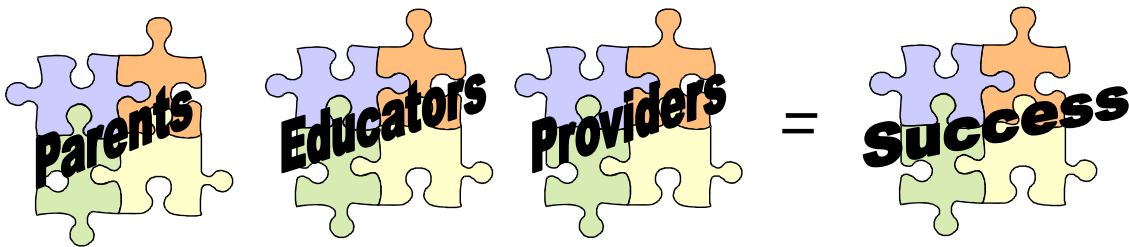


Intermediate Unit 1 and  
California University of PA  
Co-Sponsor their Second Annual  
Autism Conference

# Return of the P.E.P.



**March 5, 2009**

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Steele Performance Center  
California University of Pennsylvania

Featuring

**Brenda Smith Myles**

Nationally Renowned Speaker and Author:  
The Hidden Curriculum, Asperger Syndrome and Difficult  
Moments

# Hotel & Travel Information

## **Best Western Garden Inn - Bentleyville Location**

101 Gosai Drive, Bentleyville, Pa 15314

1-877-7-Hotel-1

\$74.99 plus tax a night—be sure to mention that you are with the Cal U Autism Conference to receive this discounted rate.

# General Information

## **Registration:**

Registration is to be completed **online** through California University:

<http://www.cup.edu/graduate/pep.htm>

or registration can be mailed to Dr. Kate Mitchem, Special Education Dept., 250 University Avenue, California, Pa 15419-1394

**Checks are payable to:** “Foundation for California University of PA”

On the memo line put: **Autism conference 2009**

If assistance is needed for registration please contact Dr. Kate Mitchem [mitchem\\_k@cup.edu](mailto:mitchem_k@cup.edu)

**Last day to register is February 28, 2009. There will be no onsite registration if the conference is full.**

## **ACT 48:**

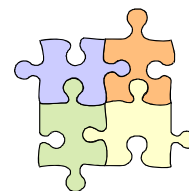
Act 48 credits are available. Please indicate when you register if you want to receive Act 48 credits. **Special Note: If you register as a student no Act 48 hours will be given. If you would like to receive Act 48 hours you must register as a professional.**

## **Meals:**

A Continental breakfast, lunch, and light refreshments are included in the conference registration fee.

# Conference Schedule

<b>8:00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9:00</b>	<b>Registration/Vendors and Continental Breakfast</b>
<b>9:00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9:15</b>	<b>Introductions and Musical Performance</b>
<b>9:15</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11:30</b>	<b>Keynote Speaker</b>
<b>11:30</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12:45</b>	<b>Lunch and Vendors</b>
<b>12:45</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2:00</b>	<b>Breakout Sessions</b>
<b>2:00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2:30</b>	<b>Vendors &amp; Light Refreshments</b>
<b>2:30</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4:00</b>	<b>Breakout</b>



## Conference Program

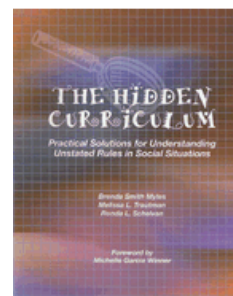
- 9:00-9:15**                    **Introductions and Special Violin Performance  
by Joseph Schleicher**
- 9:15 - 11:30**                **Keynote Speaker – Brenda Smith Myles  
Steele Performance Center  
California University of PA**

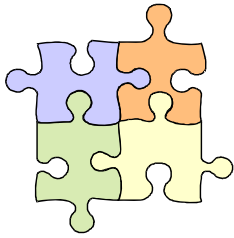
### **ABOUT OUR SPECIAL PERFORMER**

Joseph is a very talented fourteen-year old artist and performer. Joseph has performed at the State Capital for legislators. His artwork has been featured in the Prism Art Gallery Wall and he has recorded a public service announcement for autism featuring the words of Ellen Notbohm. We are so thankful to have Joseph share his talent with us for our autism conference.

