

Hearing Loss Association
of America

RENO

GRAND SIERRA RESORT AND CASINO

**Exhibit &
Program
Guide**

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**Convention
2008**

*June
12-15*



Exhibit & Program Guide Sponsored by

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Lifelong Learning for Individuals with Hearing Loss

Co-sponsored by the National Technical Institute for the Deaf at Rochester Institute of Technology and PEPNet



Sunday, June 15, 2008 • 9 a.m. - Noon • Reno Ballroom

The 2008 Research Symposium for HLAA focuses on the importance of lifelong learning for individuals with hearing loss. Presenters from NTID and PEPNet will share the latest research and information on lifelong learning and how individuals with hearing loss can access opportunities that exist throughout the nation. Research on the impact of educational achievement on the earnings of individuals with hearing loss will be presented and discussed.

Critical information included in a recently published guidebook titled, *Hard of Hearing Students in Postsecondary Settings*, which is available online as a resource for information and assistance will be shared.

Welcome

Brenda Battat Executive Director, HLAA

Moderator: Dr. T. Alan Hurwitz, Vice President & Dean, NTID at RIT

Introductions

Dr. Hurwitz

Panelists/Topics

- **What Research Tells Us of Lifelong Learning and Its Impact on Earnings for Individuals With Hearing Loss**
Dr. Sara Schley, Institutional Research, NTID
- **Issues Confronted by People Who are Hard of Hearing in Postsecondary Education and Technical Services to Address Their Needs**
Dr. James DeCaro, Director, PEN International; Interim Director, NTID Center for Access Technology & Professor Larry Scott
- **Lifelong Learning and Self-Advocacy for Individuals With Hearing Loss**
Patty Conway, KY, PEPNet Consultant
Heidi Adams, IL, PEPNet Consultant
Larry Siverson, CA, PEPNet Consultant
- **Utilizing the Online guide Entitled "Hard of Hearing Students in Postsecondary Settings" to Assist With Lifelong Learning**
PEPNet Consultants

T. Alan Hurwitz, Ed.D.

President, National Technical Institute for the Deaf; Vice President and Dean, Rochester Institute of Technology for National Technical Institute for the Deaf

T. Alan Hurwitz, a prelingually deaf son of deaf parents, has been a member of the NTID faculty since 1970. Prior to his faculty appointment to NTID he was employed for five years as associate electronics engineer and senior numerical computer programmer at McDonnell Douglas Corporation in St. Louis.

Dr. Hurwitz received a bachelor's degree from Washington University in St. Louis and master's degree from St. Louis University, both with a major in electrical engineering. He holds a doctorate in teaching and curriculum from the University of Rochester.

Dr. Hurwitz is a former president of the National Association of the Deaf, the Empire State Association of the Deaf, and the World Organization of Jewish Deaf. He co-chaired two national task forces, one on educational interpreting and the other on the needs of traditionally underserved and underserved deaf adults. Presently, he serves as a member of the Board of Directors at the Rochester School for the Deaf, and served as the board president in 1994-1996. He is also a former member of the board of American Society of Deaf Children,



the National Captioning Institute, and the Telecommunications for the Deaf, Inc.

Dr. Hurwitz and his wife, Vicki, have two children, a daughter who is deaf, and a son who is hard of hearing.

James J. DeCaro, Ph.D.

Director, PEN International; Interim Director, NTID Center for Access Technology

James J. DeCaro is the director of the Postsecondary Education Network-International (PEN-International), a multinational collaborative network of colleges and universities

serving students with hearing loss that is funded by grants from The Nippon Foundation of Japan. Prior to holding this post and the one at NTID, he served as dean of the National Technical Institute for the Deaf at Rochester Institute of Technology for 14 academic years; two of those years as interim director and CEO. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees in civil engineering and a doctorate in instructional technology. He is a member of the Professional Advisory Group of the Hearing Loss Association of America, Rochester Chapter.

Dr. DeCaro has been a Rotary International Scholar at University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne (England) and a Fulbright Senior Scholar at Orebro University (Sweden). He holds an honorary professorship at Tianjin University of Technology (China) and is a recipient of the HaiHe Award of Honour for outstanding service to the people of China. Dr. DeCaro holds an honorary doctoral degree from Bauman Moscow State Technical University (Russia).



