

**Pre-Conference Workshop
Thursday, March 18th**

Registration: 7:30-8:15 AM
Workshop: 8:15 AM-4:30 PM
Break: 10:00-10:30 AM
Lunch: 12:00-1:00 PM (included)
Break: 2:30-3:00 PM
Exhibits: 10:00 AM-5:00 PM

Paula Kluth, Ph.D.

**“The Problem with Behavior
Problems: Supporting Students
With Autism & Other Disabilities”**



Come and explore fresh ways to think about “behavior problems” in inclusive schools. We will examine where problems come from, who “owns” them, and how our language and approaches can both create behavior struggles and minimize them. We will discuss how educators can avoid challenging moments by listening, teaching, collaborating, including and thinking out of the box.

Paula Kluth Biography

Dr. Paula Kluth is a consultant, teacher, author, advocate, and independent scholar who works with teachers and families to provide inclusive opportunities for students with disabilities and to create more responsive and engaging schooling experiences for all learners. Paula is a former special educator who has served as a classroom teacher, consulting teacher, and inclusion facilitator. Her research and professional interests include differentiating instruction, and supporting students with autism and significant disabilities in inclusive classrooms.

She is the author of *“You’re Going to Love This Kid”: Teaching Students with Autism in Inclusive Classrooms* ; the lead editor of *Access to Academics: Critical Approaches to Inclusive Curriculum, Instruction, and Policy*, and the co-author of four texts: *A Land We Can Share: Teaching Literacy to Students with Autism*; *Joyful Learning: Active and Collaborative Learning in the Inclusive Classroom*; *You’re Welcome: 30 Innovative Ideas for Inclusive Schools*, and *Just Give Him the Whale: 20 Ways to Support & Honor the Passions & Interests of Students with Autism*.

Friday, March 19th

Registration: 7:30-8:15 AM
Opening Keynote: 8:15 AM-10:30 AM
Break: 10:30-11:00 AM
Breakout Session: 11:00 AM-12:15 PM
Lunch: 12:15-1:30 PM (on your own)
Breakout Session: 1:30-2:45 PM
Break: 2:45-3:15 PM
Breakout Session: 3:15-4:30 PM
Exhibits: 7:30 AM – 5:00 PM
ASW Annual Meeting: 4:45-6:00 PM
Pizza Buffet for individuals with ASD:
5:30-6:30 PM
Talent Show: 7:00-8:00 PM
Reception/Dance: 8:00-10:30 PM

Temple Grandin, Ph.D.

“An Inside View of Autism”



Temple Grandin, Ph.D. is inarguably the most accomplished and well-known adult with autism in the world. She has been featured on major television programs, such as “ABC’s Primetime Live”, the “Today Show”, “Larry King Live”, “48 Hours” and “20/20” and written up in national publications, such as “Time” magazine, “People” magazine, “Forbes”, “U.S. News and World Report”, and the “New York Times”.

Dr. Grandin has become a prominent author and speaker on the subject of autism, presently working as an Associate Professor at Colorado State University, and speaking around the world on both autism and cattle handling. Dr. Grandin’s books include “The Way I See It”, “Animals Make us Human”, “Unwritten Rules of Social Relationships”, “Animals in Translation”, “Developing Pictures”, “Thinking in Pictures”, and “Emergence: Labeled Autistic”.

Friday and Saturday Breakout Session Strands:

Education: The Education Strand sessions are those that can benefit individuals with autism spectrum disorders in the educational setting.

Home/Community: The Home/Community Strand sessions deal with issues that can benefit those on the autism spectrum in their home environment or in the community.

Intervention: The Intervention Strand sessions are sessions dealing with different approaches of intervention for those on the autism spectrum.

Across the Lifespan: This Strand includes topics of interest across the lifespan concerning those with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Youth Activities: This strand includes topics of interest to our younger conference attendees (and to all adults who are young at heart). Parent, guardian, or support person must accompany child, if registered as a support person for the conference.

