

Please share this with everyone who might be interested!

Penn-Del AER Spring Vision Conference 2012  
April 18 – 20, Grantville, PA

Dear Colleague,

We are pleased to announce the 2012 Penn-Del AER Spring Vision Conference, **“Sharing the Vision – Shaping the Future.”**

This nationally respected annual conference will offer an outstanding range of relevant and engaging opportunities to enhance skills, to network, and to share ideas and insights with colleagues. In response to past conference evaluations, the conference planning committee has created a well-balanced agenda that addresses suggested needs and requested topics that will further the continuing education of vision professionals and parents.



Professional hours will be offered for Pennsylvania Department of Education Act 48. Interested persons will be offered Certificates of Attendance for Certified Rehabilitation Counselor Credits (CRC) and for Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation & Education Professionals (ACVREP).

In addition to 35 concurrent sessions and 8 poster presentations by presenters from across the country, the Penn-Del Conference offers three impressive general sessions by nationally known speakers. These are:

- Keynote Address, Wednesday, April 18 – Dr. Judith Dixon
- Midnote Address, Thursday, April 19 – Gale Watson
- Footnote Address, Friday, April 20 – Lou Tutt

Conference presentations were selected from a robust response to the Call for Presentations and offer a wide variety of topics. A number of sessions will focus on transition and access technology. We also hope to preview Penn-Del AER's newly designed website, which is currently under construction.

*Special Screening Party:* On Wednesday evening, Penn-Del AER will host an exciting prerelease screening party and multiple viewings of the new independent film “Beyond these Walls.” This Villanova University film focuses on the impact of vision loss and blindness on the lives of three students and their families. You will not want to miss this red-carpet event!

*End-of-the-Day Café:* After the Thursday evening banquet, the Congressional room will offer coffee, tea, fine liqueurs, and tasty biscotti. This event, which was quite successful last year, will offer an opportunity to unwind, connect, and reconnect with friends and colleagues in an atmosphere of wonderful music, fun games, and tasty treats.

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The 2012 Penn-Del AER Spring Vision Conference will be a wonderful opportunity to hear and to share stories that enable you to continue your professional growth. We believe that the presentations at this conference will inspire a renewed commitment for each participant to share the vision and shape the future by making a difference in the lives of children and adults with visual impairment.

We look forward to seeing you in April!

The 2012 Penn-Del AER Conference Planning Committee,

Vince McVeigh, Chair  
Gayle Aquino  
Heather Dougherty  
Jennifer Edgar  
Brenda Egan  
Sandy Finkel

Brenda Loughrey  
Helene Marano  
Jean May  
Mary Nelle McLennan  
Dr. Lynn Murphy  
Christie Peel  
Holly Russell

Mark Steciw  
Larry Steninger  
Stan Swaintek  
Mary Tolbert  
Jean Anne Vogelmann  
Dr. George Zimmerman

## Conference Dates and Location

Wednesday, April 18 – Friday, April 20, 2012  
Holiday Inn Harrisburg/Hershey  
604 Station Road  
Grantville, PA 17028  
(717) 469-0661



<http://www.holidayinn.com/hotels/us/en/grantville/grvpa/hoteldetail>

Please make your hotel reservations as early as possible. Mention that you are attending the Penn-Del AER Spring Vision Conference to receive a reduced rate.

Check website for updated schedule: [www.penn-delaer.org](http://www.penn-delaer.org)

Conference begins: Wednesday, April 18, 2012, at 1:00 PM

Conference concludes: Friday, April 20, 2012

***We hope to see you there!***

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## Penn-Del AER 2012 Conference Highlights:

*Visit the wide array of vendor exhibits available on Thursday, April 19!*

### General Sessions:

Keynote Address: **Dr. Judith M. Dixon** – Consumer Relations Officer and Acting Braille Development Officer at the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

Mid-Note Address: **Gale Watson** – National Director, Blind Rehabilitation Services, Department of Veterans Affairs

Footnote Address: **Louis M. Tutt** – Executive Director, AER International

### ***Special Opportunity: THE FIXER Is Back!***

Sister Elaine will again offer her “Quick Fix Perkins Braillewriter Repair”  
Thursday, April 19 – Bring one broken braillewriter!

### Concurrent Sessions:

Kathy Buskirk and Shelley Rhodes –	Great New Devices and Techniques for Rehabilitation Teaching
Carlton Anne Cook Walker –	ZoomText—A Comprehensive Course of Study
Lisa Derleth and Becky Barnes –	Successful Dog Guide Teams—A Low Vision Perspective
Judy Dixon, Frances Mary D’Andrea, Mary Nelle McLennan –	The Evolution of Braille: Can the Past Help Plan the Future?
Bonnie Dodson-Burk, Jay Furlong, Patti Voorhees –	Travel Instruction: Understanding the Profession and Working Together
Jennifer Edgar –	Colors and Marking and Lines, Oh My! How Travelers with Low Vision Can Use Pavement Marking to Aid in Intersection Analysis and Systematic Scanning.
Lukas Franck and Pat McKenna –	Take a Look under the Hood: The Creation of Dog Guide Teams
John Hofmeister –	Adaptive Sports for the Blind and Visually Impaired
John Hofmeister –	Veterans Health Administration: Blind Rehabilitation Continuum of Care Model for Blind and Visually Impaired Veterans
Debby Holzapfel –	PaTTAN Update with Focus on Essential Assessments
Debby Holzapfel and Anne Strollo –	The Summer Academy for Students Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired: Enhancing Independence Skills for Students Transitioning to Post-Secondary Education

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Judy Hurst –	101 Ways to Make Braille Fun – Primarily for Those Who Use It as a Secondary Mode
Frank Irzyk and Joshua Irzyk –	Extreme Make-Overs: See What My Access Program Does Now!
Nicole Johnson and Megan Marnien –	Evidence-Based Practices and Strategies for Working with Students with Deafblindness and/or Multiple Disabilities
Joe Leach –	Using an Evil Force for Good: How Video Games Can Increase Physical Activity
Jule Ann Lieberman –	"Appy" Reading on Your iDevice
Helene Marano and Dael Cohen –	High School to Adulthood in 1 Easy (?) Step: The Transition Process and Independent Living at Overbrook School for the Blind
Dr. Marla Moon	Traumatic Brain Injury; Vision Therapy
Fabiana Perla and Brooke Smith –	Empowering Teachers, Empowering Families: Tools and Techniques for Enhancing Teacher - Family Relationships
Craig Phillips –	Getting from Here to There and Knowing Where: Teaching Global Positioning Systems to Students with Visual Impairments
Shelley Rhodes and Kathy Buskirk –	Joining the Digital Future: Exploring Digital Recorders for Everyday Use
Christine Snellman and Romy Norris –	Tools for Enhancing the Membership, Participation, and Learning in the General Education Classroom for Students with Multiple Disabilities Including Deafblindness
Mary Kaye Soriano –	CVI in Action
Stephanie Van –	Interactive Session for VRTs
Stephanie Van –	VRT Assessments, the Prequel: Effective Referral Information
Susan Vaughan and Jack Reuben –	Math for the Braille User
Jean Ann Vogelman and Jude Vogelman –	Shaping the Future: The ECC Through The Years

**The 2012 Penn-Del AER Conference will also include:**

**Roundtable Sessions.....Vendor Exhibit Hall...**

**The Penn-Del Awards Banquet...Annual Silent Auction...**

**The End-of-the-Day Café...**

**Screening Party for the new independent film “*Beyond These Walls*”**

***Don't miss this terrific opportunity to Share the Vision – Shape the Future!***

***April 18 – 20, 2012 – Grantville, PA***