

THE SECOND NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR STUDENT DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONALS
WORKING WITH DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING STUDENTS

STUDENT LIFE IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM

Featuring

**The First National Institute for
Athletic Directors and Coaches**

June 20 - 23, 2000

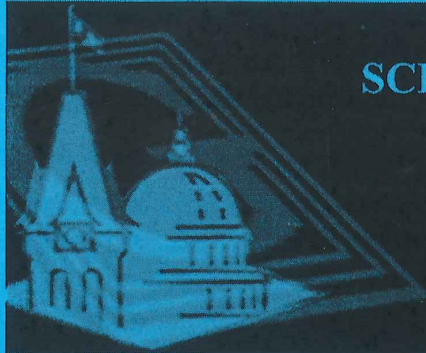
Gallaudet University ♦ Washington, D.C.

PROGRAM

Sponsored by

GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY

Department of Athletics
College for Continuing Education
Office of Campus Life/Student Affairs
School of Education and Human Services
Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center



GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION & HUMAN SERVICES

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DR. WILLIAM P. McCRONE, DEAN

SEHS GRADUATE PROGRAMS

GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY is the only fully accredited liberal arts university for deaf and hard of hearing people in the world! Our SCHOOL of EDUCATION & HUMAN SERVICES (SEHS) is currently recruiting deaf, hard of hearing, hearing, and minority graduate students for the outstanding programs listed below.

In addition to the program approvals noted, ALL Gallaudet SEHS programs are accredited by the National Council on Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Gallaudet University is also accredited by the Middle States Association (MSA). Substantial student financial aid is available for many SEHS graduate programs. For an application, catalog, and a faculty callback please contact the Chair of the program for which you wish to apply.

ADMINISTRATION & SUPERVISION

Dr. William J. Marshall, Chair - (202) 651-5525

- *M.S. in Administration
- *Ed.S. in Instructional Supervision
- *Ph.D. in Special Education Administration
(First NCATE Approved Ph.D. Program
in Special Education Administration in
Washington, D.C. Consortium)

DEPT. OF COUNSELING

Dr. Roger Beach, Chair - (202) 651-5515

- *M.A. in Community Counseling
- *M.A. in School Counseling and Guidance
(CACREP Accredited, State/NASDTEC
Approved)
- *M.A. in School Counseling and Guidance
(Summers Only Option) (CACREP
Accredited, State/NASDTEC Approved)
- *M.A. in Mental Health Counseling
(CACREP Accredited)

DEPT. OF EDUCATION

Dr. Richard R. Lytle, Chair - (202) 651-5530

- *M.A. in Deaf Education; Specialization
in family-centered early education,
elementary, secondary and multiple
disabilities (State/NASDTEC, CED,
and CEC Approved)
- *M.A. in Deaf Education; Advanced
Studies (CEC Approved)
- *M.A. in Deaf Education; Special
Programs (for Individuals not seeking
teacher certification) (CEC Approved)
- *Ph.D. in Deaf Education; (CEC Approved)

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATIONS & RESEARCH

Dr. Thomas Kluwin, Chair - (202) 651-5545

- *15 Credit Certificate in Integrating
Technology in the Classroom

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & RECREATION

Dr. Ron Dreher, Chair - (202) 651-5591

- *M.S. in Leisure Services Administration

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VISIT US ON THE WEB AT WWW.GALLAUDET.EDU/~SEHSWEB

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

◆◆◆◆◆ TUESDAY, June 20 ◆◆◆◆◆

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Hotel & Dorm Check-in	Conference Registration Desk
3:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Registration	Bistro
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm	Reception (included)	Swindells Auditorium
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Opening Keynote "CHALLENGES FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM: ENCOURAGING DIVERSITY" <i>Stephen F. Weiner</i> , Gallaudet University	Atrium
8:30 pm - 9:30 pm	Coffee and Dessert (included)	

