



## Pennsylvania - Delaware Chapter

Association for the Education and  
Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually  
Impaired

[www.penn-delaer.org](http://www.penn-delaer.org)

### 2017 Penn-Del AER Conference

***Building Bridges — Creating Connections***

April 26 – 28, 2017, Harrisburg, PA

**38 Concurrent Sessions on Timely and Practical Topics  
An Array of Poster Presentations and an Expanded Vendor Exhibit  
Three General Session Addresses by Widely Respected Professionals**

*Keynote Address: Wednesday, April 26*

***Denna Lambert, Program Manager, Goddard Information and Collaboration Center  
NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC), Greenbelt, MD***

Denna Lambert leads NASA's center to facilitate collaboration between the country's largest collection of earth and space research scientists. Using her talent, skills, and insights that led her to this role, she will share collaborative ideas and strategies through which we can build bridges and create connections to expand opportunities for us as professionals and strengthen the systems through which we serve students and adults who are blind or visually impaired.

*Midnote Address: Thursday, April 27*

***Kirk Adams, President and CEO, American Foundation for the Blind***

Kirk Adams was named the President and CEO of the American Foundation for the Blind (AFB) in 2016. Kirk recently wrote: 'Our community is a bright and vibrant one—by working together in a collaborative and strategic way, we can identify and address critical issues in the area of blindness and low vision and advance the research and knowledge base of service providers. We can connect individuals with services and information and to others who share their challenges and triumphs.' Kirk will bring his optimism and as well as his experience and practicality to our Penn-Del AER Conference in the Midnote Address.

*Footnote Address, Friday, April 28*

***Nancy Lacewell, APH, and Representatives from the National Prison Braille Network***

The National Prison Braille Network (NPBN) is a growing group of professionals working in the fields of vision and corrections who have formed partnerships to produce braille materials in prisons across the U.S. Since 2001, this network has built bridges that connect talented human resources with vision professionals who focus on providing accessible educational materials for braille readers in grades K – 12.

***Penn-Del AER Awards Banquet, Thursday Evening, April 27***

The Penn-Del AER Awards Banquet on Thursday evening will honor the recipients of the Penn-Del AER Richard L. Welsh Service Award and the Elinor Long Educator of the Year Award (ELEY). This is an opportunity for us to recognize the contributions of these outstanding professionals and for us to celebrate the work we do and the differences we can make.

***NEW THIS YEAR! Show, Tell, Share, and Collaborate:  
Bridging TVI and VRT Team Connections to Teach the ECC***

This new roundtable concept will allow participants to share their innovative instructional ideas, materials, and exciting teaching discoveries AND collaborate with other experts to find solutions to their most difficult ECC related teaching challenges. The ECC areas primarily highlighted in the session are Independent Living, Recreation and Leisure, Social Interactions, Career Education, and Self-Determination. Bring your strategies! Everyone is welcome!

Additional information on this one-of-a-kind session to be posted on the Penn-Del AER website soon. Watch for e-blast regarding this session.

## **2017 Penn-Del AER Conference Logistics**

The Pennsylvania-Delaware Chapter of AER invites you to participate in our annual conference as we focus on “**Building Bridges — Creating Connections.**” In addition to 38 concurrent sessions by experienced professionals, nationally respected leaders will present sessions that provide inspiration and insights into ways that we can build bridges and create connections for us as professionals and for the individuals we serve!

The 2017 Penn-Del AER Conference will open on Wednesday, April 26, at 1:00 PM and will conclude on Friday, April 28, at 12:45 PM. The conference location is:

Best Western Premier Central Hotel and Conference Center

800 East Park Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17111

I-83 at Union Deposit Road (Exit 48)

Phone 717-735-9397

[www.theCentralHotelHarrisburg.com](http://www.theCentralHotelHarrisburg.com)

The conference room rate is \$128.70 (includes taxes and fees). Our conference rates are guaranteed until March 25, 2017, so reserve your room early! If booking by phone, indicate that you will be attending the Penn-Del AER Conference. If booking online, enter the code 036103 into the Group Code box and select “Check Rates” to see rooms available at our rate.

