



**LSU Human Development Center – Louisiana Deafblind Project
CONNECTIONS 2018
Follow-up**

The Louisiana Deafblind Project for Children and Youth in partnership with the Louisiana Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) program presented the CONNECTIONS 2018 Conference September 14 & 15, 2018 at the LSU Health Sciences Center, Human Development Center. The Louisiana Department of Education along with the LSU Human Development Center were also major funders of the conference.

CONNECTIONS 2018 was the third consecutive year the conference has been presented and was rewarded by the largest number of participants to date. 210 educational and allied health professionals, education/allied health students, and parents attended across the two-day conference and enjoyed a variety of guest speakers and topics. On Friday, featured speaker Dr. Carol Flexer gave a presentation on “Theory of Mind and Mild, Moderate, and Unilateral hearing Loss” while on Saturday, featured speaker Dr. Steven Collins presented “Communication Tools Among the Deafblind Community.”

One participant commented that the *“speakers were very good at relating information that can be directly applied in practice.”* Another participant appreciated that the conference allowed *“professionals and future professionals to see more than one side of the hearing/deaf/deafblind worlds.”* Another participant stated, *“Thank you for bringing such knowledgeable and skilled presenters to New Orleans.”* Each day featured lunch speakers who provided personal accounts. One participant commented, *“Loved the lunch session by Rox’E Homstad. It was awesome to hear first-hand experiences.”* Breakout sessions were available each afternoon for participants to learn more about assistive technology, genetics, and diversity as well as experience a cooking activity through simulation of combined vision and hearing losses. Many commented that the highly skilled and top quality sign language interpreters contributed to the accessibility of the conference and were appreciated by those who sign and those who do not.

Below find links to the program, handouts, photos, and videos of the lunch speakers.

Connections 2018 Program:

<https://www.hdc.lsuhs.edu/ladbp/docs/Connections%202018%20Program%20Draft%20FINAL.pdf>

Photos: https://www.facebook.com/1435260850105841/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1973767496255171

Conference Handouts and Video Recordings (if applicable)

Friday, September 14, 2018

PLENARY SESSION		
Theory of Mind and Mild, Moderate and Unilateral Hearing Losses: Implications and Management	Dr. Carol Flexer	Theory of Mind and Mild, Moderate and Unilateral Hearing Losses – Dr. Carol Flexer: https://www.hdc.lsuhs.edu/ladbp/docs/Carol_Flexer_Connections_Sept_14_2018.pdf
LUNCH speaker Strongest at The Broken Places: The Misadventures of a Deafblind Woman in a Sighted, Hearing World	Rox'E Homstad	Video Link for Strongest at the Broken Places – Rox'E Homstad: https://mediasite-ent.lsuhs.edu/Mediasite/Play/36f4a3d8796f4e8cb0dc8a97f42200841d

Saturday, September 15, 2018

PLENARY SESSION		
Communication tools among Deafblind community – Part 1	Dr. Steven Collins	Communications Tools among the Deafblind Community – Dr. Steven Collins: https://www.hdc.lsuhs.edu/ladbp/docs/DB%20PPT%20Steven%20Collins%20Communication%20Tools.pdf Pro-Tactile Deaf-Blind People – Dr. Steven Collins https://www.hdc.lsuhs.edu/ladbp/docs/Pro-Tactile%20%20Deaf-Blind%20People%20Black-1-1%20Steven%20Collins.pdf Pro-Tactile Principles – Dr. Steven Collins: https://www.hdc.lsuhs.edu/ladbp/docs/PT%20Principles.pdf

LUNCH speaker Through the Looking Glass: In the Eyes of a Deaf Louisiana Native	Dr. Bradley Porche	Video link for Through the Looking Glass – Dr. Bradley Porche: https://mediasite-ent.lsuhsu.edu/Mediasite/Play/be8f286bf6624c1ca695153cc78a4d5f1d
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BREAKOUT SESSIONS, September 14&15, 2018

Optimizing Success for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children	Terri Ibieta	
Genetics and hearing loss: How does your community background play a role?	Ayesha Umrigar	Genetics and Hearing Loss – Ayesha Umrigar: https://www.hdc.lsuhsu.edu/ladbp/docs/20180917%20connections%202018%20umrigar%20final%20optimized.pdf
Braille Dat: Technology Update on Assistive Technology for Reading, Writing, and Producing Braille and Tactile Graphics	Dr. Rose Angelocci	Braille Dat Handout – Dr. Rose Angelocci: https://www.hdc.lsuhsu.edu/ladbp/docs/Braille%20Dat%20handout.pdf 3D Tactual Symbols – Dr. Rose Angelocci: https://www.hdc.lsuhsu.edu/ladbp/docs/3D%20Tactual%20Symbols.pdf Introducing 3D Core Vocab Tactuals Optimized: https://www.hdc.lsuhsu.edu/ladbp/docs/20180913%20Introducing%20%203D%20Core%20Vocab%20Tactuals%20optimized.pdf
Competent in the Kitchen: Understanding the Blind/Deafblind Experience	Lauren Griffiths	
Face-to-Face Communication for Deafblind Students	Scott Crawford	See Handout List in Technology Update below
Building Cultural Competency of Allied Health Professionals: Provision of Services in African American Individuals & Families with Neurodevelopmental Disorders	Janae Llopis	
Self-care for the Professional	Dr. Kimberly Frazier	
Low Cost/No Cost: Technology Update on Software/Apps for Individuals with Visual Disabilities	Kenneth Lacho	Low Cost Technology – Kenneth Lacho: https://www.hdc.lsuhsu.edu/ladbp/docs/Low%20Cost%20Technology%20handout.pdf

		<p>Using NVDA – Kenneth Lacho: https://www.hdc.lsuhsoc.edu/ladbp/docs/Using%20NVDA%20-%20Kenneth%20Lacho.pdf</p>
Competent in the Kitchen: Understanding the Blind/Deafblind Experience	Lauren Griffiths	
Technology Update: Chromebook Accessibility	Scott Crawford	<p>Scott Crawford Handout List for Face-to-Face Communication and Technology Update: https://www.hdc.lsuhsoc.edu/ladbp/docs/Scott%20Crawford%20Handouts%20List.pdf</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. iPhone and Braille Displays – Scott Crawford: https://www.hdc.lsuhsoc.edu/ladbp/docs/aer%202014%20Tyler%20Scott%20iphone%20and%20braille%20displays%20(Autosaved).pdf 2. Brailnote Touch Favorite Key Commands – Scott Crawford: https://www.hdc.lsuhsoc.edu/ladbp/docs/Brailnote%20Touch%20favorite%20key%20commands.pdf 3. Chromebook Accessibility: https://www.hdc.lsuhsoc.edu/ladbp/docs/Chromebook%20Accessibility.pdf 4. Chromevox with a Braille Display: https://www.hdc.lsuhsoc.edu/ladbp/docs/Chromevox%20with%20a%20Braille%20Display.pdf 5. Communication Sign Cross Street: https://www.hdc.lsuhsoc.edu/ladbp/docs/COMMUNICATION%20SIGN%20CROSS%20STREET.pdf 6. Computer Braille Code Description: https://www.hdc.lsuhsoc.edu/ladbp/docs/Computer%20Braille%20code%20description.pdf 7. Computer Braille Punctuation: https://www.hdc.lsuhsoc.edu/ladbp/docs/Computer%20Braille%20punctuation.pdf 8. Computer Braille: https://www.hdc.lsuhsoc.edu/ladbp/docs/computer%20Braille.pdf

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