

**Loyola Marymount  
University**

**The Coelho Center for Disability  
Law, Policy, and Innovation**

**Presents**

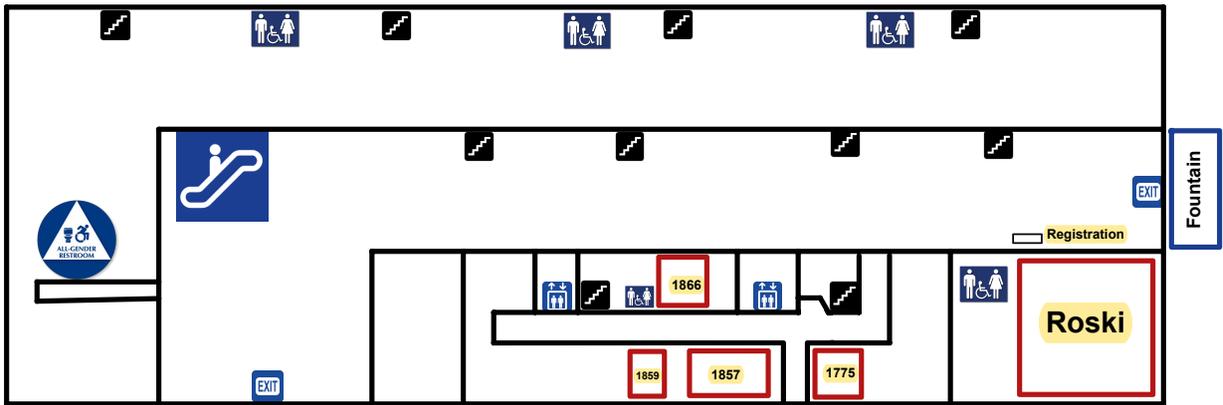
**A Neighborly  
Conversation:  
Disability Studies in  
Los Angeles**

**February 21, 2025**

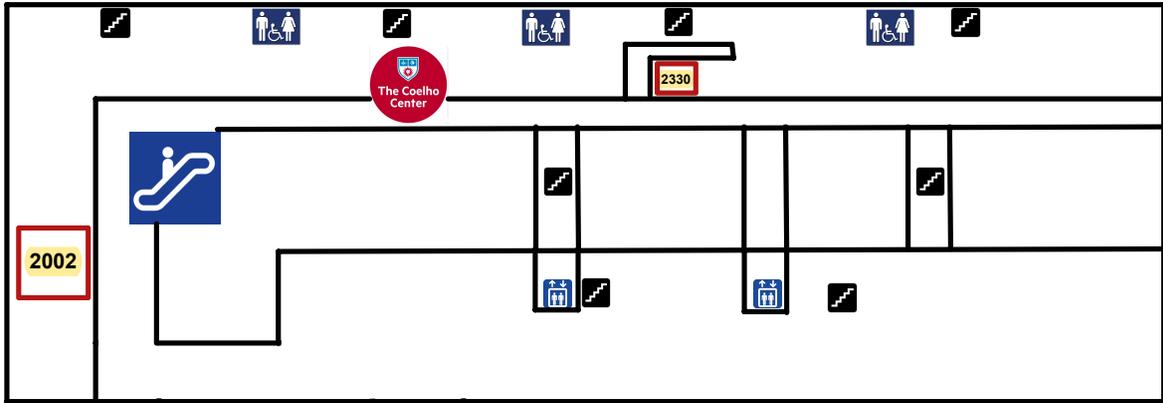
**With gratitude to: LMU's Office of the Provost, LMU's Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; LMU's Bellarmine College of Liberal Arts, The Department of Women's and Gender Studies, Disability Rights California, The Marymount Center at LMU, The Center for Faculty Development at LMU, and Burns Recreation Center**

