

Speaker Bios
Accessing Social Media
Thursday, July 17, 2014 from 9AM to 4PM
Federal Communications Commission
Commission Meeting Room and Technology Experience Center

Julia Bascom, Autistic Self Advocacy Network. Julia is Director of Programs at the [Autistic Self Advocacy Network](#). She is passionate about cognitive accessibility, theory vs. praxis, the creation of independent living supports and the potential of natural supports, rights-based models of education, services, and supports, and the implications of a rapidly-changing new millennium on the lives of disabled people, as well as the unique challenges and promises of self-advocacy and service provision in rural areas. She served on the New Hampshire DD council as well on as her state's team for revitalizing state-wide self-advocacy, and is the founder of The Loud Hands Project. She writes about autistic identity, community, and language; disability rights; theory vs. praxis; and autism acceptance on her website, "[Just Stimming...](#)"

Jesse Beach, Acquia. Jesse's technology career started in linguistic research, shifted to UX design and later landed solidly in front end development. As a Senior Front End Developer at [Backupify](#), a core contributor to the [Drupal project](#) and a principal architect of the [Quail accessibility testing framework](#), she channels her energies into building rock solid, beautiful and accessible tools for front end developers. And whenever possible, Jesse staunchly advocates for diversity and inclusion in technology.

Seth Bravin, IBM. Seth is a Strategy and Solutions Manager with the [IBM Human Ability and Accessibility Center](#) and is focused on bringing accessibility solutions to market in the healthcare and government industries. The organization is a recognized world leader in creating technology and business solutions to improve access to information for people with disabilities, the aging population or people with no to low literacy.

Seth began his career with IBM in 2003 and worked in finance and planning for the Global Public Sector. Before joining IBM, he worked for Booz-Allen and Hamilton, a management and technology consulting firm and Dow, Lohnes & Albertson, a corporate law firm.

Seth holds a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration and finance from Gallaudet University and received his MBA from Cornell University. He has testified before the US Senate about higher education and employment for people with disabilities. He serves on the boards of Lexington School for the Deaf, and Hearing and Speech Agency. He taught at Gallaudet University Leadership Institute for several summers and hosted several technology camps sponsored by IBM for deaf and hard of hearing high school students.

Kelby Brick, Esq., Brick Advantage. Kelby established [Brick Advantage](#) to leverage years of experience in marketing, public policy and accessibility issues to help corporations, schools and

non-profits achieve the sweet spot of blending management with transformational societal changes.

As Vice President of Purple Communications, Inc., Brick led the company's regulatory and strategic policy working to take down communication barriers for deaf and hard of hearing individuals. Within the relay industry, Brick transformed the industry by establishing a system (later adopted by the Federal Communications Commission) that enabled consumer relay equipment to be interoperable and accessible with real local phone numbers and emergency access. During his tenure with Purple, Brick developed and managed strategy that resulted in over 500% corporate growth over 6 years, beating US economy and Industry growth rates.

Brick was identified as a 2012 social media expert by business2community.com.

Prior to joining Purple, Brick was the National Association of the Deaf's Director for Law and Advocacy. As Director, Brick successfully mobilized the NAD in establishing precedents and landmark decisions in litigation, legislative and regulatory areas while increasing its organizational profile resulting in fiscal and membership growth.

He is active in numerous civic and rights advocacy organizations such as being a current Board member of the American Association of People with Disabilities. He has also been appointed to various Federal and State advisory groups.

Brick co-authored *Legal Rights: the Guide for Deaf and Hard of Hearing People*, in addition to writing numerous articles that have appeared in various publications.

Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley recognized Brick in 2011 with the inaugural "Kelby Brick Community Leadership Award" which has been given annually in his name. Brick is also the recipient of various other local and national awards.

Brick graduated from Gallaudet University with a bachelor's degree in government and went on to Temple University Law School, where he became its first deaf graduate. Before being appointed as the NAD's Director for Law and Advocacy, Brick ran a solo private general law practice with an emphasis on criminal law, civil rights, estate planning, and lobbying.