◆◆◆◆◆ WEDNESDAY, June 21 ◆◆◆◆◆

7:00 am - 8:30 am	Hot Breakfast (included)	Ballroom C
7:30 am - 3:30 pm	Registration	Conference Registration Desk
8:30 am - 9:45 am	Keynote Presentation "IS THE PAST PROLOGUE?... WHICH WAY IS THE PENDULUM MOVING FOR CENTER SCHOOLS FOR DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING STUDENTS?" <i>James E. Tucker</i> , Maryland School for the Deaf	Swindells Auditorium
9:45 am - 10:00 am	Break	
10:00 am - 11:30 am	Student Life Workshops	Swindells Auditorium
	A) "LEADING STUDENTS TO REACH SUCCESS" <i>Hostin & David</i> , Louisiana School for the Deaf	
	B) "RESIDENTIAL SERVICES: A NEW MODEL..." <i>Lynnann Barbero</i> , New Mexico School for the Deaf	Meeting Room #5 (2nd FL)
	C) "LEAP: LEARNING EXPERIENCES ACCUMULATION PROGRAM" <i>Acton & Helms</i> , Model Secondary School for the Deaf	Tiered Classroom (2nd FL)
10:00 am - 11:30 am	Coaches Clinic	Field House
11:30 am - 1:00 pm	Lunch (included)	Ballroom C
1:00 pm - 2:30 pm	Student Life Session "RESULTS FROM STUDENT/RESIDENTIAL LIFE SURVEYS" <i>Roger Claussen</i> , Wisconsin School for the Deaf <i>Madan Vasishita</i> , New Mexico School for the Deaf	Swindells Auditorium

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

◆◆◆◆◆ WEDNESDAY, June 21 ◆◆◆◆◆

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Athletics Session Tiered Classroom (2nd FL)
 "ELEMENTS OF EFFECTIVE ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATION"
James DeStefano, Gallaudet University

2:30 pm - 2:45 pm Break

2:45 pm - 3:30 pm Student Life Session Swindells Auditorium
 "CHARACTERISTICS OF SUCCESSFUL COLLEGE STUDENTS
 IN AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOM"
Andersen & Benedict, Gallaudet University

2:45 pm - 4:00 pm Athletics Session Meeting Room #5 (2nd FL)
 "ATHLETICS & THE MEDIA: A PANEL DISCUSSION"
 Moderator: *Weinstock* Panelists: *Strassler, Innes, Frahm*

3:30 pm - 3:45 pm Break

3:45 pm - 5:00 pm Student Life Discussion Forums To Be Posted

4:10 pm - 5:15 pm Athletics Session Weight Room/Field House
 "STRENGTH & CONDITIONING PROGRAMS"
Rich Pelletier, Gallaudet University

Evening Free Time (*dinner on your own*)
 Note: *The outing to Baltimore Inner Harbor has been cancelled.*

◆◆◆◆◆ THURSDAY, June 22 ◆◆◆◆◆

7:00 am - 8:30 am Hot Breakfast (included) Ballroom B-C

7:30 am - 3:30 pm Registration Conference Registration Desk

8:30 am - 10:00 am Plenary Workshop Part I Swindells Auditorium
 "ASSURING STUDENT CARE IN SCHOOL, STUDENT LIFE & ATHLETICS THROUGH
 PROFESSIONAL ETHICS, POLICY GUIDANCE, AND RISK MANAGEMENT"
William P. McCrone, Gallaudet University

10:00 am - 10:30 am Break

10:30 am - 12:00 pm Plenary Workshop Part II Swindells Auditorium

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Lunch (included) Dining/Ballroom

1:30 pm - 3:00 pm Plenary Session Swindells Auditorium
 "WHO'S BEEN SLEEPING IN MY DORM AND
 WHY DON'T THEY LOOK LIKE ME?"
Shirley J. Allen, National Technical Institute for the Deaf

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

◆◆◆◆◆ THURSDAY, June 22 ◆◆◆◆◆

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm Athletics Session Tiered Classroom (2nd FL)
 "TITLE IX: PROMOTING GENDER EQUITY IN ATHLETIC PROGRAMS"
Peg Worthington, *Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center*

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm Student Life Workshops Swindells Auditorium
 A) "YOUR ROLE IN SCHOOL-TO-WORK PROGRAMS"
Allen Talbert, *Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center*
 B) "ONE FAMILY... MANY FACES: PEER MEDIATION..."
David Hicks, *Ernest C. Drury School for the Deaf*

6:30 pm - 10:00 pm Banquet (included) Ballroom A-C
 "JOINT [AD]VENTURES: PATHWAYS FOR TOMORROW"
Joseph J. Innes, *USA Deaf Sports Federation (USADSF)*