# Map of University Hall

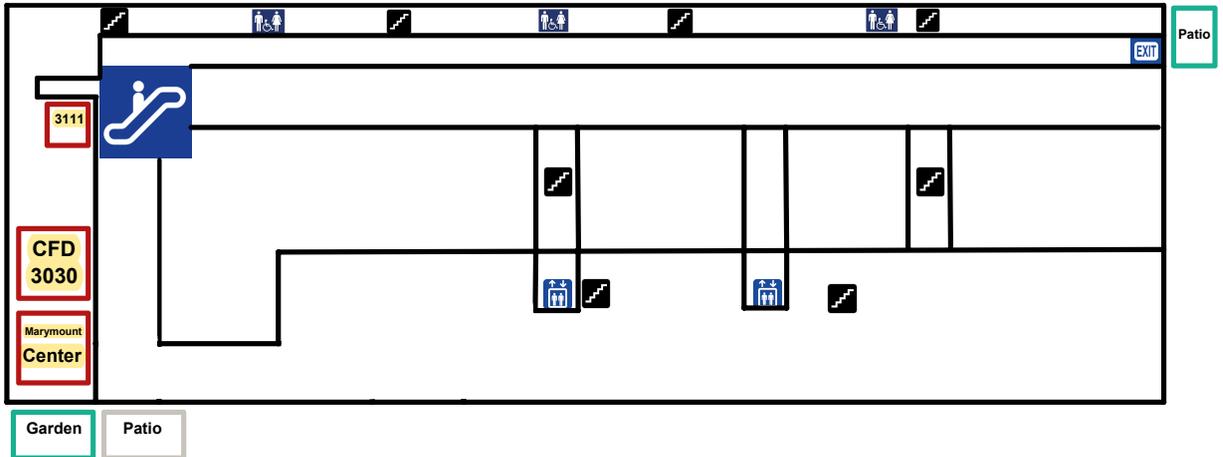
First floor



Second floor



Third floor



Garden

Patio

## ANC Box:

<https://lmu.box.com/v/ANC-2025-Box>



### The Box contains:

- A digital version of this program
- All presentation abstracts
- Access copies to papers and slide decks
- Volunteer instructions
- Map of University Hall

## Poster Presentations | Roski Dining Hall 9am-5pm

**Natalie Homstad, LMU undergraduate student**

*Women & Anxiety: A Zine*

**Morgan Keating, LMU undergraduate student**

“Influencing Autistic Queer Experiences.”

**Ifunanya Nweke, Ed.D, Kia Hill, M.Ed., Clayton Brossia, and Daisy Cabral-Zuniga**

“Investigating the Differential Development of Motor Skills and Conceptual Knowledge Retention in Autistic Music Students: A Mixed-Methods Study on Cognitive and Sensory Influences in Music Education.”

**Brooke Pegues, LMU undergraduate student**

“Sharenting, The Ethical Concerns of Social Media Representation.”

**Nono Sasai**

“Constructing Competitive Apparel: Inclusive Shoe Design for Breaking Athletes.”

**Cherisse Watts PhD(c), MSN, RN, PHN**

“Decision Making Processes of Black Parents of Children with Developmental Differences.”

**Yuval Yossefy, Community Organizer**

*LA Vote Center Accessibility Audit*

**Quiet space**  
**Gailhac Community Lounge**  
**The Marymount Center | UNH 3rd Floor**  
**9am-5pm**

# Schedule by Session

(Turn to the following table for schedule by location)

<b>8:30 – 9:00 am Continental Breakfast / Poster Set-Up</b>
<b>Roski Dining Hall</b>
<b>9:00 – 9:15 am Opening Remarks</b>
<b>Roski Dining Hall</b>  Katherine Perez, Director, The Coelho Center Dr. Mairead Sullivan, WGST Chair LMU Chancellor, Fr. Michael Engh
<b>9:30 - 10:30 am Breakout Session #1</b>
<i>Disability Studies: Introducing Autism Studies at All Levels of Training</i>
<b>Roski Dining Hall</b>  <i>Perspectives on Autism &amp; Neurodiversity: An Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Course</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>★ Maya C. Ayoub, MD, EdM - Clinical Instructor in Child Neurology at UCLA Pediatrics</li><li>★ Russell Lehmann - Speaker, Poet, and International Disability Rights Advocate at The UCLA Tarjan Center</li><li>★ Yasamin Bolourian, PhD - Director of Outreach and Dissemination at the UCLA Tarjan Center</li></ul> <i>Population Health Approach to Autism: Interdisciplinary Graduate Education</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>★ Kashia A. Rosenau, PhD - Training Director at University of California Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (UC-LEND)</li></ul> <i>Gender Health Meets Disability: An Intersectional Health Session for Medical Students</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>★ Susan H. Duan, MD - Director of Disabilities Education at UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine, Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine and Pediatrics</li></ul>
<i>TIGER: The 20-year Evolution of Parent Advocacy Training</i>

**UNH 1866**

Dr. Terese "Tisa" Aceves, LMU Professor of Education  
"An Evolution of Parent Advocacy Training in Southern California"

Marisol Chianello, JD, TIGER Program Director at Learning Rights  
"Overcoming Growing Pains in a Post-Covid Era."

