Director's Corner

Kiriko Takahashi, Ph.D.
Center on Disability Studies Director

Welcome to the CDS Newsletter, your hub for recent center activities, upcoming events and learning more about the people and projects of CDS. And be sure to keep an eye out for relevant professional development opportunities listed here, including a CDS Funding Masterclass. And if you have any things you would like to have included in the next issue, complete the submission request form at go.hawaii.edu/JBJ.

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#CelebrateDifferences National Autism Month

Dr. Kelle Murphy
Project Focus
1. Swim Safe: ASD Program
2. Stay Safe: ASD Program

#PacRim2021
LIVE Recordings

RDS Journal
Volume 17, Issue 1
Announcement

Funding Masterclass
Developing a Funding Mindset: Becoming a Rainmaker

Summer 2021 Courses
Disability and Diversity Studies

Disability Calendar
April 2021
Swim Safe: ASD Program and Stay Safe: ASD Program

Goals and Current Projects: Challenges to the ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder) community in Hawai`i include availability of resources and programs to specifically address needs. My projects are created based on statistics and data. My research pertains to autism and swimming and risk management. My goal is to address current needs of the autism community as issues arise.

Projects include: Swim Safe: Aquatic Skills Development Program

According to the National Autism Association (NAA, 2017), “drowning is the leading cause of death among individuals with ASD” (para 1, p. 1). With the support of the Hawai`i Autism Foundation (HAF), I have been running my Swim Safe: ASD swim programs since 2017. They are typically offered at two locations: Kroc Center Kapolei and UH Mānoa Duke Kahanamoku aquatic complex. Sessions are 8 weeks in Fall and Spring and lessons are 30-min.

Stay Safe: ASD Program

48% of individuals with ASD elope (wander).

In collaboration with the Hawaii Autism Foundation (HAF), Kelle created the Stay Safe: ASD program and has submitted a grant to buy watches with GPS system in them that programs to android and iPhones. The watch functions solely as a safety device and is used to help caregivers and parents/guardians.

Prevalence of ASD in the US: Prevalence of ASD in the United States (US) has increased from 1 to 2 in every 10,000 in the 1970s to 1 in 59 children in 2019. This is also a 15% increase since the CDC last released a report in 2016 (Autism Speaks, 2019). This number includes “1 in 42 boys and 1 in 189 girls” (Autism Speaks, 2017, para 4, p.1). Autism Spectrum Disorder is four times more common in boys (CDC, 2019). According to the CDC, prevalence of ASD is increasing at a rate of 10 – 17% each year (CDC, 2017).

Prevalence of ASD in Hawai`i: In the State of Hawai`i, the number of children with ASD between the ages of 3-12 receiving special education services in the Hawai`i Department of Education (DOE) schools rose from 2% in 2000 to 8% in 2015. There are approximately 2,380 school aged kids with ASD on Oahu and about 4,568 residents in the State of Hawai`i who are likely to be diagnosed with ASD.

Hawai`i Autism Foundation: Many of Kelle’s projects are done with the support of and in collaboration with the Hawai`i Autism Foundation (HAF). HAF offers a calendar of monthly events for the autism community on O`ahu. www.hawaiiautismfoundation.org

Contact: Kelle Murphy, KelleM@hawaii.edu, or HAF (other autism programs) at www.hawaiiautismfoundation.org/contact.
The 36th Annual Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability and Diversity was an overwhelming success.

This year's first virtual conference brought together people from over 15 countries and more than half of the states in the USA. Judy Brewer and Haben Girma's keynote speeches and the fact that all events were captioned and included ASL interpreters were among the many highlights of Pac Rim 2021's dozens of live events and activities that considered innovative ways to improve the lives of people with disabilities.

Conference coordinators Lauren Lum Ho and Naomi Rombaoa Tanaka and team are editing and captioning recordings of live conference sessions.

They plan to begin releasing videos in early April. Check community.pacrim.coe.hawaii.edu for details. (Previously recorded video sessions and poster sessions are both available now.)

A Big Mahalo to all who participated in making Pac Rim 2021 such a valuable event!

REVIEW OF DISABILITY STUDIES NEW ISSUE

The latest issue, Volume 17 Issue 1, is available at http://rdsjournal.org
CDS Funding Masterclass podcast series now available.

Funding Masterclass:

Session 1: Developing a Funding Mindset: Becoming a Rainmaker - Robert Stodden

The first of a series of CDS leadership training sessions on developing critical funding perspectives and skill sets is now available.

These podcasts on effectively funding your scholarly activities will be posted in each newsletter. This initial session with Robert Stodden, Founding Director Emeritus of the Center on Disability Studies at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa attempts to quantify what a 'funding mindset' looks like and how to nurture it individually and as an institutional culture. It begins a larger discussion about thinking about multiple funding vehicles to support one's professional development and the ongoing growth of the Center.

Listen to audio recording at http://go.hawaii.edu/JEb
Length: 48 minutes

OUTREACH

Disability and Diversity Studies:

Summer 2021 Courses

- DIS380 Foundations Disability/Diverse | 5/24 - 7/2
- DIS382 Accessible Learning Technology | 5/24 - 7/2
- DIS682 Special Topics in Disability: Audio Description | 5/24 - 7/2
- DIS687 Seminar on Disability Issues: Representations of Disability in Film | 7/6 - 8/13

For more information contact Dr. Thomas Conway, tconway@hawaii.edu

Image Description: Aerial photo of a person on a laptop with the text Disability.
April 7 - May 26, 10-11am WEDNESDAYS | ASL for Beginners 1A
Classes will cover ABC flash cards (handshapes), finger-spelling, names and family signs, daily food signs, conversation tips, and more. $75 registration at tinyurl.com/CSCASLforYou

April 8, 9-11am | Hearing Loss Sensitivity Training for Healthcare Professionals
Become culturally sensitive when it comes to working with people who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Late Deafend. Hawaii resident registration at http://bit.ly/023CDS

April 14, 11:30am | Let's Chat About CapTel
Learn about captioned telephones for those who are hard of hearing, presented by Susan Junga. Join presentation at coehawaii.zoom.us/j/93237538805

April 14 - May 26, 3:30-4:00pm WEDNESDAYS | ASL Shorts for Children
Classes designed for elementary aged children to learn basic sign vocabulary. $25 registration at tinyurl.com/CSCASLforYou

April 17, 9am | Deaf Self-Advocacy Training: Advocating for Yourself and Others
Identify the difference between advocacy and self-advocacy to develop applicable skills for communication access advocacy. Join 2-hour workshop at coehawaii.zoom.us/j/97239221228

April 24, 10am | Guy Time ASL
Four Saturdays, for those with a deaf child in their family. Register at www.csc-hawaii.org/events

Wednesday's at 3pm | Let's Talk
For families with children that are deaf & hard of hearing. Time for parents to connect with a safe network! Register at http://bit.ly/022CDS

Questions? Contact Roz at roz@csc-hawaii.org or call (808) 284-3551


19th-22nd Disability Policy Seminar: Following three days of training and learning, attendees will have virtual meetings with their Members of Congress. Visit [http://bit.ly/008CDS](http://bit.ly/008CDS)

20th 2pm ET Conducting Quality Participatory Autism Research: How autism researchers can respect and include the autistic community in their work from participants to co-researchers. Visit [http://bit.ly/009CDS](http://bit.ly/009CDS)


