



From Admission to Graduation
Fourth Annual Disabilities Symposium
The University of Pennsylvania
April 1, 2005



A student with a disability entering postsecondary education embarks on a journey full of challenges and possibilities.



The amount of information available on disabilities, college students, and academic support strategies continues to grow along with the number of college students with disabilities.



New knowledge and new ideas have the power to greatly enhance programs and services for students with disabilities.



The exchange of knowledge - with our students, faculty, administrators and each other - will help us continue to build environments of understanding, inclusion and support.

Plenary Addresses

Christopher Lee speaks on The Dyslexic Writer:

"Mine is a story too commonly experienced by parents and teachers around the world. However, I was one of the fortunate ones and got through the system. Funneling my energies into a hobby and developing a strong support network became my salvation. Through my support network, an academic action plan involving tutors, mentors, strategies, and accommodations was developed. The final piece that needed to be mastered was to learn, through role-playing, lifelong communication skills including the ability to disclose my learning disabilities, promote my strengths, and manage my weaknesses. After doing this I was on the path to success."

Dr. J. Russell Ramsey & Dr. Anthony L. Rostain speak on assisting ADHD students in taking charge of their education:

Educators play a key role in the transition to college for students with ADHD and other learning disabilities. Frequently, students who seek disability services and/or learning assistance are not as sure they need help as everyone else seems to be leaving educators (and parents) feeling frustrated that the students they want to help won't take advantage of the available resources. This presentation will identify some common attitudes and behaviors found in students with ADHD and related disabilities that might interfere with their college adjustment and use of support services. We focus in particular on ways to help students modify these attitudes and behaviors so that they develop the tools and confidence with which to take charge of their education.

A host of workshops will be offered on topics integral to the provision of services for students with disabilities in postsecondary institutions.