Mariana Lenero, TIGER Educational Consultant, Enrichment Classes  
"Accessing to Information Beyond the Law: What Families Need & Want to Know"

TIGER Alumni/Former TIGER Participants (TBD)  
"The Real-Life Impact of TIGER."

*The Future of Arts is Accessible: A Conversation Centering Disabled Artistry and Inclusive Environments*

**UNH 1857**

Quinn O'Connor, disabled producer, UCLA alum  
Diana Wyenn, disabled director and choreographer

*LMU Graduate students in Philosophy*

**UNH 1775**

JP Farrell, LMU graduate student in Philosophy  
"As the World Caves In: A Phenomenological Examination of Depression."

Aubrey Casterline, LMU graduate student in Philosophy  
"Taking Responsibility for Tourette Syndrome."

Liam Maher, LMU graduate student in Philosophy  
"Phenomenology of Reading and Dyslexia."

Moderator: Adeline Ventrone-Ortega

*World-building*

**UNH 1859**

Alex Gabriel-Yingling, UCLA undergraduate student

“Mind the Gap’: Disability and the Challenges of London’s Transportation System.”

Adam Simon, LMU Faculty

“World-building And Disability: Re-imagining The Built World.”

Sue Scheibler, PhD, LMU Associate Professor, School of Film and Television

“Voice hearing and Hellblade: Senua's Sacrifice.”

Moderator: Jack Alberta

## 10:45 - 11:45 am Breakout Session #2

### *Questions of care*

#### **UNH 1859**

Yuriko Matsuo, PhD Candidate, UCLA School of Nursing

“Aging Process of Individuals with DS And Their Family Members in Japan”

Maxwell Hellmann, MD-PhD Candidate in Sociocultural Anthropology, UCLA

“Disappearing Long-term Care Facilities In West Los Angeles And the Fight for Disability Justice”

Moderator: Bella Caipo

### *Crippling Graphic Medicine*

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Stella Oh, Professor Department of Women's and Gender Studies at LMU

“Crippling Graphic Medicine: Ethics of Storytelling and Teaching”

Claire Wilson, LMU undergraduate student

“Just Moody?: Gender, PMDD, and Spaces of Anxiety”

Sarah Gutknecht, LMU undergraduate student

“The Weight of Emptiness: Identity and PCOS”

Isabel Lawrence, LMU undergraduate student

“Why Does My Body Hate Me”

## *Intersectional WGSS & Disability Justice Solidarity with Youth*

### **ROSKI DINING HALL**

Dr. Pau Abustan (they/siya) Cal State LA WGSS and Disability Studies Assistant Professor  
Christine Figueroa (They/She) CSLA graduate student in Rehabilitation Services  
Wendy Marroquin (They/Them) CSLA undergraduate student  
Alexia Smith (She/Her) CSLA undergraduate student

## *From Community Research to Local Organizing*

### **UNH 1775**

Yuval Yossefy, Community Organizer, LA Vote Center Accessibility Audit

## *Teaching Math towards Disability Justice & Inclusive Practices*

### **UNH 1866**

Joanna Hayman, Math Coach for Students with Disabilities, UCLA Math Project Center X  
“Recognizing and Embracing Inclusive Participation and Understanding in Math”

Mikaela Zetley, Educator & Graduate Student Researcher, UCLA, Dr. Megan Franke, Professor of Education and Faculty Director of Center X, UCLA, and Jennifer Schexnayder, Math Coach for UCLA Math Project Center X

“Positioning Disabled Students as Mathematicians: Disability Justice and Counternarratives Through Student Work Analysis in Mathematics Teacher Learning”