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

Check the Penn-Del AER website for registration materials and updates in the schedule.

[www.penn-delaer.org](http://www.penn-delaer.org)

[www.facebook.com/PennDelAER](https://www.facebook.com/PennDelAER)

[twitter.com/PennDelAER](https://twitter.com/PennDelAER)

**We hope to see you this April in Harrisburg!**

## 2017 Penn-Del AER Conference Highlights

April 26 – 28, 2017, Harrisburg, PA

Again, as in the past, this nationally respected annual conference offers a notable line-up of professionals who will present general, concurrent, and poster sessions that address our 2017 conference theme: *Building Bridges — Creating Connections*.

<b>2017 PENN-DEL AER CONFERENCE GENERAL SESSIONS</b>
<p><b>Keynote Address, Wednesday, April 26:</b></p> <p><b><i>Denna Lambert, Program Manager, Goddard Information and Collaboration Center NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC), Greenbelt, MD</i></b></p>
<p><b>Midnote Address, Thursday, April 27:</b></p> <p><b><i>Kirk Adams, President and CEO of the American Foundation for the Blind New York City, NY</i></b></p>
<p><b>Footnote Address, Friday, April 28:</b></p> <p><b><i>Nancy Lacewell, APH, and Representatives from the National Prison Braille Network</i></b></p>
<p><b>Penn-Del AER Awards Banquet, Thursday Evening, April 27</b></p> <p>The Penn-Del AER Awards Banquet on Thursday evening will honor the recipients of the Penn-Del AER Richard L. Welsh Service Award and the Elinor Long Educator of the Year (ELEY) Award.</p> <p>This dinner event provides an opportunity for our AER Chapter to publicly recognize the contributions of outstanding professionals and for us to celebrate the work we do and the differences we can make.</p>

<b>2017 PENN DEL AER CONFERENCE CONCURRENT SESSIONS</b>	
Team River Runner	Bill Buttler Jennifer Eaton
Building Bridges for Students with Visual Impairment and Multiple Disabilities Using the APH Tactile Connections Kit	Megan Chapman Carol Boudwin
Troubling Transitions: Helping Teens Bridge the Gap between Instruction and Application	Andrea Dasch Eva Worsley
Is That a Service Dog? A Modern Day Challenge Facing Service Dog Teams	Becky Davidson Kathy Rooney
Stand Up for AT — A Make and Take	Scott Dougherty Douglas Williams
MATS (Make and Take Sensory Programs)	Jennifer Eaton Erika Rothermel Jessica Fluck
Building Bridges to Ensure Continuity of Services for Students	Jennifer Edgar
Transition: The Bridge Connecting Today’s Youth to Their Futures	Shelly Faust-Jones Lynn Fox
Understanding and Developing the IEP Transition Grid to Reach Secondary Transition Outcomes	Lynn Fox
Individualizing Braille Literacy Instruction for Print Readers with Visual Impairments	Missy Garber

