UNIVERSITY SYSTEM *of* MARYLAND
KIRWAN CENTER FOR ACADEMIC INNOVATION

Supporting Digital Accessibility for Learning

September 29, 2022 | National Federation of the Blind Headquarters

FEATURED SPEAKER

Dr. Jonathan Lazar is a professor in the College of Information Studies (iSchool) at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP). He joined the iSchool in 2019, after 19 years as a professor of computer and information sciences at Towson University, where he served as director of the information systems program for 14 years.

Dr. Lazar has authored or edited 14 books, including *Research Methods in Human-Computer Interaction* (2nd ed, co-authored with Heidi Feng and Harry Hochheiser), *Ensuring Digital Accessibility Through Process and Policy* (co-authored with Dan Goldstein and Anne Taylor), *Disability, Human Rights, and Information Technology* (co-edited with Michael Stein), *Universal Usability: Designing Computer Interfaces for Diverse User Populations,* and *Web Usability: A User-Centered Design Approach*. His latest, *Accessible Technology and the Developing World* (co-edited with Michael Stein), was published by Oxford University Press in January 2022.

He has published over 150 refereed articles in journals, conference proceedings, edited books, and magazines, and has been granted two U.S. patents for his work on accessible web-based security features for blind users. He frequently serves as an adviser to government agencies and regularly provides testimony at federal and state levels, and multiple U.S. federal regulations cite his research publications.

Dr. Lazar is the director of the Trace Research & Development Center and is a faculty member in the Human-Computer Interaction Lab, both at UMCP. He has been on the executive Board of the Friends of the Maryland Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped since 2009, was co-chair of the Cambridge University Workshop on Universal Access and Assistive Technology (CWUAAT) from 2012-2020 and has been on the program committee of the ACM Conference on Accessible Computing (ASSETS) most years since 2006. He was the general chair of the ASSETS 2021 conference.

PROGRAM

TIME	TOPIC
8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	**Registration and Breakfast** | Members Hall
9:00 a.m.– 9:15 a.m.	**Welcome** | Members Hall *Mark A. Riccobono,* President, National Federation of the Blind; and *Joann Boughman,* Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, University System of Maryland
9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	**KEYNOTE ADDRESS** | Members Hall **Strategies for Improving Digital Accessibility: Supporting Faculty, Staff, and Administrators** *Jonathan Lazar*, Professor, College of Information Studies, University of Maryland, College Park *We all share a common goal, to ensure that our digital technologies and content are fully accessible for people with disabilities. As people working directly towards this goal, we often need to convince other members of the university community of the importance of digital accessibility. This presentation will highlight the different viewpoints of faculty, staff, and administrators related to digital accessibility and provide practical (no cost or low cost) strategies for engaging with each group.*
10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	**Institutional Team Planning Time** | Members Hall *Teams discuss the keynote address and plan together on which concurrent sessions to attend.*
10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	**Break and Transition to Concurrent Sessions**
10:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. *Concurrent Sessions*	**Building Institutional Awareness for Digital Accessibility through Campus Partnerships** | Members Hall *Tawny McManus*, Assistant Vice Provost for Accessibility & Disability Services, University of Maryland, Baltimore County; and *Kelly Rogan*, Assistant Director, Accessibility and Disability Services, Towson University *The facilitators will share their paths in bringing institutional awareness and change towards inclusive digital access practices through their work in creating interdepartmental collaborations. This interactive session will highlight successful experiences at respective institutions, discuss challenges faced, and share work that is in progress and still lies ahead. Attendees will be encouraged to share their experiences in working to increase digital accessibility initiatives on their campuses and will invite sharing of innovative ideas and resources.* **ADA IRL? NP! – Faculty's Role in ADA Compliance in a Digital World** | Fourth Floor Conference Room *Eve Hill,* Partner, Brown, Goldstein, and Levy and Principal, Inclusivity Strategic Consulting *The presenter will discuss the Americans with Disabilities Act's application to educational technologies, as well as ADA requirements, best practices, and ways for faculty to ensure their teaching includes students with disabilities. There will be time for questions and answers.*
11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	**Lunch** | Members Hall

TIME	TOPIC
12:15 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.	**Break and Transition to Concurrent Sessions**
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. *Concurrent Sessions*	**Supporting Faculty around Digital Accessibility: Challenges, Strategies, and Aspirations** | Members Hall *Moderator: MJ Bishop*, Vice President for Integrative Learning Design, University of Maryland Global Campus *Panelists: Sue Johnson,* Accessible Learning Designer, University of Maryland, College Park; *Ana Palla*, Senior IT Accessibility and UX Specialist and Interim Director, Learning Technology Design, University of Maryland, College Park; and *Karyn Schulz*, Director, Disability and Access Services, University of Baltimore *What are the supports that faculty need to ensure that digital accessibility is baked into their course designs and teaching from the start? In this session, panelists will discuss challenges and disincentives to faculty engagement in digital accessibility, current strategies for increasing engagement, and aspirations for taking faculty engagement to the next level.* **Making an Accessible Classroom** | Fourth Floor Conference Room *Karl Belanger,* Nonvisual Access Technology Specialist, National Federation of the Blind and *Stephen Polacek*, IT Accessibility Program Specialist, Maryland Department of Disabilities *The presenters will provide guidance on how to align accessibility practices with Understanding by Design. They will cover topics such as document accessibility, LMS accessibility, and best practices in accessible teaching techniques.*
1:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.	**Break and Transition to Team Conversations**
1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.	**Institutional Planning and Sharing** | Members Hall *Institutional teams meet to discuss takeaways and next steps post-convening (20 minutes)* *Teams pair up to share plans and receive feedback (40 minutes)*
2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	**Wrap up** | Members Hall *Nancy O'Neill,* Acting Director, Kirwan Center for Academic Innovation, USM