Patrick Cokley, Lead On Update. Patrick is a long-time disability advocate who works to bring issues of inclusion to the forefront of all communities. As a founding member of the [Lead On Network](#), Mr. Cokley serves as the Administrator for the Lead On Update, an up-to-the-minute social-media focused resource to discover, collect, and also provide commentary on media articles on technology, employment, and education as well as policies, programs, and events on Capitol Hill as they relate to disability.

The purpose of the Lead On Network is to provide the information, tools, and resources that will help disability leaders promote the empowerment of individuals for the betterment of themselves, and of society as a whole, and is dedicated to the vision of a society of justice and equality regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, status or ability.

Mr. Cokley has had significant experience working at the intersection of disability policy and social media, in both the Federal and non-profit sectors. He led the social media component of the "Forward This!" campaign focused on engaging young persons with disabilities to participate in the 2012 campaign to re-elect Barack Obama as President. In addition, he co-created and managed the 100 Days to the ADA countdown—an innovative online campaign to increase awareness of the 20th anniversary of the ADA and of Federal government resources for individuals with disabilities. Participants in the latter campaign included contributors from across the country, including youth, parents, professionals, policymakers and government agency heads.

As a graduate of a Historically Black University, Mr. Cokley believes that it is imperative that the disability and traditional diversity communities learn to work together as they both share the core values of inclusion. Cultural barriers have led to disability being a taboo subject in many ethnic communities, and the disability community needs the experience of the diversity field to continue their advocacy and policy goals. Only together can both communities realize the success of an America that is inclusive of all of its citizens.

During his time at the Institute for Educational Leadership, Mr. Cokley provided technical assistance for the Kellogg Foundation sponsored Kellogg Leadership for Community Change Project, and also for the School Leadership Learning Community Program sponsored by the Department of Education. Prior to that, Mr. Cokley has served as an Event Planner for the National Association of Counties (NACo) where he was part of the team responsible for the planning of NACo's Conferences and Meetings.

In addition to his professional career, Mr. Cokley has intimate knowledge of disability being a person with low vision, and as the parent of two children with disabilities. Mr. Cokley is a graduate of Howard University in Washington, DC and holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science.

Chet Cooper, ABILITY Magazine. [ABILITY Magazine](#), known by most in this room, was created over 20 years ago by Chet Cooper. Over those years the ABILITY name has been embraced by many other thought leaders as a better approach to disability issue. The focus on ability was always Cooper's vision. And he's seen that manifest in *ABILITY Magazine*, ABILITY Awareness, ABILITY Jobs and ABILITY 365.

Today *ABILITY Magazine* is the leading, award-winning, publication covering Health, Disability and Human Potential; it exists in print, digital and web forms, and consistently ranked among the [Top 50 Magazines in the World](#).

In 1995, Cooper launched the first job-board for people with disabilities. [ABILITYJobs.com](#) has helped hundreds of thousands of job seekers in their quest for meaningful work. Tens of thousands of resumes are posted for positions ranging from entry level to top-level management, and companies can search for candidates and/or post their openings.

Cooper established ABILITY Awareness, a NGO, to actively pursue ways to build awareness and shift attitudes. The White House recognized the NGO for its ABILITY House program—

building homes and awareness by accessing volunteers *with* disabilities to construct homes *for* people with disabilities.

Cooper also works with the Affirmative Disability Action (A-D-A.org) project helping governments, non-profits and businesses to employ, advance and integrate talented people with disabilities into the workplace.

Cooper has established international ventures in China, South Korea, UAE, Qatar and Israel, and has been involved with the UN's Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities since 2003.

Cooper has been a national and international speaker, interviewed on radio and television and has signed an agreement with PBS SoCal to produce a TV series on the subject of Health, Disability and Human Potential called *ABILITY365*.