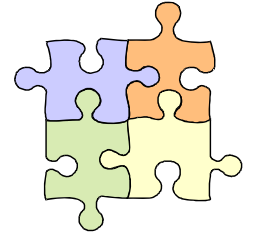
### **ABOUT THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

Brenda Smith Myles Ph.D., a consultant with the Ziggurat Group and Chief of Programs and Development for the Autism Society of America, is the recipient of the 2004 Autism Society of America's Outstanding Professional Award and the 2006 Princeton Fellowship Award. She has written numerous articles and books on Asperger Syndrome and autism including *Asperger Syndrome and Difficult Moments: Practical Solutions for Tantrums, Rage, and Meltdowns* (with Southwick) and *Asperger Syndrome and Adolescence: Practical Solutions for School Success* (with Adreon). The latter is the winner of the Autism Society of America's Outstanding Literary Work. Brenda has made over 500 presentations all over the world, written more than 150 articles and books on autism and Asperger Syndrome, and served as the co-chair of the National ASD Teacher Standards Committee. She is on the National Institute of Mental Health's Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee's Strategic Planning Consortium and the Autism Society of America's Panel of Professional Advisors. Myles is also on the executive boards of several organizations, including the Organization for Autism Research and Maap Services, Inc. In addition, she was recently acknowledged as the second most productive applied researcher in ASD in the world from 1997 to 2004.





## *Breakout Sessions (Choose One)*



**12:45 - 2:00 pm**

### **1. The ABC's of Challenging Behavior**

**Regis Lazor:** Special Education Professor and Behavior Consultant (California University of Pennsylvania)

This presentation will give parents a concise and effective tool for understanding and taking important first steps in dealing with challenging behaviors, including functional behavioral assessment and positive behavior supports.

### **2. Developmental, Individual-Difference, Relationship Based (DIR) /Floortime Approach"**

**Rick Murray, Teresa O'Brien and Colleen Patrick-Evans:** FBR Autism Services

An interactive style will be utilized to provide an overview of DIR/Floortime model and essential components to understanding and utilizing this approach. Discussion will occur on ways to determine if this framework would be appropriate to meet your child/adolescent's needs. A list of resources on DIR/Floortime will be provided.

### **3. Visual Scene Displays**

**Bryan Dawson:** Representative, DynaVox-Mayer Johnson Systems Incorporated

This workshop will focus on the use of Visual Scene Displays for use with children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Visual Scene Displays portray events, people, actions, objects and activities against the backgrounds in which they occur.

They provide a specific communication environment and a shared context in which one can converse about a topic and engage in shared activities. Participants will gain an overview of the implementation of the use of visual scenes on the DynaVox V and VMax.

### **4. Gluten/Casein Free 101**

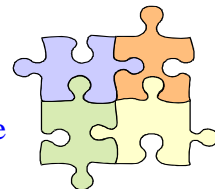
**Lori Karavolis (Lori Bakes):** Author and Baker

This session will cover: Coping with going GFCF, Leaky Gut, Theory behind success of GFCF and ASD, Tasty Tips, Testing the Diet, Oh What, Oh What Can I Eat? Lori Bakes, "Special Foods for Special People"

[www.loribakes.com](http://www.loribakes.com)

[lori@loribakes.com](mailto:lori@loribakes.com)

724-207-0009



**5. Competent Learners Model (CLM)**

**Cathy Scutta:** MS, OTR/L, BCBA, Statewide lead educational consultant for the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Autism Initiative at PATTaN.

The CLM Model is designed to build a bridge of cooperation, understanding and consistency in programming across ALL settings (e.g., home, school, community). The model is based on the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis, Direct Instruction & Precision Teaching. Educational programs combining the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis, Direct Instruction & Precision Teaching are widely acknowledged to have the most success with children diagnosed with autism and other challenging learning difficulties.

**6. LAMP- An AAC Strategy for Promoting the Development of Communication for Individuals with ASD**

**Ken Kwasniewski:** M.A. CCC/SLP Regional Consultant, Prentke Romich Company

An overview of the LAMP (Language Acquisition and Motor Planning) training and how it promotes language development will be addressed. The session will also be devoted to utilizing the Vantage Lite (a Prentke Romich Co. Speech Generating Device) to incorporate the LAMP principles into classroom academic and therapy objectives.

**7. Identification and Assessment of Autism Spectrum Disorders**

**Dr. Sam Lonich:** Director, Child and Family Studies Institute, California University of Pennsylvania

An increased awareness of Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs) leaves some educators and parents knowing enough to recognize extreme or classic indicators (i.e., no language, very aggressive behavior), but not familiar with the subtleties of this complicated condition to accurately rule in or out Autism disorder. Diverse school, home, and community needs dictate an individualized and comprehensive assessment process to ensure appropriate treatment planning. This presentation will focus on the identification and assessment of ASDs.