Moderator: Morgan Urdan

## *From Research to Reality: Building Accessible Social Media*

### **UNH 2002**

Arezo Ahmadi, UCSF student of medicine, Chandler Webster, UCLA Alum, Emily Frake, Ph.D., & Caitlin Solone, PhD., UCLA

**12:00 - 1:00 pm Breakout Session #3**

*Navigating Neurodiversity in the Workplace: A conversation with Higher Education Disability Specialists and Neurodivergent Professionals*

**UNH 2330**

Michelle Yeung, LMU Research and Educational Applications Analyst  
Natalie Aguilar, LMU Learning Specialist  
Elmira Irvin, LMU Assistant Director of Disability Support Services

*Describing Dancing: What kinds of access can words provide for sight impaired/blind viewers?*

**UNH 1857**

Victoria Marks, Professor, UCLA Department of World Arts and Cultures/Dance & Chair of UCLA's Disability Studies

*Center for the Study of Los Angeles's (StudyLA's) Angeleno Poll: Perspectives of Disabled Angelenos*

**UNH 2002**

Brianne Gilbert, Managing Director, Center for the Study of Los Angeles  
Student research assistants from the Center for the Study of Los Angeles:

- ★ Maricia Marquez – Trust in Institutions
- ★ Garrett Howard-Jimenez – Treatment by and perceptions of LAPD
- ★ Francesca Lovato – Views on Housing
- ★ Elijah Vera – Impacts of Pandemic
- ★ Sofia Butler – Views on Homelessness
- ★ Mariah Allen – Labor in LA

*Telling Your StorType: Interactive Workshop: Empowering disabled women to harness their personal health stories as tools for self-advocacy*

**Roski Dining Hall**

Rasheera Dopson, graduate student in Interdisciplinary Health at Northern Arizona University

### *Under Scrutiny*

#### **UNH 1775**

Fred Ariel Hernandez, PhD, UCLA

"Codifying Athletic Bodies: 'Maximum Allowable Standing Height' and Disciplining Innovations."

*The FaceOut Project - A Conversation on Facial Differences*

Mette A. E. Kim-Larsen, independent scholar

"An Archival Prologue."

Sora J. Kasuga, Founder, The FaceOut Project

"Facial Difference and the Move Toward Collective Liberation."

Moderator: David Bawolski

### *Community-driven Advocacy*

#### **UNH 1866**

Seth Beese | Undivided

*Undivided* helps families raising kids with disabilities and learning differences get what they need to thrive. Fueled by families, backed by experts.

Caitlin Solone, PhD, UCLA & Doug Roland

"Partnering to Empower Authentic Disabled Narratives in University Classrooms."

Moderator: Alex Ruiz

**1:15 - 2:15 pm Lunch Keynote  
Roski Dining Hall**

**Dr. Juliann Anesi, Assistant Professor in Gender Studies, UCLA**

**"Willful Inclusion and Disability Activism: Lessons from Oceania"**

**2:30 - 3:30 pm Breakout Session #4**

*A Culture of Inclusivity: Embracing Neurodivergent students through Culturally Responsive Practices*

**Center for Faculty Development | UNH 3030**

Dr. Amra Pepic-Koubati, Orange Coast College

*Takkyu Volley*

**ROSKI DINING HALL**

Fred Ariel Hernandez, PhD Lead Scientist, UCLA Sports and Society Lab, Yuriko Matsuo, PhD Candidate, UCLA's School of Nursing, & Pia Palomo, UCLA Disability Studies

*Pathways to Empowerment: Integrating Disability Studies Principles in Advocacy, Care, and Education*

**UNH 1775**

Katie Shi, UCLA undergraduate student

"A Comprehensive Wellness Approach for People with Multiple Sclerosis"

Annemarie Lawrence, UCLA undergraduate student

"Supporting Postsecondary Success for Students with Disabilities at Pathway at UCLA Extension"

Moderator: Lonnell Edwards, UCLA Academic Advisor

*The School to Prison Pipeline*

**UNH 1866**

Vivian Wong, Interim Clinic Director for the Youth Justice Education Clinic at the Center for Juvenile Law and Policy and Adjunct Professor, & Stacy Nuñez, Staff Attorney and Adjunct Professor, Youth Justice Education Clinic

"Dismantling the School-Prison Nexus for Students with Disabilities"

Patricia Hori, JD candidate at Loyola Law School & Christopher J. Cormier, PhD, LMU School of Education

“Special Education Penitentiary: An Examination and Call for Eradication of Private Alternative Schools.”