ALL STRANDS ARE OPEN TO ALL CONFERENCE ATTENDEES

A. Friday Morning Breakout Sessions: 11:00 – 12:15

A1. **Education I:** Presenter – Susan L. Stokes, M.A., CCC-SLP, Educational Autism Consultant. *“It’s All About Independent Functioning! Developing Critical Life-Skills for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder”*

A2. **Education II:** Presenters – Susan Heighway, M.S., PNP-BC, APNP, Clinical Professor and Nurse Practitioner – Waisman Center, Madison, and Jo Cauley, Advocacy Specialist – Disability Rights Wisconsin. *“How to Talk about Sexuality with Your Adolescent, Even when you’d Rather Not”*

A3. **Home/Community:** *“Dad’s Panel”* (for Dad’s only)

A4. **Intervention:** Presenter – Kelly Bur Shariff, M.S., CCC-SLP. *“Socialization Groups for Preteens to Young Adults”*

A5. **Across the Lifespan:** Presenter – Peggy Helm-Quest, M.S. Ed., MHA, Consultant for WI Children with Special Health Care Needs. *“Autism for Action – Using Language, Messaging, and Videos to Change Culture and Support Inclusion”*

A6. **Youth Strand:** Presenter – Jeremiah Swisher, young adult with autism. *“Living the College Life”*

B. Friday Afternoon Breakout Sessions: 1:30 – 2:45

B1. **Education I:** Presenters – Brian Johnson, Autism Educational Consultant – WI Department of Public Instruction, Ellen Franzone, Special Education Team – WI Department of Public Instruction, and Kate Luskin, Special Education Team – WI Department of Public Instruction. *“Evidence Based Practices: What’s Working!”* (C2 will be a continuation of this session.)

B2. **Education II:** Presenters – Nelsinia Ramos, Youth Information Training & Resource Center Leader - WI FACETS, and Jenny Stonemeier, Parent Leadership Specialist – WI FACETS. *“Meaningful Involvement in the IEP”*

B3. **Home/Community:** Presenter - Bob Johnston, MetDESK® Specialist, Financial Adviser, Financial Services Representative – MetLife’s Division of Estate Planning for Special Kids. *“Your Dependant with Special Needs: Making Their Future More Secure”*

B4. **Intervention:** Pam Stoika, Ph.D., Developmental Psychologist – Integrated Development Services (IDS). *“Play to Talk: Practical Strategies to Help Your Late-Talking Child Join the Conversation”*

B5. **Across the Lifespan:** Presenters – Wendy Partridge, M.S., Northern Illinois Field Organizer – Illinois Association of Microboards and Cooperatives, Quinn Partridge, sophomore – Guildford High School, Rockford, IL, person with autism, and Chris Beichler, Quinn’s long time friend, and Manager at Home Depot in LaCrosse. *“Communication = Life”*.

B6. **Youth Strand:** Kelly Bur Shariff, M.S., CCC-SLP, and ASW Volunteers. *“Not So Extreme Makeovers: ASW Edition”* (open to female ASD youth and adults only.)

C. Friday Afternoon Breakout Sessions: 3:15 – 4:30

C1. **Education I:** Presenters – Julie LaBerge, Director of Pupil Services/School Psychologist – Bonduel School District, Lisa Sorlie, Regular Education Teacher – Bonduel School District, Cheryl Turner, Speech and Language Therapist – Bonduel School District, and Lindsay Golbach, Special Education Teacher – Bonduel School District. *“Peer Mediated Instruction & Intervention (PMII): An Evidence-Based Practice that Works!”* (This session is a continuation of session B1.)

C2. **Education II:** Presenter – Peggy Bartman, Autism Consultant/Occupational Therapist – CESA 6. *“Understanding and Programming for Sensory Processing Differences in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder”*

C3. **Home/Community:** Presenters – Sharon Hammer, Masters Level Psychotherapist/Educational and Behavioral Consultant – Imagine a Child’s Capacity, Lisa Hoeme, Masters Level Rehabilitation Counselor/Educational and Behavioral Consultant – Imagine a Child’s Capacity, and Lisa Ladson, Board Certified Associate Behavior Analyst/Educational and Behavioral Consultant – Imagine a Child’s Capacity. *“Bringing Home Autism Supports”*

C4. **Intervention:** Presenters – Julie Gamradt, M.S., CCC-SLP/Director and Therapist for Communication Aids & Systems Clinic and the Communication Development Program – Waisman Center, Madison, and Kristin Kraak, Speech-Language Pathologist/Augmentative Communication Specialist for Communication Aids and Systems Clinic – Waisman Center, Madison. *“Augmentative & Alternative Communication Across the Spectrum: Options, Strategies & Issues”*

C5. **Across the Lifespan:** Presenter – Linda Nelson Keane, AIA, NCARB, Professor of Architecture – School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and advocate for children with autism in the public school setting. *“Scripting Life: From Toddler to Teenager”*

C6. **Youth Strand:** Special event – to be announced.

Friday Evening Activities

Talent Show, Reception and Dance. This evening begins with a talent show, featuring individuals on the autism spectrum and their special talents. Please come and cheer them on! Following will be a reception, music and dance. These events are open to anyone who wishes to attend. A good time is usually had by all, so please join us!