**8. Approaches to Managing Behaviors**

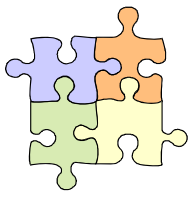
**David Parme:** Clinical Liaison, The Bradley Center

This session will discuss approaches for the classroom and home environments utilizing the principles of applied behavior analysis for managing behaviors.

**9. What Happens when the IEP Ends? A guide to planning for Transition and Post School Outcomes**

**Marilyn Nairn:** Transition and Inclusive Practices Consultant, Intermediate Unit 1

Marilyn and a panel of agency representatives will address life after school and the PATH (a planning tool) for life after graduation. **This is a double session 12:45-4:00.**



## **10. The Sensory Puzzle**

**Nancy McAuley, MS/CCC, Speech Language Pathologist/Rehabilitation Supervisor, and Michelle Fell, OTR/L, Senior Occupational Therapist**

Picture this, your hearing is muffled, you can't get your balance, and everything you touch feels sticky. Now you're supposed to learn something new. Sensory processing is a complex issue that will be explored during this session through audience participation. It's time to experience the world in a whole new way!

## **11. Asperger Syndrome: Successful Strategies**

**Brenda Smith Myles: Author/ Keynote Speaker**

This session will focus on social skills support groups for students with high functioning autism and Asperger Syndrome. Social skills activities will be discussed in the context of comprehensive planning. Practical suggestions, including case examples, on using social skills in school and home settings will be provided.

## **12. Parent Panel**

An open discussion by parents for parents, friends, and other members of the community on everything from overcoming behavioral issues, to goals parents have for their children, and what they are doing to help reach these goals.

## **13. Effective Strategies for Working with Elementary Students on the Spectrum**

**Lisa Plastino: Educational Consultant, The Watson Institute**

This training will focus on using effective strategies to teach academics to students with autism in elementary school settings.

## **14. Sexuality**

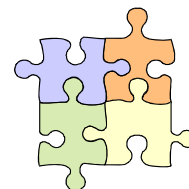
**Dr. Lawrence Sutton: Autism Bureau**

Dr. Sutton is a certified school psychologist from the Bureau of Autism Services. In this presentation he will discuss sexuality as it relates to students on the spectrum.

## **15. Bullying and Beyond**

**Donna Whoric: Behavior Consultant, Intermediate Unit 1**

This session will address bullying and the effects it has on students with Autism Spectrum Disorder.



## ***Breakout Sessions (Choose One)***

**2:30 – 4:00 pm**

### **16. The ABCs of Challenging Behavior**

**Regis Lazor:** Special Education Professor and Behavior Consultant, California University of Pennsylvania

This presentation will give teachers a concise and effective tool for understanding and taking important first steps in dealing with challenging behaviors, including functional behavioral assessment and positive behavior supports.

### **17. Social Skill Development in Adolescents on the Spectrum-To Infinity and Beyond**

**Rick Murray, Teresa O'Brien and Colleen Patrick-Evans:** FBR Autism Services

An experiential approach will be utilized to identify typical social deficits experienced by adolescents with an Autism Spectrum Disorder. Participants will learn a myriad of specific strategies and interventions that can be used to target social skill development. A list of resources on social skill development will be provided.

### **18. Accessible Literacy Learning (ALL)**

**Bryan Dawson:** Representative, DynaVox-Mayer Johnson Systems Incorporated

Reading is critical to any learner's success. The ALL Reading Curriculum, developed by researchers Janice Light and David McNaughton of Penn State, is a unique tutoring curriculum. It's designed to teach reading skills to students with a range of disabilities, including Cerebral Palsy, Down syndrome, autism and developmental apraxia.

### **19. Gluten/Casein Free 101**

**Lori Karavolis(Lori Bakes):** Author and Baker

This session will cover: Coping with going GF/CF, Leaky Gut, Theory behind success of GF/CF and ASD, Tasty Tips, Testing the Diet, Oh What, Oh What Can I Eat? Lori Bakes, "Special Foods for Special People"

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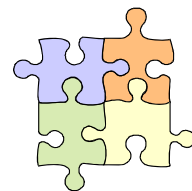
[lori@loribakes.com](mailto:lori@loribakes.com)

724-207-0009

### **20. Competent Learner Model (CLM)**

**Cathy Scutta:** MS, OTR/L, BCBA, Statewide lead educational consultant for the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Autism Initiative at PATTaN.