Christopher Danielsen, National Federation of the Blind. A native of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, Christopher spent much of his youth traveling due to his father's military career. His family returned to South Carolina in 1983. Chris graduated from Batesburg-Leesville High School in 1989 and entered Furman University, where he graduated cum laude in 1993 with a B.A. in political science.

Chris graduated from the University of South Carolina, School of Law in 1996. During his law studies, he was accepted to the Moot Court Bar and worked part-time for the South Carolina Senate Judiciary Committee, where he researched legislative issues and worked on appellate litigation. He then returned to Myrtle Beach, where he practiced law for six years. Ultimately, when the National Federation of the Blind (NFB) presented Chris with an opportunity to utilize his communications skills to help the organization, with which he had been involved since his freshman year in college, Chris accepted and moved to Baltimore to work at the Federation's national headquarters. He now serves as director of public relations for the National Federation of the Blind. In this capacity, he has worked on numerous national media campaigns, including publicity for the NFB's Blind Driver Challenge, which garnered over a million media impressions, and an ongoing effort to raise awareness of the practice of paying subminimum wages to workers with disabilities. Media stories about the Federation's efforts to end the practice include a nationally broadcast segment on the NBC program *Rock Center with Brian Williams*, a full episode of Al Jazeera America's talk program *The Stream*, and numerous local television, radio, and newspaper articles.

Lise Hamlin, Hearing Loss Association of America. Lise joined the Hearing Loss Association of America's (HLAA) national staff as director of public policy in April 2008. Ms. Hamlin is HLAA's representative on the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) and has served on the FCC's Video Programming Access Advisory Committee (VPAAC) and on the FCC's Communications Security, Reliability and Interoperability Council (CSRIC) as well as the ATIS working group on hearing aid compatible phones. She represents HLAA on the Access Board's Rail Vehicle Access Advisory Committee (RVAAC) and served on their Passenger Vessel Emergency Alarms Advisory Committee (PVAAC). Ms. Hamlin has been an instructor for TDI's Community Emergency Preparedness

Information Network (CEPIN) and was a member of CEPIN's team that drafted and delivered the course, "Emergency Responders and the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community: Taking the First Steps to Disaster Preparedness." Ms. Hamlin also represents HLAA on several coalitions, including the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Alliance (DHHA), the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Consumer Action Network (DHHCAN), the Coalition of Organizations for Accessible Technology (COAT) and the National Disability Leadership Alliance (NDLA).

Justin Herman, U.S. General Services Administration. Justin became Social Media program manager at [GSA's Office of Citizen Services and Innovative Technologies](#) in March of 2012, where his duties include promoting the use of social technologies and analysis government-wide. He leads the Federal Social Media Community of Practice, an objective-based solver community including more than 600 social technology practitioners from all mission areas of the federal government that focuses on issues including performance management and accessibility. Justin also organizes new media training programs through DigitalGov University, and a contributor to the DigitalGov.gov.

Justin began his career in public service as an Air Force officer, where his 'electronic publication' won Best in the Defense Department before social media was social media. He later served as a Congressional Aide as well as a health information technology advocate. Most recently he advised agencies as a private consultant on their open government initiatives, digital strategies and public prizes. In 2012, Justin was named a Fedscoop 50 up and coming federal executive of the year, a Fierce15 recipient and on Washington Life magazine's 'Young and the Guest List' for his work tying social technologies to measurably improve citizen services or reduce organizational costs.

Justin received his bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of New Hampshire, is a graduate of Defense Information School, and conducted his graduate studies in International Relations at the University of Oklahoma and in Public Administration at the UNH Graduate School.

Dr. Shaun Kane, University of Colorado – Boulder. Shaun is an assistant professor in the [Department of Computer Science at the University of Colorado, Boulder](#). Shaun's primary research interests are accessible user interfaces and mobile human-computer interaction. Shaun's work explores ways to make mobile devices easier to use, especially for people with disabilities and people in distracting environments. Shaun received his PhD from The Information School at the University of Washington in 2011.