◆◆◆◆◆ FRIDAY, June 23 ◆◆◆◆◆

7:00 am - 8:30 am Hot Breakfast (included) Ballroom C

8:30 am - 9:30 am Student Life Session Swindells Auditorium
 "DEVELOPING AN EFFECTIVE TRAINING MANUAL"
Mike Finneran, *Austine School for the Deaf*

Athletics Session Meeting Room #5 (2nd FL)
 "FUNDRAISING FOR ATHLETIC PROGRAMS"
Sam Sommerstrahl, *USADSF*

9:30 am - 9:45 am Break

9:45 am - 10:45 am Discussion Forums To Be Posted

10:45 am - 11:00 am Break

11:00 am - 11:50 am Closing Keynote Swindells Auditorium
 "DEFUSING THE DEAF SYNDROME"
Fern Sklar Reisinger, *Western Pennsylvania School f/t Deaf*

11:50 am - 12:00 pm Conference Co-chairs Wrap-Up Swindells Auditorium
Benedict & Frelich, *Gallaudet University*

PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

Challenges for the New Millennium: Encouraging Diversity
Stephen F. Weiner, Ed.D., Gallaudet University

Today's student population presents a rich and wonderful mosaic of cultural, educational and social backgrounds. Therein lies the challenge of the profession today -- to ensure that development of students' identities and interests are encouraged and supported by their schools. Students who develop in an environment that nurtures and recognizes their uniqueness are more likely to develop a positive self-concept and become well-adjusted adults. This is and will continue to be the challenge for us -- as educators and student development professionals -- in the new millennium.

THURSDAY, JUNE 22

Is The Past Prologue?... Which Way is the Pendulum Moving for Center Schools for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students?

James E. Tucker, M.A., Maryland School for the Deaf

The speaker will discuss current and future issues and trends impacting center schools for Deaf and hard of hearing children and youth and its residential/student life programs. External forces (school budgets, federal and state special education regulations, residential program license requirements, personnel laws, societal attitudes, etc.) that influence center schools will be explored. Internal issues such as administrative support, staff training, staff recruitment and retention will also be discussed.

Leading Students to REACH Success

Terry Hostin, M.A., and Kenneth David, Louisiana School for the Deaf

This session will focus on two programs used by the Louisiana School for the Deaf in communicating expectations for students' behavior in dormitory living. An independent living skills program (Leading, Experiencing, Achieving & Doing) will be introduced which helps students control their environment. Additionally, a dorm level system (Rewarding, Educating And Challenging High School Students) will be shared that: 1) rewards students for positive behavior; 2) educates students on ways to take responsibility for their own behavior; and, 3) challenges high school students to earn dignity and respect while enhancing their self-esteem.

PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS

THURSDAY, JUNE 22

Residential Services: A New Model for the New Millennium at the New Mexico School for the Deaf

Lynnann Barbero, M.A., New Mexico School for the Deaf

In this presentation, the presenter will describe the new model for the provision of residential services at the New Mexico School for the Deaf. This will include information on the rationale for the changes, including examining the consequences of institutional living on children's emotional, behavioral, and social development. A review of serious physical, sexual, and emotional abuses that have occurred in residential schools for the Deaf, including the New Mexico School for the Deaf, will also be presented as substantiating evidence for the call to radically alter the current system and structures of residential services. The specifics of the change process and the current model will be described in detail along with documentation of the effect of these changes on the lives of children and their families.

LEAP: Learning Experiences Accumulation Program

Bo Actor, M.S., and Laura Lynn Helms, M.A., Model Secondary School for the Deaf

This session will share information about the Learning Experiences Accumulation Program (LEAP) at MSSD. Designed to foster growth in residential students in the area of transition skills, literacy, apartment training, real life applications, and job/college search, the LEAP program's primary goal is to create a 24-hour educational setting. Participants will explore how a residential setting can provide a perfect opportunity to create a constant learning environment where students will be attending school during the day and still be taught during the evenings.

Results from Student/Residential Life Surveys

*Roger Clausen, M.A., Wisconsin School for the Deaf
Madan Vasishita, Ph.D., New Mexico School for the Deaf*

This joint presentation will describe, compare, and discuss data from 2 separate research projects from several participating schools. Roger Clausen will cover data from all five categories including students, discipline, after school activities, uniform use, and dormitory staff. The need to continue a biannual survey and to maintain contact among the participating schools will also be discussed. Madan Vasishita's presentation will describe the certification system initiated by the CEASD and its importance for improving quality of residential staff. Ideas for future improvement will also be discussed.

PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS

THURSDAY, JUNE 22

Elements of Effective Athletic Administration

James DeStefano, M.A., Gallaudet University

This workshop will share guidelines for effective departmental organization and management for athletic directors and coaches. The instructor will also cover how to effectively schedule and run athletic practices.

Characteristics of Successful College Students

Catherine Andersen, Ph.D. and Dwight Benedict, M.A., Gallaudet University

This session will explore nationwide trends in college student behavior. The amount of time students study, their commitment to community service, interactions with faculty, staff as well as students of different racial/ethnic groups, uses and misuses of drugs and alcohol and goals will be discussed. These issues will be viewed from an academic and student life perspective and how behaviors and values impact success in college. Suggestions on how to prepare younger students to meet these challenges will be shared.

Deaf Sports and the Media: A Panel Discussion

Moderator: Mike Weinstock, M.A., Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center

A panel of experienced sports-media professionals will discuss how educational programs serving Deaf students can improve information-sharing and record-keeping for athletic programs. Also covered will be public relations with media and technology support and how these can be best used to enhance record-keeping and publicity to various populations, including students, families, teachers, staff, alumni, and the general public.

Strength and Conditioning Programs for Athletes

Richard Pelletier, M.A., Gallaudet University

In-season and off-season programs for athletes will be covered in this workshop. This will include all facets of strength and conditioning, including speed work. A demonstration will be given.

PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS

THURSDAY, JUNE 22

Assuring Student Care in School, Student Life & Athletics through Professional Ethics, Policy Guidance, and Risk Management

William P. McCrone, Ph.D., J.D., Gallaudet University

This interactive session offers: a) instruction in the fundamentals of liability risk management in student life and athletic activities, and b) case study practice in applying these fundamentals with deaf students.

Who's Been Sleeping in My Dorm and Why Don't They Look Like Me?

Shirley J. Allen, Ph.D., National Technical Institute for the Deaf

This presentation centers on the experiences of a college professor whose career began as a dormitory supervisor. Born and raised in the "deep south" during the 40's and 50's, the presenter earned a bachelor's degree and a doctoral degree from predominantly white universities. As a result of her background and experiences, she has had the opportunity to observe race and racism in action, and has acquired some particularly interesting views. These views will be shared and others will be discussed during this presentation/discussion. This session will be brutally honest, so one should come prepared.

Title IX: Promoting Gender Equity in Athletic Programs

Peg Worthington, M.A., Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center

This session will provide a comprehensive overview of Title IX, which concerns gender equity in athletics. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss the statute, its impact on their programs, and share strategies for promoting gender equity in programs for Deaf and hard of hearing students.

Your Role in School-to-Work Programs

Allen Talbert, M.A., Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center

This session will focus on career education as a developmental process. While we recognize the critical role of the family structure in the career development process of the students, we must also recognize that for many Deaf students, the residential program takes the place of the family structure. The importance of career education and the critical role of residential staff in their students' career development will be explored and discussed.

PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS

THURSDAY, JUNE 22

One Family...Many Faces: Peer Mediation...

David R. Hicks, M.A., Ernest C. Drury School for the Deaf

Peer Mediation is a process where specially trained student mediators assist their peers to resolve conflicts. An increasingly necessary tool, peer mediation reduces the use of traditional disciplinary actions such as detention, suspension, and expulsion. Mediation provides an appropriate conflict resolution model to students who prefer violent or less effective means of resolving disputes; decreases the need for administrative and/or teacher involvement in disputes; and provides for greater school morale and climate.

FRIDAY, JUNE 23

Developing an Effective Training Manual

Mike Finneran, M.A., Austine School for the Deaf

The presentation will provide an overview of the essentials needed for an effective training manual, including: training of staff, personnel policies and procedures, staff development, scheduling, safety and security, documentation/record keeping, general policies related to students, etc. At the end of the presentation, each attendee will receive a sample of the training manual.

Fundraising for Athletic Programs

Sam Sonnenstrahl, USA Deaf Sports Federation

Defusing the DEAF Syndrome

Fern Sklar Reisinger, M.A., Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf

In today's society there is a push to study the emotional quotient of children today. How does this view impact the development of Deaf children? Do experiences in mainstreaming inhibit or enhance this development? Do experiences in residential schools inhibit or enhance this development? Professionals working with Deaf children should be familiar with the social/emotional development stages, as well as the components of multiple intelligences. With this familiarity, we should be able to maximize the growth potential of Deaf children.