Saturday, March 20th

D. Saturday Morning Breakout Sessions: 8:30 – 9:45

Registration: 8:00-8:30 AM
Breakout Session: 8:30-9:45 AM
Break: 9:45–10:15 AM
Breakout Session: 10:15-11:30 AM
Lunch: 11:30-12:45 PM (on your own)
Closing Keynote/Essay Awards
Presentation: 12:45-3:00 PM
Exhibits: 7:30 AM–2:00 PM

D1. **Education I:** Presenter – Judy Endow, MSW/International Speaker, Author and Consultant. *“The Hidden Curriculum for Older Adolescents and Adults”*

D2. **Education II:** Presenters – Jan Serak, Executive Co-Director of WI FACETS, Partner in the Wisconsin Special Education Mediation System, and Nissan Bar-Lev, CESA #7 Director of Special Education, Partner in the Wisconsin Special Education Mediation System, President of the Autism Society of Wisconsin. *“What Can Educators & Parents Do to More Effectively Manage Conflict at Earlier Stages?”*

D3. **Home/Community:** Presenter – Kelly Brodhagen, Administrative Coordinator – Autism Society of Wisconsin, parent of two sons with autism. *“Autism Primer: Where Do I begin?”*

D4. **Intervention:** Presenters – Andrea Whalen, Senior Therapist – Wisconsin Early Autism Project, and Chris Polacek, Clinical Supervisor – Wisconsin Early Autism Project. *“Maximizing Success: Ideas for Working with Individuals Who Have ASD with Additional Diagnoses”*

D5. **Across the Lifespan:** Presenters – Lynn Stansberry-Brusnahan, parent of young adult with autism, Assistant Professor in autism spectrum disorders certificate and master’s program – University of St. Thomas, Minnesota, and James Williams, young adult with autism and author of “Out to Get Jack”. *“How to Help Teenagers and Adults with ASD to Make Social Connections”*

D6. **Youth Strand:** Presenter – Kelly Bur Shariff, M.S., CCC-SLP. *“Autism Pride Phase 2: A Group Discussion of the Positive Aspects of Autism Spectrum Disorders”*

E. Saturday Morning Breakout Sessions: 10:15 – 11:30

E1. **Education I:** Presenter – Susan L. Stokes, M.A., CC-SLP, Educational Autism Consultant. *“Applications Galore! Practical Solutions for Increasing Independent Functioning Using the iPhone / iTouch”*

E2. **Education II:** Presenter – Lisa Hoeme, Masters Level Rehabilitation Counselor/Educational and Behavioral Consultant – Imagine a Child’s Capacity. *“Neurotypical Mistakes”*

E3. **Home/Community:** Presenters – Timothy Markle, Associate Outreach Specialist – Connections Initiative for ASDs and other Developmental Disabilities, and Kirsten Cooper, Autism Liaison Specialist – Northeast and Southeast Regional Centers for CYSHCN through the Autism Connections Initiative. *“A Community Conversation on Resources Concerning Autism Spectrum Disorders and other Developmental Disabilities”*

E4. **Intervention:** Presenters – Kara Stevenson, M.S., Residential Services Director – Oconomowoc Developmental Training Center’s ICARE (Innovative Care for Autism and Related Disorders) Program, and Dr. Jeffrey Krukar, Licensed Psychologist – Oconomowoc Developmental Training Center. *“ICARE: A Comprehensive Relationship-Based Intervention Program”*

E5. **Across the Lifespan:** *“Panel of Experts”*.

E6. **Youth Strand:** Presenter – James Williams, young adult with autism and author of “Out to Get Jack”. *“Facebook 101 for Individuals with Autism”*

Closing Keynote: 12:45-3:00 PM

Dr. Eric Courchesne

“The Neural Origins of Autism:
Evidence of Prenatal and Early
Postnatal Brain Growth
Abnormalities”



Research on possible brain growth defects in autism during early fetal development in autism will be presented. Such early abnormalities could lead to aberrant brain growth and function during the first two years of life and to the emergence of autistic behaviors.

Eric Courchesne is one of the world's leading experts on the neurobiology of autism. He is the overall Director and principle investigator of the UCSD Autism Center of Excellence, and is also the director of the UCSD Autism Center's MRI Project on early brain development in autism. His research and the Center are dedicated to uncovering the brain bases and genetic causes of autism. Current MRI studies of autism aim to identify the brain structures that are abnormal at infancy in autism and to discover patterns of abnormal early brain growth.