Moderator: Cassandra Erickson

### *Deaf Studies Intersections*

#### **UNH 1857**

Benjamin Lewis, UCLA

“Deaf Mental Health and Wellness in LA: Addressing Unique Challenges and Access Barriers”

Derrick Behm Josa, UCLA

“What access justice means for deaf people accessing affordable housing: A case study of the Deaf Affordable Housing Corporation in Los Angeles.”

Iris Blake, Visiting Assistant Professor of Women's and Gender Studies, LMU

“Echo as Method: Marking Deaf Time and Racial Capitalism in Christine Sun Kim’s Time Owes Me Rest Again (2022)”

Moderator: Rachel Dennin

### *Inclusive Solutions in Health, Higher Ed, and the Workplace*

#### **UNH 1859**

Michael Galvan, Founder & CEO, Premiere Living Services

“Integrating Neurodivergent Individuals into the Mainstream Workforce: Strategies and Success Stories”

Vinita Saxena, MPH

“Experiences Of Transgender and Nonbinary Autistic Adults”

Satinder Gill, PsyD, Director of LMU’s Student Psychological Services

“Psychiatric Disabilities: Current Trends and Future Directions in Psychiatric Hospitalization & Emergency Services for Students with Disabilities.”

Moderator: Riya Aziz

## 3:45 - 4:45 pm Breakout Session #5

### *Narrating and Performing*

#### **UNH 1857**

Clarissa Lesky, Undergraduate Researcher, UCLA

“Embodied Expertise and Uncertain Medicine: Navigating a ‘New’ Neurological Diagnosis through Illness Narratives.”

Gregory Charles Jones, MFA Teaching Fellow in Performance Pedagogy at LMU

" American Sign Language Versus Visual Gestural Communication as a Theatrical Rehearsal Tool.”

Lani Jacobson

“Disability in Musical Theatre: Representation and Participation.”

Moderator: Alana Tyson

### *Housing Justice as Disability Justice: Westside Mutual Aid Efforts to Support Collective Access for Unhoused Neighbors*

#### **ROSKI DINING HALL**

Moderator: Maxwell Hellmann, MD-PhD Candidate in Sociocultural Anthropology, UCLA

##### *Vehicular Homelessness Project*

Title: “‘Keep moving’: how disabled vehicle residents navigate a hostile city”

Presenters: Sam Lutzker and Peggy Lee Kennedy

##### *All Power Free Clinic*

“‘Medical Mutual Aid’ as Community Activism for Disability Justice”

Presenters: Matthew Hing and Tasneem Sadok

##### *Palms Unhoused Mutual Aid*

Title: “Building Abolitionist Networks of Care for Housing & Disability Justice”

Presenters: Samyu Comandur and Ndindi Kitonga

##### *Universal Access Center*

Title: “Building A Community-Led Campaign for Universal Access”

Presenters: Christopher Geno and Carla Orendorff

### *Law and Dis/Ability Justice*

#### **UNH 1859**

Katherine Perez, Visiting Professor of Law, Loyola Law School

"Disability and Critical Race (Dis/Crit) Legal Studies Framework Using Storytelling as Methodology"

Leroy F Moore, UCLA PhD Student in Anthropology

"The Future: Krip-Hop Institute"

Eric J. Miller, Professor of Law, Loyola Law School

"Policing Dis/ability"

Moderator: Zoe Bauer

### *ND/IDD/DD in Higher Education*

#### **UNH 1866**

Ben Schwartzman, Ph.D. Vanderbilt University, Alex Sturm, PhD, LMU Associate Professor of Psychological Sciences, & Victoria Graf, PhD, LMU School of Ed Professor Emerita

"Expanding Access to Inclusive Higher Education for Students with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in Los Angeles"

Jessica Broutt, Program Director, Pathway at UCLA Extension & Michael Harley, Executive Director of Level Up Solutions

"What makes a great residential program for neurodivergent students?"