8

ABOUT OUR PRESENTERS

Bobby (Bo) Acton, M.S.

Bobby followed his father's footsteps and attended the Alabama School for the Deaf in Talladega, Alabama. After graduating from Gallaudet University with a degree in Business Administration, he worked at the University's Career Center as the Front Desk and Intake Coordinator for 3 years. Bo received his master's of science in Administration and Supervision while employed at the Alabama School for the Deaf as a Dorm Program Supervisor for 3 years. He is currently a coordinator of Residence Education at Model Secondary School for the Deaf in Washington, D.C. Bo has dreams of completing his doctorate degree in the near future.

Shirley Jeanne Allen, Ph.D.

Born and raised in Texas, Shirley lost her hearing during her junior year in college where she was majoring in Music Education. She received a bachelor's degree from Gallaudet University and master's in Counseling from Howard University. Shirley earned her doctorate in Counseling from the University of Rochester in New York. Previous positions held include classification clerk for the U.S. Peace Corps, technical writer for the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, dorm counselor and English teacher at Gallaudet University. She is currently an associate professor in the Department of Cultural and Creative Studies and has been teaching for 27 years at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf/Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, NY.

Catherine Andersen, Ph.D.

Catherine has been involved in first year college students for most of her professional career. She was chair of the department of Communication and Developmental at the School of Preparatory Studies for 12 years at Gallaudet, and for the past five has served as director of Freshman Studies, Orientation Programs and Retention. In 1997 she was named one of the Outstanding First Year Advocates by the National Center on the First Year Experience. Her teaching and research reflects her interest in the transitional needs of first year students.

Lynn Barbero, M.A.

Lynn has been employed by the New Mexico School for the Deaf for 25 years as a teacher, a supervisor and a Principal. She has a bachelor's degree in Deaf Education from Illinois State University, a master's degree in special education from the University of New Mexico, and 25 hours beyond her master's degree in educational administration also from the University of New Mexico. In her current position as director of Educational Services, she is responsible for development and implementation of programs and supports services for both instructional and residential departments.

9

ABOUT OUR PRESENTERS

Dwight Benedict, M.A.

Dwight has served in Gallaudet University's Division of Academic Affairs for 19 years in various positions, including coordinator of Residence Education, assistant director of Judicial Affairs, and currently, the director of Campus Life. Through these positions Dwight was instrumental in the development of several model programs such as the Judicial Affairs and the Resident Advisor programs, and the establishment of the Commuter Lounge. Dwight is also involved in several Gallaudet outreach programs, including the Sports Camps for Youth, DeafWay II, and the National Student Life Conferences. Dwight's previous community service includes over 6 years of involvement with the NAD's Youth Leadership Camp and 2 years with the Maryland School for the Deaf Foundation.

Roger Dale Claussen, M.A.

Roger graduated from the Arizona School for the Deaf in 1966. Roger established Southern States Cooperative Deaf Youth Camp and worked as a chef for St. John School for the Deaf and several camps including NAD's Youth Leadership Camp, which he directed for seven years. After graduation from Gallaudet University in 1985, Roger earned his master's in Student Development in Higher Education from American University in 1988. He was involved with Student Enterprises for Model Secondary School for the Deaf, a houseparent for Alaska State School for the Deaf, ASL instructor at the University of Alaska. Roger has been employed as the dean of Student Life for Wisconsin School for the Deaf since 1997.

Kenneth David

Kenneth is Special Assistant to the Superintendent with over twenty years of experience at the Louisiana School for the Deaf. Kenny has served in many positions, including educational interpreter, coordinator of the Sign Language/Interpreting Services department, coordinator of Community Education, and dean of students. While serving as dean of students he was instrumental in developing and implementing two programs: an independent living skills program and dorm level system that enhanced student life at LSD. Kenny is currently working on his degree in Business Administration at Louisiana State University. He is the son of Deaf parents and parent of an LSD student.

James DeStefano, M.A.

James has been Gallaudet's assistant athletic director since 1995. Prior to that, he worked as a logistics specialist in the Bison Department of Athletics. A 1985 graduate of CU, James is also the head basketball coach and holds the most wins of any coach at Gallaudet with 82.

