

Disrupting Ableism and Advancing STEM: Cultivating Accessible Educational Pathways and Spaces

Sponsored by the National Science Foundation

THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2023

12:00–12:05 PM ET

Welcome from the Planning Committee Member

- Emily Ackerman, PhD
Postdoctoral Researcher, Lahav Lab,
Department of Systems Biology, Harvard
Medical School

12:05-12:35 PM ET

Changing Mindsets: Systems, Policies, and Programs

Moderator:

- Emily Ackerman, PhD
Postdoctoral Researcher, Lahav Lab,
Department of Systems Biology, Harvard
Medical School

Panelists:

- Yvette E. Pearson, PhD
Vice President, Office of Diversity, Equity,
and Inclusion, University of Texas, Dallas
- Lisa Meeks, PhD
Clinical Associate Professor, University of

Michigan and Executive Director,
DocsWithDisabilities Initiative

12:35–1:15 PM ET

**Creating Disability Friendly Inclusive
Accessible Spaces in Higher Education**

Moderator:

- David Caudel, PhD
Associate Director, Frist Center for Autism
and Innovation, Vanderbilt University

Paper Presenters:

- Sam Catherine Johnston, EdD
Chief, Postsecondary and Workforce
Development Office, CAST
- Luis Pérez, PhD
Disability and Digital Inclusion Lead,
Postsecondary and Workforce Development
Office, CAST

Reflections:

- Jacquelyn Chini, PhD
Associate Professor and Undergraduate
Program Associate Director, Department of
Physics,
University of Central Florida

- Bradley Duerstock, PhD
Professor of Engineering Practice, Weldon School of Biomedical Engineering and School of Industrial Engineering, Purdue University
- Caroline Solomon, PhD
Director, School of Science, Technology, Accessibility, Mathematics, and Public Health (STAMP) and Professor of Biology, and Interim Program Director, Public Health Program, Gallaudet University

1:15–1:35 PM ET

Break

**1:35–2:15 PM ET
and Acting**

Lived Experiences: Listening, Learning,

Moderator:

- David Caudel, PhD
Associate Director, Frist Center for Autism and Innovation, Vanderbilt University

Panelists:

- Megan Lynch, MSc
Master's Student, Graduate Group of Horticulture & Agronomy, University of California, Davis and Founder of UC

Access Now

- Hari Srinivasan, BA
PhD Student, Department of Neuroscience,
NISE Fellow, Frist Center for Autism and
Innovation, Vanderbilt University
- Stephanie Feola, PhD
Recent Graduate, Department of
Chemistry, University of Florida and
Postdoctoral Research Associate,
University of Arkansas at Little Rock

2:15–2:45 PM ET

Transition to Work

Moderator:

- Emily Ackerman, PhD
Postdoctoral Researcher
Harvard Medical School

Panelists:

- Rasheera Dopson, MPH
Research Assistant II, National Center of Primary
Care-Research & Policy Division, Morehouse School
of Medicine
- Laureen Summers, BA
Project Director, AAAS ISEED (Inclusive
Ecosystems for Equity and Diversity) -
Entry Point! Program, American

Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)

- Kimberly J. Osmani, PhD
Senior Extension Associate, K. Lisa Yang and Hock E. Tan Institute on Employment and Disability (YTI), Cornell University
- Taryn M. Williams, MA
Assistant Secretary, Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP), U.S. Department of Labor

2:45–3:00 PM ET

Reflection and Overview of Upcoming Series Sessions

- Emily Ackerman, PhD
Postdoctoral Researcher, Lahav Lab, Department of Systems Biology, Harvard Medical School
- Christopher Atchison, PhD
Program Director, Directorate for STEM Education (EDU), Division for Equity of Excellence in STEM (EES), National Science Foundation (NSF) and Professor, School of Education and Department of Geology, University of Cincinnati
- Mark H. Leddy, PhD, MS
Lead Program Director, Division of Equity

for Excellence in STEM and the Directorate
for STEM Education (EDU), National
Science Foundation

3:00 PM ET

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