

*5th Annual  
Assistive Technology Conference:  
Unlocking the Potential of All Students*

*Thursday, June 7, 2007*

*8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.*

*Rensselaer at Hartford, Hartford, CT*

**Keynote Address**

***Universal Design for Learning: Balancing UDL and AT***

**Chuck Hitchcock**



As CAST's Chief Officer of Policy & Technology, Chuck Hitchcock oversees technology innovation, including software and website development. He was instrumental in the creation of Bobby, an award-winning, innovative tool for improving website accessibility, which earned honors from the Computerworld/Smithsonian Awards, the American Association of Engineering Specialists, and others.

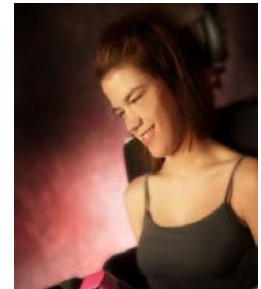
As director of the federally funded NIMAS Technical Assistance Center, Mr. Hitchcock works with states, school boards, and publishers to raise awareness and implementation of the National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard (NIMAS). NIMAS guides the production and distribution of digital versions of textbooks and other instructional materials so they can be more easily converted to accessible formats such as Braille and text-to-speech.

Mr. Hitchcock played a key role in the development of NIMAS while directing the National Center on Accessing the General Curriculum (NCAC) from 1999-2004.

*Special Featured Speaker*

**Sara Pyszka**

Sara Pyszka is a 21-year-old student at Wright University in Dayton, Ohio, where she is majoring in rehabilitation services. She has had cerebral palsy from the time she was born. Although unable to walk or use vocal speech, she has not let this get in the way of expressing her potential. Several years ago, Ms. Pyszka began communicating with a DynaVox alternative and augmentative communicator (AAC). Under the tutelage of former Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra Conductor, Lucas Richman, she has sung her own songs at numerous public events using her DynaVox. Her determination is endless as she expresses the talent within her heart.



**Concurrent Session Topics include:**

- Overview and Implementation of the National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard (NIMAS) file sets
- Assessment Accommodation for the CMT and CAPT
- Don Johnston's Incite™! Learning Series and Start-to-Finish® Reading Series
- Reading and Writing Strategies with Don Johnston's SOLO™
- Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) in the Classroom
- Improvement of Student Reading Outcomes with Kurzweil 3000™
- Assistive Technology Implementation Strategies
- Exploring Microsoft Accessibility

Please note: A program guide describing the conference and concurrent sessions will be provided to all participants with conference handout materials.

## CEUs:

SERC will award .7 CEUs for the full day of participation. Participants must be pre-registered, receive written confirmation from SERC, attend in full, complete an evaluation form, and provide evidence of post-conference application/reflection. Evaluation forms and information about the post-conference application/reflection responsibility will be available at the conference.

## Registration Information:

As seating is limited, registration will be on a "first come, first served" basis with consideration given to regional distribution. The closing date for submitting applications is **May 21, 2007**.

There is a registration fee of **\$60.00 per person**. Check or purchase order should be made payable to Rensselaer at Hartford. Lunch will be provided. Although every effort will be made to honor individual preferences, seating in all workshops is limited and on a "first come, first served" basis. Therefore it is important to have some alternative choices in mind. Please complete the application form in full (duplicates accepted). Return completed application with fee to **Unlocking the Potential in All Students**, SERC, 25 Industrial Park Road, Middletown, CT 06457-1520. Applicants will receive written confirmation from SERC verifying participation shortly after the closing date. Direct content questions to Craig Struble, Consultant, extension 392, and registration questions to Leticia Garcia Guerra, Senior Project Assistant, extension 233, at SERC (860) 632-1485.

### 5th Annual

### Assistive Technology Conference: *Unlocking the Potential in All Students*

#### AGENDA

- 8:00 a.m. Registration and Refreshments
- 9:00 a.m. Opening Remarks/First Speaker  
Sara Pyska
- 9:30 a.m. Keynote Address  
Chuck Hitchcock
- 10:30 a.m. Break
- 10:45 a.m. Session A Concurrent Sessions
- 11:30 a.m. Vendor Exhibits
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:15 p.m. Session B Concurrent Sessions
- 2:00 p.m. Session C Concurrent Sessions
- 2:45 p.m. Closing/Door Prizes and Evaluation

#### SPONSORS:

The Connecticut State Education Resource Center  
(SERC)

The Connecticut State Department of Education  
(CSDE)

The New England Assistive Technology Marketplace  
NEAT Marketplace



### APPLICATION FORM: Unlocking the Potential in All Students (06-07-28-015) TIE/lgg

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (Please Print Clearly.) \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

School/Agency \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Role \_\_\_\_\_

Please check if an interpreter and/or disability related accommodation is needed. Specify: \_\_\_\_\_

Classroom release time is approved: Administrator's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

In which region are services provided?

ACES     CES     CREC     EASTCONN     ED CONNECTION     LEARN

Please check if needed:     Vegetarian Lunch     Interpreter (Please specify.)