Andrew Kirkpatrick, Adobe Systems. Andrew is Group Product Manager for Accessibility at Adobe Systems. Andrew's team attends to accessibility issues with product teams across the Adobe product line and works with customers and standards groups, including representing Adobe on the accessibility-focused committees at the FCC, the United States Access Board, and W3C accessibility working groups. Currently Andrew is serving as co-chair of the W3C's Web Content Accessibility Guidelines Working Group. In addition, Andrew and his team define Adobe's overall strategy for accessibility. Andrew blogs about accessibility at <http://blogs.adobe.com/accessibility> and tweets at AdobeAccess.

Andrew Krzmarzick, GovLoop. Andrew is the Director of Learning and Development at [GovLoop](#), the leading knowledge network for public sector professionals. Over the past five years, Andrew has helped the GovLoop community grow to 150,000 members, launched a government-wide mentors program, authored dozens of guides and blogs, and delivered scores of training sessions on social media, government careers, generational diversity and telework for national and international audiences. He is now working on projects at the cutting edge of virtual events and learning in government.

Andrew is a board member for ASTD's The Public Manager magazine as well as the Next Generation of Government Training Summit. Andrew has a MA in Theology from The Catholic University of America and a BA in Philosophy from Iowa State University. He resides with his wife and two children in Durham, North Carolina, where he's an active member of his faith community, serves on the Marketing Advisory Board for Durham Cares, and leads an open data movement as Co-Captain of the Durham Code for America Brigade.

Janni Lehrer-Stein, National Council on Disability. Appointed by President Obama and confirmed by the US Senate in May 2011 to the [National Council on Disability](#), Janni was reconfirmed in April of 2014 for a second term. She served as Vice Chair of the NCD from September 2011 to March 2013, currently chair of Access and Integration committee of NCD, and head of the social media working group. Professional pursuits and interests have included litigation practice in employment and constitutional law, serving as a national disability advocate, current Board member of Disability Rights Advocates in Berkeley and NYC, Board member of Foundation Fighting Blindness, past board member of Medical Research Charities. Practiced employment discrimination law, admitted to the bars of DC and California. Married to Lenny Stein, with three children, Emma, Risa and Jake, Janni has been blinded by retinitis pigmentosa since 1981. Academic background: B.A. from Yale University 1978, J.D. from University of Toronto Law School with qualifying year at Harvard Law School, 1981.

Susan Mazrui, US Business Leadership Network. Susan is a Director for Public Policy at AT&T. Prior to work in telecommunications, Ms. Mazrui taught graduate and undergraduate courses at San Francisco State University and Special Education in San Jose, California. She began her career in telecommunications in 1994 where she gained experience in marketing, external and regulatory affairs. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for the [US Business Leadership Network](#) and the U.S. International Coalition on Disability. Ms. Mazrui was the 2002 Summit on Leading Diversity Corporate Fellow, inducted into the Spinal Cord Injury Hall of Fame in 2008 and recognized as a disABLED Employee of the Year by Careers and the disABLED in 2013. Ms. Mazrui received her Master's Degree in Education from San Francisco State University with an emphasis in educational technology.

Mark Perriello, American Association of People with Disabilities. Mark is President and CEO of [AAPD](#), the nation's largest disability rights organization.

Perriello, who has had a visual disability since childhood and ADHD, has a proven track record of increasing organizational standing with decision makers through creative and high-impact grassroots and grass-tops programs across America. As a political strategist, he oversaw highly successful efforts to elect candidates to office at the federal, state, and local level.

Before joining AAPD, Perriello served as the White House Liaison at the U.S. Department of the Interior and worked as the White House Priority Placement Director, where he was instrumental in placing diverse candidates in jobs in the administration. Due in large part to his work, the Obama Administration is one of the most diverse in U.S. history. Prior to that, Perriello served in leadership roles at the Human Rights Campaign, Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund, and Leadership Institute.

