



Missouri
Association on
Higher
Education

SUMMER 2008

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Missouri AHEAD

President's Corner

While I have actually been serving the role of MO-AHEAD President since the January 2008, this is my first trip to the President's Corner. I apparently misbehaved enough during our most recent MO-AHEAD board meeting at the end of June that my colleagues felt I needed to take a time-out and come over here. With the recent birth of the second family child in late February, it has been a busy 2008 for me. I unfortunately was unable to attend the Tall Oaks conference in April, which I understand included some excellent presentations. And to those who were able to attend, winter need not be feared anymore, as you have a great Tall Oaks blanket by which to keep you warm. My thanks to all members of the MO-AHEAD board for all of the hard work that went into making the conference possible.

Now that our Kansas friends will be taking the lead on organizing Tall Oaks for the next two years, the MO-AHEAD board is examining ways in which we can create greater value and benefit for you, the MO-AHEAD member. Our first step, thanks to Tabitha Haynes, our newest Secretary and Web Coordinator, was the establishment of our self-controlled MO-AHEAD website, which is www.moahead.org. If you have not had the opportunity to check it out yet, please take a moment to do so. It is our hope that we will add more information to this site in the months to come so that this site can be a valuable resource in your professional activities. Examples of things to hopefully be added in the future include a general list of learning disability assessment sites throughout the state of Missouri, links to certain disability topics (such as Asperger's, distance education, etc.), and an invitation to colleagues in our state to share recent research outcomes and office best practices. You will be hearing more from us in this regard in the months to come.

We are also exploring ways in which we can interact as a membership over the course of the year. As you know, one of the greatest ways to navigate through the many challenges of this job is to discuss with col-



Adam Meyer
MO-AHEAD President

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leagues their various approaches and practices to situations. We want to take advantage of the great resources and ideas that we have within the membership. A recent survey sent to MO-AHEAD members included questions regarding workshops and occasional phone conferences. Information from the results of this survey will be shared in the near future along with our ideas for greater interaction with one another.

Speaking of surveys, I may currently be recognized as the person who has sent those short surveys regarding Tall Oaks, the recent election for VP and secretary, and workshops. It has been great to receive such a high response rate from these survey invitations. Your feedback really helps us to know what the general membership thinks, which is valuable information when establishing an action plan. Thus, I may be sending more surveys on occasion in the future but with the promise to keep response time under five minutes. We hope you continue to share your insight through your responses.

Whether your summer office pace is slower or just as hectic as the traditional academic year, I hope that you enjoy the rest of your summer. You will be hearing and reading more from us soon.

Adam Meyer



Summer 2008 Reading Suggestions

From Your Newsletter Editor

Look Me in the Eye: My Life with Asperger's by John Elder Robison

For more information please visit: <http://www.johnrobison.com/>

The Center Cannot Hold: My Journey Through Madness by Elyn R. Saks

Time Magazine top 10 books of 2007

Thinking in Pictures : And Other Reports from My Life with Autism by Temple Grandin

For more information please visit: <http://www.templegrandin.com/>

IN THE SPOTLIGHT:



TABITHA HAYNES

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF DISABILITY SERVICES
MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

&

MO-AHEAD EXECUTIVE BOARDMEMBER
SECRETARY, HISTORIAN,
AND WEB- COORDINATOR

How many years have you been in your current position?

I have been with the University for 6.5 years; 5 years as Coordinator of Deaf Services and 1.5 as Assistant Director

Career path leading to current work:

I started with MHMR in the late 80s and then started interpreting in the early 90s and here I am.

What would you be doing if not this...

I would love to go to law school and go into practice focusing on disability law – with an occasional criminal defense case thrown in.

What is your favorite quote?

“Don’t speak unless you can improve on the silence.” – this one is self-explanatory.

What would you do if won the lottery?

Pay off my debt, pay off my parent’s debt, I would make a few donations and maybe take a trip to Italy before I come back to work.

What are your special interests or hobbies outside of work?

I love ballroom/swing dancing and I also volunteer for CASA and the Victim Center on a regular basis and a few other agencies less often.

At work what resources do you turn to for guidance?

Websites, publications, books, etc. MOAHEAD (of course!) and PEPNet are the two resources I use most often.

Visit the updated MO-AHEAD Website!!

www.moahead.org

Features Include:

- VALUABLE PARENT & STUDENT RESOURCES.
- LEARN HOW YOU CAN HOST A TRANSITION TRAINING.
- PRINTABLE MISSOURI COLLEGE GUIDEBOOK AVAILABLE.
- READ EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES.
- NEW FEATURES ADDED REGULARLY!
- COMING SOON: LD ASSESSMENT SITE LIST.
- REFER A COLLEAGUE TO THE MEMEBERSHIP LINK!

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