

Creating a Culture of Inclusion

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2020 | 10:45AM-12PM

~ Guest Panel ~



Panel Moderator: Mariza Hernandez

Lead Instructional Designer, Academic Technology Services
CSULB

Mariza has worked at CSULB for over 10 years. For the last four years, Mariza has served as an Instructional Design consultant in Academic Technology Services and is now the Lead on this team.

Prior to working at ATS, Mariza worked as a disabled student services coordinator and Accessibility Project Consultant on campus. She holds a Masters Degree in Instructional Design and Technology from Cal State Fullerton and a B.A. in Applied Computer Graphics and Multimedia from Chico State University.



Mary Nguyen

Director, Bob Murphy Access Center (BMAC)
CSULB

As Director of the Bob Murphy Access Center (BMAC), Mary Nguyen has devoted her career to empowering students, regardless of ability, to reach their full potential and brings a wealth of

knowledge and experience to CSULB with over 10 years of collaborative work in Higher Education providing program management and individual confidential counseling to students regarding assistive technology, academic, self-advocacy, disability management, and accommodation needs to help towards retention and graduation goals.

After receiving her Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy from University of California Irvine, she earned a Master of Education in Postsecondary Administration and Student Affairs from the University of Southern California. Mary's mission is to redefine ability and work in collaboration with the University to bring down barriers, prioritize student access within a Universal Design framework, and provide comprehensive and innovative accommodations/services to students with disabilities.



Velma Martin

Assistant Director
Accessible Instructional Materials (AIM) Center
CSULB

Velma Martin oversees the day-to-day operation of the AIM center. In compliance with the Accessible Technology Initiative (ATI), ADA, Section 504, and 508, she provides campus-wide support to departments including assistive technology accessible course materials, online documentations, and web accessibility access. Working in conjunction with the Procurement services, Velma also reviews all electronic copies of all ATI related purchases and provides recommendations and approvals to Purchasing.

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Sonia Acosta

Coordinator, Accessible Instructional Materials (AIM) Center
CSULB

Sonia Acosta is the Coordinator at the Accessible Instructional Materials (AIM) Center at CSULB. She has her M.A. in Education, Educational Technology & Media Leadership and is a Library of Congress

Certified Braille Transcriber.



Krista Greear

Accessibility Strategist
Global Consulting Services at Blackboard

An enthusiastic, data-driven individual, Krista is passionate about inclusivity. With over 11 years of experience, Krista's focus is to accelerate digital content, with expertise in document and video accessibility. She is excited about improving the experience for all users, students, and clients by working with stakeholders to make changes at an organizational level. Krista has directly supported 60+ institutions in strategizing around improved inclusion through the implementation of Blackboard Ally. Since 2018, Krista has served as the Vice President of ATHEN, a professional association and network accessibility and technology. Leveraging her Master of Education in Educational Technology from Boise State University (2018), Krista is interested in the intersection of accessibility, and instructional design.



Sam Karell

Accessibility Strategist
Global Consulting Services at Blackboard

Sam Karell brings over 10 years of experience in higher education and accessibility to her role at Blackboard. Sam's focus is on transforming the educational experience by building collaborative partnerships with higher education institutions to promote inclusive learning environments for all students. Her goal is to support educational leaders in minimizing barriers and maximizing learning using technology, data and solutions. Sam received a Masters of Education in Higher Education Administration from Central Washington University and her graduate work centered around creating practices that promote Universal Design for Learning at higher education institutions.



Kerri Sorenson

Lead IT Software Trainer, Information Technology Services (ITS)
CSULB

Kerri Sorenson is the Lead IT Trainer from the Division of Information Technology. She has been with CSULB for 14 years. She provides software training for staff and faculty and has conducted Document

Accessibility workshops for more than 1000 CSULB employees.