Andrew Phillips, National Association of the Deaf. Andrew is the Policy Counsel at the [National Association of the Deaf](#). He is responsible for providing analysis, recommendations, and counsel to the NAD on policy issues affecting deaf and hard of hearing people across the United States. Phillips is heavily involved with the NAD's work on federal legislation and the rulemaking processes within various federal agencies such as the Federal Communications Commission. After graduating from Gallaudet University, Andrew Phillips earned his law degree at U.C. Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco where he was a member of the Hastings Science and Technology Law Journal.

Michael Reardon, U.S. Department of Labor. Michael is a Policy Supervisor for the [Office of Disability Employment Policy](#) (ODEP) at the [Department of Labor](#). He directs ODEP's Employment Supports Policy Team, which addresses a wide range of issues effecting the employment of people with disabilities, including transportation, housing, technology, veterans' issues, and health care. He previously served as the Disability Program Manager for the Department of Transportation's Office of Civil Rights and as Policy Advisor for the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities. He moved to Washington, DC from Columbus, OH, where he was Director of the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Alliance, a state-level advocacy organization for people with disabilities. He was named a member of the "Fed 100", and was also a recipient of the first-ever Innovation Award at the Department of Labor. He has a Master in Public Policy degree from Ohio State University, and also attended the law school there.

Jennifer Smith, Danya International. Ms. Smith has more than 12 years of experience leading and managing traditional, digital, and emerging technology communications projects for non-profit, government, and for-profit organizations. In her current role as Senior Web and Accessibility Strategist with [Danya International](#), she works with Federal clients such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as the Food and Drug Administration. She has been a featured speaker in several webinars and most recently moderated a Google+ Live Hangout of expert panelists discussing Social Media Accessibility. Ms. Smith has a passion for generating digital interactions that are accessible for all, and has experience with state and national web accessibility compliance regulations.

Marc Solomon, Ai Squared. Marc has more than a decade of experience as an accessibility professional specializing in screen readers, screen magnifiers, voice recognition and accessible web design. He obtained a computer science degree from The Ohio State University and was introduced to assistive technology working as a student employee at the Office for Disability Services. Marc has conducted numerous trainings, presentations and workshops on accessible technology all across the country and is currently employed with [Ai Squared](#) where he provides leadership in training, instructional design and project management.

Brittany Stevenson, Federal Communications Commission. ([@BLStevenson](#)) Brittany is a digital strategist with over a decade of experience in web design, new media, & film & TV production. After receiving BFA from New York University in Film & TV production she worked branded entertainment, afterwards she headed to graduate school where she studied public policy and business at Georgetown University. Since 2011 Brittany merged her love for communications & policy by beginning her career in government at the [FCC](#) as a New Media Associate. In this role, she produces videos for the web and has been a driving force behind the FCC's development of social media and citizen engagement campaigns using digital tools. The majority of the work she's done was the first of its kind at the FCC and the Commission's social media efforts are a key component of the FCC's Open Government Initiatives. In addition, Brittany is on the FCC redesign web team of [fcc.gov](#). In July 2013 she was recognized by Fed Scoop as [1 of 25 of the most influential people under 40 in government and technology](#) for her work at the FCC. In her spare time she is a volunteer for the American Cancer Society serving on the Taste of Hope Committee, she loves to make films, and travel all over the world.

Lindsay Yazzolino, Johns Hopkins University. Lindsay has been working as a cognitive neuroscience researcher at [Johns Hopkins University](#) after completing her undergraduate degree in Cognitive Science from Brown University. Having been totally blind since birth, Lindsay became inspired through her own experience to investigate how blindness affects the development of brain functions such as language, memory, Braille reading, and spatial reasoning.

As a blind researcher, Lindsay seeks to encourage more blind students to pursue science careers, as well as to increase the exchange of knowledge and ideas between the scientific and blind communities. She has spoken to numerous groups of students, educators, and parents of blind children to discuss her work, and to reverse common misconceptions about blindness by emphasizing that blind people can live rich and personally fulfilling lives. Outside of the lab, Lindsay enjoys air travel and keeping up with the latest technology, as well as Espresso, thrill rides, and the occasional practical joke!