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## **22. Identification and Assessment of Autism Spectrum Disorders**

**Dr. Sam Lonich: Director, Child & Family Studies Institute, California University of Pennsylvania**

An increased awareness of Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs) leaves some educators and parents knowing enough to recognize extreme or classic indicators (i.e., no language, very aggressive behavior), but not familiar with the subtleties of this complicated condition to accurately rule in or out Autism disorder. Diverse school, home, and community needs dictate an individualized and comprehensive assessment process to ensure appropriate treatment planning. This presentation will focus on the identification and assessment of ASDs.

## **23. Using Effective Strategies to Teach Academics to Students with ASD in Secondary Classrooms**

**Lisa Plastino: Educational Consultant, The Watson Institute**

This training will focus on using effective strategies to teach academics to students with autism in secondary school settings.

## **24. Strengthening the Mind and Body Through Extra Curricular Activities**

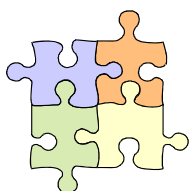
**Early Intervention Teachers**

This training will focus on inclusive community opportunities available to individuals on the spectrum. The presenters will discuss ice skating, gymnastics, horseback riding, and other programs that have already been successfully implemented for individuals with autism and their peers.

## **25. Approaches to Managing Behaviors**

**David Parme: Clinical Liaison, The Bradley Center**

This session will discuss approaches for the classroom and home environments utilizing the principles of applied behavior analysis for managing behaviors.





**26. L.A.M.P.**

**Ken Kwasniewski:** M.A. CCC/SLP Regional Consultant, Prentke Romich Company

An overview of the LAMP (Language Acquisition and Motor Planning) training and how it promotes language development will be addressed. The session will also be devoted to utilizing the Vantage Lite (a Prentke Romich Co. Speech Generating Device) to incorporate the LAMP principles into classroom academic and therapy objectives.

**27. Bullying and Beyond**

**Donna Whoric:** Behavior Consultant, Intermediate Unit 1

This session will address bullying and the effects it has on students with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

**28. Effective Strategies for Early Intervention Staff**

**Diane Beregi, Doreen Skerbetz, Robyn Walters, Nancy Weaver:**

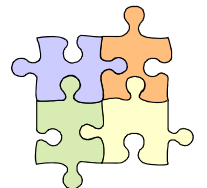
Intermediate Unit 1

During this session early intervention teachers will share their experiences working with students on various levels of the autism spectrum.

**New This Year: Meet and Eat Lunch Sessions**

These self-led groups will give you the opportunity to meet and discuss topics of interest and share strategies with your peers. We will have lunch sent to the rooms so you must pre-register.

*A Very Special Thank You to Joseph Schleicher, President Angelo Armenti, Provost Geraldine Jones, Dean Kevin Koury, Dean John Cencich, Dean William Edmonds, California University staff, Candace Dunn, Dr. Jarol DeVoge, Intermediate Unit 1 staff, CEC, and all the volunteers and supporters of this event.*



**Schedule at a Glance-P.E.P. Conference Registration**

**Please Indicate the Sessions You Plan to Attend:**

**(Please select one from each time period unless it is a double session)**

<b>12:45 - 2:00</b>			<b>2:30 - 4:00</b>		
<b>Session</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
_____ 1	ABC-Behavior	Lazor	_____ 16	ABC-Behavior	Lazor
_____ 2	Play Therapy	FBR	_____ 17	Social Skills	FBR
_____ 3	Visual Scenes	Dawson	_____ 18	ALL	Dawson
_____ 4	Gluten/Casein101	Karavolis	_____ 19	Gluten/Casein 101	Karavolis
_____ 5	CLM	Scutta	_____ 20	CLM	Scutta
_____ 6	LAMP	Kwasniewski	_____ 21	Sensory Puzzle	McAuley
_____ 7	Identification	Lonich	_____ 22	Identification	Lonich
_____ 8	Managing Behav.	Parme	_____ 23	Secondary Strategies	Plastino
_____ 9	Transition	Nairn	_____ 24	Curricular Activities	Various
_____ 10	Sensory Puzzle	McAuley	_____ 25	Managing Behav.	Parme
_____ 11	Social Skills	Myles	_____ 26	LAMP	Kwasniewski
_____ 12	Parent Panel	Suppo	_____ 27	Bullying	Whoric
_____ 13	Elem. Strategies	Plastino	_____ 28	Early Intervention	EI teachers
_____ 14	Sexuality	Sutton	_____		
_____ 15	Bullying	Whoric	_____		