Supporting Braille Instruction through Play: Concept Development to UEB	Stephanie Herlich Helene Holman
A COMS's Contributing Hand to Low Vision Driving!	Chuck Huss
Staying Abreast of Bioptic Driving News in the USA & Canada	Chuck Huss
T.V. Graduates a Screenwriter	Frank Irzyk Tobias Vogelstein
Strategies to Work with Students Who Have Multiple Disabilities and Visual Impairments	Nicole Johnson Kathleen Stanfa
Using Eye-Gaze Technology to Maximize Functional Vision: Assessing, Playing, Communicating	Kelly Lauer Melissa Brown
A New Paradigm in Notetakers: The Newly Leveled Playing Field	Andy Leach
Creating Simple Tactile Maps Using the 3D Pen	Nick Leon
Information and Collaboration through Cloud Computing: Cyber Space or Outer Space to You	Jule Ann Lieberman
Nighttime Glare: A Case Study	Kerry Lueders Grace Fontanez Eric Reuter Christian D'Angelis Lindsay Johnson
Bobby's Journey: A Team Approach to Working with a Student with Complex Needs	Barbara Maurer Lauren Seaman Lori Amin
Not Your Grandpa's Rehab. Center: The Iris Network Blindness Rehabilitation and Vocational Training Center's More Focused Approach on Employment Readiness.	John Mc Mahon Karen Shane Cote
Reinforcing and Assessing Braille Instruction with the iBraille Challenge App: Results of a 16-week Interventional Study.	Tessa McCarthy Frances Mary D'Andrea
Building Bridges between State Standards and Daily Teaching Methods for Children with Multiple Disabilities - A Team Approach	Dena Petrella Diane Evrard Catherine Alfery Mark Kislak
Crossing at Modern Signals -- What You Need to Know!	Dona Sauerburger
Emma, A Case Study: What Happens When Visual Impairment Coincides with a Systemic Condition?	Karen Shane Cote
I Have a Vision Loss, but That's Not All!	Karen Shane Cote
What Do the Numbers Say? Easy Connections to Demographic Data in Pennsylvania	Rebecca Sheffield Mark Richert
VRT & OT Practice: Bridging the Gap in Adapted ADL Service Delivery	Lachelle Smith Dawn Ciccarone
Building Partnerships with Bureau of Blindness and Visual Services	Joe Strechay
Touching the Future: Connecting Assistive and Mainstream Technology for STEM Subjects in the Classroom.	Mike Tindell Kate Morrow
Getting to Know You: A Social Skills and Ability Awareness Curriculum	Monica Turner
The Bridge to the 21st Century Is a Look at the Past; VRT Skills in a New Era of Funding Limits	Stephanie Van
Roadmap to the Seeing Eye	Jody Vargas
College, Career and Community Ready: AT for Students with Visual Impairment	Douglas Williams Justin Laffey

## 2017 PENN-DEL CONFERENCE ROUNDTABLE SESSIONS

3 Roundtable Sessions Addressing Issues and Strategies Related to:

### Orientation and Mobility

### The Implementation of UEB

### *NEW THIS YEAR Show, Tell, Share, and Collaborate: Bridging TVI and VRT Team Connections to Teach the ECC*

This new roundtable concept will allow participants to share their innovative instructional ideas, materials, and exciting teaching discoveries AND collaborate with other experts to find solutions to their most difficult ECC related teaching challenges.

Additional information on this one-of-a-kind session to be posted on the Penn-Del AER website soon. Watch for e-blast regarding this session.

## 2017 PENN-DEL AER CONFERENCE POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Benefits of Music Therapy for Individuals with Visual Impairments	Julia Arentz
Bridging the Gap from School to Beyond	Bob Ashbridge Susan Vaughan
Expanded Knowledge on Experience Books for Students Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired	Jamie Austin Sydney Frankel
Nighttime Glare: A Case Study	Kerry Lueders Grace Fontanez Eric Reuter Christian D'Angelis Lindsay Johnson
Expanded Knowledge on Self-Defense Skills for Students Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired	Lauren Maloney Pamela Moscato
Bringing Families out of the Dark	Kris Ohlinger Kory Krecker
Crossing at Modern Signals -- Self-Study Guide	Dona Sauerburger
The National Agenda on Aging and Vision Loss: Building the Bridges and Connecting Advocates to Support Seniors	Rebecca Sheffield Mark Richert
Intriguing Apps for Children with Multiple Disabilities	Christian Whitehead

### 2017 Penn-Del AER Conference: April 26 – 28

**3 Exciting General Sessions...38 Concurrent Sessions...9 Poster Presentations**

**Vendor Exhibit Hall The Penn-Del AER Awards Banquet Annual Silent Auction**

**Harrisburg, PA — Best Western Premier Central Hotel and Conference Center**

Please share this with everyone who might be interested!