10

ABOUT OUR PRESENTERS

Michael R. Finneran, M.A.

Michael was born Deaf in New York City and attended schools for the Deaf in New York, Illinois and graduated from St. Rita School for the Deaf in Cincinnati, Ohio. After graduating from Gallaudet University with a degree in Government, Mr. Finneran received two master's degrees: one in Special Education and the other in Administration and Supervision, both from California State University. Michael worked for 24 years at the California School for the Deaf in Fremont, California in various capacities including: teacher, principal and dean of students. He is now the executive director of the Austine School for the Deaf in Brattleboro, VT. Michael and his wife, Sunshine, have 7 children.

Wes Frahm

Wes is the sports information director at Gallaudet University. He was selected to the position in 1999 after graduating from the University of Indianapolis with a B.A. in sports information and sports administration. The Indiana native doubles as Gallaudet's tennis coach.

Timothy G. Frelich, M.A.

Born in North Dakota, Tim was the sixth of nine Frelich siblings to attend the North Dakota School for the Deaf and Gallaudet University. He received a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's in Counseling from Gallaudet University. Among several of Tim's variety of jobs in his 22 years of experience at Gallaudet are: student development counselor, resident advisor, education and recreation specialist, basketball coach and athletic director. Tim presently serves as the director of Student Life at the Model Secondary School for the Deaf.

Laura Lynn Helms, M.A.

Born in Valdosta, Georgia. Laura Lynn attended public schools and graduated from Lincoln High School in Tallahassee, Florida. She then graduated from Gallaudet University majoring in Psychology. Laura Lynn received her master's in Mental Health Counseling while employed at Gallaudet University as Head Resident Advisor and Mental Health Counselor for 2 years simultaneously. In addition, Laura Lynn has acquired 36+ hours in School Psychology and administered intelligence tests at Kendall Demonstration Elementary School, Model Secondary School for the Deaf, and participating D.C. Public Schools. She worked at the Family Service Foundation for 2 years as a program director.

11

ABOUT OUR PRESENTERS

David Hicks, M.A.

David is a counselor and founder of the Peer Helping and Peer Mediation programs at The Ernest C. Drury School for the Deaf in Milton, Ontario. A teacher and counselor for more than 25 years, David has been instrumental in developing Tragic Events Response Teams, suicide intervention processes, and other responses to conflict and crisis for the Government of Ontario's Ministry of Education.

Terry D. Hostin, M.A.

Terry graduated from Gallaudet University with a bachelor's degree in Government, a master's in Deaf Education from Western Maryland College, and a master's in Administration and Supervision from California State University, Northridge. He has twenty-six years of experience working in the field of Deaf education, including positions as a dorm supervisor, teacher, supervising teacher, principal, and dean of students in 4 different residential schools for the Deaf. Currently, Terry has been employed at the Louisiana School for the Deaf as dean of students in the Student Life Division for the past 3 years. Programs in the Student Life Division include Student Center Infirmary, Transportation and Dormitory.

William P. McCrone, Ph.D., J.D.

Bill is the dean of Gallaudet University's School of Education and Human Services. He is also a professor of counseling, and an attorney trained at Georgetown University Law School. Bill is also a certified rehabilitation counselor, certified additions counselor, and certified mental health counselor. He served as a Legislative Fellow to U.S. Senator Tom Harkin in 1990 when the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) became law.

Rich Pelletier, M.A.

Rich currently serves as the athletic director and head football coach for Gallaudet University. He graduated from Gallaudet in 1975, started coaching in 1989 and was named to the A.D. post in 1995. During his tenure, four Bison teams have made NCAA tournament appearances and others, including his 1998 football team, have won conference championships.

Fern Sklar Reisinger, M.A.

Born and raised in New Jersey, Fern attended pre-mainstreamed public schools and graduated from Gallaudet University with a bachelor's in English. She has had several years of experience as a resident advisor on the campus of Gallaudet University. From 1976-79, Fern served as the Dean of Girls at the American School for the Deaf (ASD). While studying for her master's in counseling, Fern worked in various positions in MSSD's

ABOUT OUR PRESENTERS

Fern Sklar Reisinger, M.A. (continued)

Student Life programs. After returning to ASD, Fern served as an assistant dean of students and coordinator of Student Support Services. Fern is currently the Assistant Superintendent of Student Programs at Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf. She holds a supervisory certificate in Counseling and Evaluation and is working on supervisory certificate in Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Pittsburgh.