Heidi Adams

PEPNet Consultant

Heidi Adams is the PEPNet outreach specialist for the Center for Sight and Hearing in Rockford, Illinois. She worked as a rehabilitation counselor for the Illinois Division of Rehabilitation Services for six years managing a general caseload which included four Secondary Transitional Experience Programs (STEP). While a planning specialist for DVR, she facilitated focus groups, conducted a statewide survey, and worked with a team to plan, develop, and carry out more than 35 community forums throughout Illinois. She was the editor of the agency's online newsletter, and served as co-owner of the Communications System.

Before losing her hearing, Ms. Adams worked as a speech-language pathologist in a variety of settings including clinics, hospitals, and in the public schools at levels K through 12. She holds bachelor and master's degrees in Communicative Disorders from Northwestern University.

Patty Conway, CRC

Rehabilitation Consultant

Patty Conway retired as manager of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Branch with the Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) in Frankfort after more than 18 years. She oversaw all services to individuals with hearing loss including specialized services to deaf, deaf-blind, deaf-at-risk, hard of hearing and late-deafened consumers. At the same time, Ms. Conway also served as the state coordinator of



Deaf Services (SCD) and directly supervised the Rehabilitation Counselors for the Deaf (RCDs). During her tenure at Kentucky Vocational Rehabilitation Services she used a national model to enhance services to individuals who are hard of hearing and late deafened, which resulted in substantial improvements in service delivery and greater numbers of persons with successful employment outcomes.

Ms. Conway completed the post employment training in Deafness Rehabilitation Administration from San Diego State University and has been employed in the field for 27 years. She has a hearing loss and was a consumer of VR services during college and early employment.

Sara Schley, Ed.D.

Senior Institutional Researcher and Associate Professor; National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID)

Sara Schley has conducted institutional research on a variety of NTID internal topics (e.g., enrollment, retention, graduation analyses and reports for NTID's Annual Report). Dr. Schley has also done analyses on topics that have a broader impact on the field in general (for example secondary analyses of large-scale longitudinal educational databases). She has received a number of grants, awards, and scholarships; and has published in the field on topics such as bilingual-bicultural education of deaf children; education and employment outcomes of post-secondary education for deaf students; and blending online and in-class learning.

Dr. Schley has a doctoral degree from Harvard University where her dissertation was "Language Proficiency and Bilingual Education



of Deaf Children," and master's degree from Northeastern University where her thesis was "Infant Discrimination of ASL Gestural Classes: Precursors of American Sign Language Acquisition," and a bachelor's degree from Reed College in psychology.

Sue Ann Erdman

Audiology Consultant

Sue Ann Erdman received her bachelor's and master's degrees in audiology from the Ohio State University. For over a decade, she provided audiologic rehabilitation services and conducted research at Walter Reed's Audiology and Speech Center. Ms. Erdman has authored or coauthored over 30 articles and book chapters on the management of hearing-related communication and adjustment difficulties. She is a past-president of the Academy of Rehabilitative Audiology, and is also a member of the American Auditory Society and the International Society of Audiology. She currently resides in Jensen Beach, Florida, and provides consulting services that have included course development, clinician training, grant writing, research development and implementation, and expert witness testimony.

Larry Scott

Associate Professor and Chair, Communication Studies and Services Department; National Technical Institute for the Deaf/RIT

While at NTID, Mr. Scott has been involved extensively with the curriculum review process, developed several curriculums related to improving deaf and hard of hearing students understanding of the dynamics of communication in business and industry, and provided oversight and development of the cochlear implant program which now serves approximately 245 students. Currently he is the principal investigator at RIT in a joint master's level training program with Nazareth College for students interested in providing speech-language services to deaf and hard of hearing students in grades K-12. He has a master's degree in audiology from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, and a bachelor's degree in Speech Pathology and Audiology from State University of New York at Geneseo.



Larry Siverson

PEPNet Consultant; Executive Director, Hearing Loss Network, San Diego

Larry Siverson is the proprietor of www.hearinglossweb.com and the editor of *HOH-LD News*, an award-winning online newsletter. He became involved with hearing loss when his wife Charlene's hearing declined again in the mid-1990s. He is a member of the Association of Late-Deafened Adults (ALDA), Hearing Loss Association of America, and TDI. He is a frequent presenter across the country and was a keynote speaker at the 2007 "Say What Club" Convention.