**LUNCH GROUPS:** Please pick One or Have Lunch on Your Own-Lunch will be Provided

Early Childhood       Parents       Administrators       Elementary  
 Students/New Teachers       Secondary Staff

**2009 Registration Rates**

**Early Bird Specials: February 15<sup>th</sup> :      *Last day to register February 28, 2009***

**Registration after Feb. 15th**

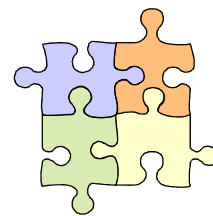
<b>Parents and Family Members</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50.00
<b>Educators and Other Professionals</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$90.00
<b>Students (must show id card and no Act 48 hours will be given)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00
<b>Persons with ASD</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> No Charge	

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



**Online registration with credit card:**

<http://www.cup.edu/graduate/pep.htm>

**Mail in payments and purchase orders: Please mail this form and payment to:**

Dr. Kate Mitchem

Department of Special Education

250 University Avenue, California, Pa 15419-1394

**Checks are payable to:** "Foundation for California University of PA"

On the memo line put: **Autism conference 2009**

If you need additional assistance please contact Dr. Kate Mitchem:

[mitchem\\_k@cup.edu](mailto:mitchem_k@cup.edu)

**\*\* Persons requiring accommodations under the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) please contact Dr. Kate Mitchem at 724-938-6039 or [mitchem\\_k@cup.edu](mailto:mitchem_k@cup.edu).**

**The vendor exhibitions will be open starting at 8:00 am. Additional viewing opportunities will be during lunch and again from 2:00-2:30 pm. There will be informational booths and items for sale.**

## About Our Exhibitors

- **Autism Asperger Publishing Company Bookstore(AAPC):**  
AAPC is an independent publisher specializing in books on autism spectrum disorders based on the latest research on autism, Asperger Syndrome and other developmental disabilities.  
<http://www.asperger.net/index.htm>
- **The Watson Institute:**  
The Watson Institute, through the family of schools and services, help children and youth with special needs to achieve their fullest potential in all aspects of their lives. <http://www.thewatsoninstitute.org>
- **Discovery Toys:**  
Discovery Toys provides educational and developmentally appropriate toys, games, books, and music for all ages and all abilities. <http://www.discoverytoyslink.com/Lenoremomkppj>
- **Wesley Spectrum:**  
Wesley Spectrum Services provide transformational support for children and families as they strive to become more independent, caring members of the community through a wide range of specialized services. [www.wesleyspectrum.org](http://www.wesleyspectrum.org)
- **WJS Psychological Associates Inc.:**  
WJS Psychological Associates, Inc. specializes in working with children diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder, and providing both comprehensive evaluations and BHRS intervention services. <http://www.wjspsychological.com>
- **Family Behavior Resources:**  
Offers comprehensive level of services and support to families affected by ASD.  
<http://www.familybehavioralresources.com/servicesautism>
- **The Children's Institute:**  
Pediatric rehabilitation facility in Pittsburgh, PA dedicated to promoting the well being of children, young people, their families, and to provide services that meet their special needs.  
[www.amazingkids.org](http://www.amazingkids.org)
- **ABOARD:**  
ABOARD's mission is to impact the lives of Pennsylvania children, adolescents, and adults with autism through intervention, support, and education. [www.aboard.org](http://www.aboard.org)
- **Simply Strung Together:**  
Simply Strung Together designs are one-of-a-kind jewelry pieces created by a local artist. A portion of the proceeds sold at the conference will benefit autism.  
<http://simplystrungtogether.com/index.html>
- **Children's Therapy Center:**  
The Children's Therapy Center of The Washington Hospital, located in Waterdam Plaza, McMurray, is the only center of its kind south of Pittsburgh offering comprehensive children's rehabilitation.
- **Monongahela Valley Hospital's Center for Children's Rehabilitation:**  
Monongahela Valley Hospital's Center for Children's Rehabilitation provides specialized services to meet the rehabilitation needs of children and adolescents.
- **Usborne Books:**  
Usborne Books are fun, innovative, and engaging books for children of all ages and skill levels. Available through home demos, book fairs, and on the web. [www.Usbornemom.com](http://www.Usbornemom.com)  
*Judy Kinnee 412-680-9205*
- **Assistive Technology Companies:**  
*DynaVox/Mayer-Johnson, Augmentative Communication Consultants, Inc., Prentke Romich*
- **Transition, Service Providers and more.....**  
*There will be opportunities to purchase various items. All vendors accept cash; some will accept credit cards. There is an ATM on the premises.*