Sam Sonnenstrahl

Sam is a test engineer with Lockheed Martin in Rockville, Maryland. With support from Lockheed Martin, he has served on various committees and the board of the USA Deaf Sports Federation since 1987. Sam has served as financial officer for the US Team of the 1989 Summer World Games for the Deaf (WGD) in New Zealand and the chair of the U.S. Team of the 1993 Summer WGD in Bulgaria. Sam assumed his current position as Vice President of International Affairs with USADSF in 1994. He also serves on the Board of Trustees at the Maryland School for the Deaf as Vice President and Chair of the Executive Committee. Sam and his wife, Marjorie, have two sons, Ethan (5) and Brett (3), both students at MSD.

Barry Strassler

Barry is employed as an accountant with the federal government. A well-known and highly-read journalist, he has written numerous articles, including feature, general, and sports news for the Deaf community for nearly 40 years. Barry currently operates two on-line news publications/services *DeafDigest* and *DeafSportZine*, and writes for the *Silent News* newspaper. He also serves as chairperson of the Gallaudet University Athletic Hall of Fame.

Allen Talbert, M.A.

Allen received his bachelor's degree in Sociology from Gallaudet University in 1977 and his master's degree in Deafness Rehabilitation from New York University in 1983. Allen is a Work Experience Specialist at the Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center where he coordinates the Work Experience Program that helps students obtain employment experience before graduating. Previously, Allen was an Alternative Learning Residential Environment counselor, school counselor, and transition counselor.

ABOUT OUR PRESENTERS

James E. Tucker, M.A.

James currently serves as superintendent of the Maryland School for the Deaf (MSD). A graduate of the Austine School for the Deaf, he earned his bachelor's degree in American Studies and Psychology from Gallaudet University and his master's in Deaf Education from New York University. Prior to his position at MSD, he served as director of admissions at Gallaudet. As a former English teacher (California School for the Deaf and Gallaudet University) and experienced educator, James is a well-known advocate for early language (ASL and English) acquisition, high academic expectations, and full, clear, and direct language access for all Deaf and hard of hearing students.

Madan M. Vasishtha, Ph.D.

Madan, superintendent of the New Mexico School for the Deaf, was born in India and came to the United States in 1967 to attend Gallaudet University. After receiving his master's degree in Deaf education, he taught Deaf students at for six years. Later, he earned a doctorate in Special Education Administration and served as a principal, assistant superintendent, and superintendent of schools in Texas, Illinois, and North Carolina. Madan has written four books on Indian Sign Language and has published numerous articles on Deaf education and sign language linguistics. He is married to Nirmala Vasishtha and has one son and one daughter.

Stephen F. Weiner, Ed.D.

Stephen is currently the dean of the School of Undergraduate Studies and a member of the Department of Counseling at Gallaudet University. Dr. Weiner previous positions include coordinator of Student Life and Training (Dean of Students) at the Texas School for the Deaf and deputy director of the NorCal Center on Deafness, a non-profit community service organization serving over 20 counties in north-central California. He has also served in various administrative capacities at Gallaudet University. His B.A. and M.A. degrees are from Gallaudet and he has an earned doctorate in Counseling and Development with a focus on higher education from American University.

Mike Weinstock, M.A.

An ardent Philadelphia sports fan, Mike attended the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf and Model Secondary School for the Deaf (MSSD) before earning a bachelor's degree in biology and master's in educational Technology at Gallaudet. Mike is currently the Athletic Director for MSSD. His coaching career has spanned over 20 years with varsity and junior varsity sports, including boys and girl's basketball and softball. In addition, he coached the gold medal U.S. women's basketball team at the World Games for the Deaf in 1997 (Denmark). Mike and his wife, Janet, are the proud parents of two Deaf sons.

14

ABOUT OUR PRESENTERS

Peg Worthington, M.A.

Peg recently retired from Gallaudet after serving 23 years as a Physical Education teacher with the Model Secondary School for the Deaf and 7 years with the University. In addition to teaching, Peg coached Gallaudet's women's volleyball team for 26 years and served as the Department of Athletics' NCAA representative and Senior Woman Administrator for Title IX compliance.

WITH THANKS AND APPRECIATION

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15