directors for RESNA. She received her Bachelor of Science from West Chester University in Pennsylvania and post-baccalaureate studies at Montclair State University in New Jersey.
16. **Abe Rafi**. Abe Rafi is Director of Digital Strategy and Online Services at the Arc of the United States. He is charged with enabling The Arc to achieve the digital dimensions of its goals and represents the organization in partnerships that aim to increase the inclusion of people with I/DD in digital life. He has led product development teams to create online communities, mobile applications, websites and business intelligence tools for social change organizations such as Ashoka, Disability Rights International, The Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, and for various clients as the founder of a web design firm. Abe is a long-time advocate for the rights of people with disabilities, having reported on human rights abuses in institutions for people with disabilities and trained

human rights activists in Serbia, Turkey, and Russia. He is a sibling of an older brother with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

17. **Dr. Scott Michael Robertson**, PhD works as a Policy Advisor on the Youth Policy Team of the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy. He has previously served as a Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Fellow in the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. Dr. Robertson has also served as the Founding Vice President of the Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN), a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. He earned his PhD in information sciences and technology at Penn State University after investigating cyber- and face-to-face bullying of autistic youth for his dissertation. Dr. Robertson completed his master's degree in human-computer interaction at Carnegie Mellon University and his bachelor's degree in computer science at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He has served as a Subcommittee Member for the FCC's Disability Advisory Committee and as a member of the federal Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee. In 2011, the American Public Health Association awarded Dr. Robertson their Jay S. Drotman Memorial Award for emerging leadership.
18. **Michael L. Wehmeyer**, Ph.D. is the Ross and Mariana Beach Professor of Special Education; Director and Senior Scientist, Beach Center on Disability; and, Director, Kansas University Center on Developmental Disabilities, all at the University of Kansas. His research and scholarly work has focused issues pertaining to self-determination, positive psychology and disability, transition to adulthood, the education and inclusion of students with severe disabilities, conceptualizing intellectual disability, and technology use by people with cognitive disabilities. He is co-author of the widely used textbook *Exceptional Lives: Special Education in Today's Schools*, published by Merrill/Prentice Hall, now in its 8th Edition and *The Oxford Handbook of Positive Psychology and Disability* (2013, Oxford University Press). Dr. Wehmeyer is Past-President of the Board of Directors for and a Fellow of the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD); a past president of the Council for Exceptional Children's Division on Career Development and Transition (DCDT); a Fellow of the American Psychological Association (APA), Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Division (Div. 33); and Vice-President for the Americas and a Fellow of the International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IASSIDD). He is former Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Remedial and Special Education* and is a founding Co-Editor of the AAIDD journal *Inclusion*. He has been recognized for his research and service with awards from numerous associations and organizations, including, recently, the Distinguished Researcher Award for lifetime contributions to research in intellectual disability by The Arc of the United States and the American Psychological Association, Committee on Disability Issues in Psychology 2015 Distinguished Contributions to the Advancement of Disability Issues in Psychology Award.
19. **Elizabeth Weintraub**. Liz Weintraub has a long history of leadership in self advocacy, and has held many board and advisory positions at state and national organizations. In addition to her part-time position with AUCD, Liz also works for the Council on Quality

& Leadership (CQL) Her work with both of these organizations focuses on improving quality of life for people with disabilities. Liz is the immediate past chair of the Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council. Liz a faculty member of The National Leadership Consortium on Developmental Disabilities at the University of Delaware and is the Past President of the Board of Directors for Shared Support Maryland, a progressive provider organization.