

Breakout Session Workshops

Creative Dramatics: An Invitation for Creative Expression in the Inclusive Classroom

Mary Ann Smorra, Professor, Georgian Court University

Join us as we explore the world of creative dramatics...a facilitator of creative expression, problem solving and life. Bring with you the tools of drama: your mind, body, voice...heart! Use these tools to build and enhance your concentration, imagination, and transformation. Most of all, be prepared to unwind and have fun. A detailed handout will facilitate the use of these creative dramatics strategies in the inclusive classroom.

Managing Classroom Behavior: Think Big, Start Small- A Preventative Approach

Joanne P. Kenny, Assistant Professor, Georgian Court University

Positive and consistent interactions with students, especially those who have behavioral problems, often lead to more productive and encouraging environment. Planned strategies that can be regularly implemented will improve the classroom environment and help ensure a classroom that is safe and secure so effective learning can take place. Acceptable and appropriate behavior is developmental- it happens over time and is greatly influenced by parental support and guidance, peers, previous experiences and the intervention techniques employed by teachers, caregivers, and parents. This workshop presents simple preventative strategies that can be implemented quickly and effectively to help teachers avoid inappropriate and unacceptable student behavior.

Movement in the Classroom: The Physical Side of Learning

Barbara A. Cordasco, Assistant Professor, Georgian Court University

Sit still! Pay attention! Please stop fidgeting? Sound familiar? Children have to move. Why not take advantage of their natural tendency? Explore the relationship between movement and learning by actively participating in a workshop designed to provide the participants with a set of fun physical activities designed to enhance children's learning and performance in all areas. Knowledge gained can be immediately integrated into your general classroom routines and strategies. You may find that your students are actually more attentive. Come dressed comfortable and ready to participate.

Nurturing the Gifted or Squandering Potential?

Patricia Geary, GNSH, Professor, Georgian Court University

This workshop focuses on defining 'gifted and talented,' types of giftedness, characteristics of gifted/talented, developing the gifted and talented in inclusion settings, project based learning, and exploring the relationship between gifted and talented education and US economic growth.

Preparing for the Transition to College

Nora L. Pollard, Assistant Professor, Kean University

Students with learning and behavioral disabilities frequently choose to continue their education beyond the secondary level, however, they are often ill prepared to make the transition to the more demanding post-secondary educational institution. During this workshop participants will discuss ideas for teachers to help students with disabilities make a smooth transition to the college learning environment.

Providing FAPE: When is a program “Appropriate” under the IDEIA?

Hillary D. Freeman, Esq. of Hinkle, Fingles, & Prior

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act requires eligible students to receive a free appropriate public education, however few people actually know what this means. This workshop reviews how the term “appropriate” has been assessed from a legal and clinical point of view.

Response to Intervention: What, Why, and How?

Pamela Lowry, Assistant Professor, Georgian Court University

This presentation examines Response to Intervention in terms of what it is, why it has been suggested and how it may be implemented.

The Choice is Mine: Including all in the Inclusive Classroom

Julie Norflus-Good, Associate Dean, Felician College

Anne DeGroot, Assistant Professor, Ramapo College

Participants will learn how to use choice boards to effectively differentiate instruction and actively engage students within inclusive environments.