### *Disability Studies*

#### **UNH 1775**

Brooke Wilkinson, Pia Palomo, & Lonnell Edwards, UCLA Disability Studies

"Disability Studies at UCLA: Past, Present, and Future"

Loyola Marymount University Department of Women's and Gender Studies & the LMU Disabled Students Union

"Disability Studies and Community at LMU"

Moderator: Haley Garrison

**5pm Closing Remarks  
Roski Dining Hall**

The Hon. Anthony “Tony” Coelho

Katherine Perez, Director of The Coelho Center for Disability Law, Policy, and Innovation

# Schedule by Location

## Roski Dining Hall

*8:00-9:00 am | Poster set-up and breakfast*

*9:00-9:15 am | Opening Remarks*

*9:30-10:30 am | Breakout session #1*

### **Disability Studies: Introducing Autism Studies at All Levels of Training**

*Perspectives on Autism & Neurodiversity: An Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Course*

Maya C. Ayoub, MD, EdM - Clinical Instructor in Child Neurology at UCLA Pediatrics,  
Russell Lehmann - Speaker, Poet, and International Disability Rights Advocate at The UCLA  
Tarjan Center, Yasamin Bolourian, PhD - Director of Outreach and Dissemination at the UCLA  
Tarjan Center

*Population Health Approach to Autism: Interdisciplinary Graduate Education*

Kashia A. Rosenau, PhD - Training Director at University of California Leadership Education in  
Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (UC-LEND)

*Gender Health Meets Disability: An Intersectional Health Session for Medical Students*

Susan H. Duan, MD - Director of Disabilities Education at UCLA David Geffen School of  
Medicine, Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine and Pediatrics

*10:45-11:45 am | Breakout session #2*

### **Intersectional WGSS & Disability Justice Solidarity with Youth**

Dr. Pau Abustan (they/siya) Cal State LA WGSS and Disability Studies Assistant Professor  
Christine Figueroa (They/She) CSLA graduate student in Rehabilitation Services  
Wendy Marroquin (They/Them) CSLA undergraduate student  
Alexia Smith (She/Her) CSLA undergraduate student

*12:00-1:00 pm | Breakout session #3*

### **Telling Your StorType: Interactive Workshop: Empowering disabled women to harness their personal health stories as tools for self-advocacy**

Rasheera Dopson, graduate student in Interdisciplinary Health at Northern Arizona University

1:15-2:15 pm | *Lunch + Keynote*

**Dr. Juliann Anesi, Assistant Professor in Gender Studies, UCLA**

**“Willful Inclusion and Disability Activism: Lessons from Oceania”**

2:30-3:30 pm | *Breakout session #4*

**Takkyu Volley**

Fred Ariel Hernandez, PhD Lead Scientist, UCLA Sports and Society Lab, Yuriko Matsuo, PhD Candidate, UCLA’s School of Nursing, & Pia Palomo, UCLA Disability Studies

3:45-4:45 pm | *Breakout session #5*

**Housing Justice as Disability Justice: Westside Mutual Aid Efforts to Support Collective Access for Unhoused Neighbors**

*Vehicular Homelessness Project*

“Keep moving’: how disabled vehicle residents navigate a hostile city”

Presenters: Sam Lutzker and Peggy Lee Kennedy

*All Power Free Clinic*

“Medical Mutual Aid’ as Community Activism for Disability Justice”

Presenters: Matthew Hing and Tasneem Sadok

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“Building Abolitionist Networks of Care for Housing & Disability Justice”

Presenters: Samyu Comandur and Ndindi Kitonga

*Universal Access Center*

“Building A Community-Led Campaign for Universal Access”

Presenters: Christopher Geno and Carla Orendorff

Moderator: Maxwell Hellmann, MD-PhD Candidate in Sociocultural Anthropology, UCLA

5:00-5:15 pm | *Closing Remarks*

**UNH 1775**

9:30-10:30 am | *Breakout session #1*

**LMU Graduate Students in Philosophy**

JP Farrell, LMU graduate student in Philosophy

“As the World Caves In: A Phenomenological Examination of Depression.”

Aubrey Casterline, LMU graduate student in Philosophy

"Taking Responsibility for Tourette Syndrome."

Liam Maher, LMU graduate student in Philosophy

“Phenomenology of Reading and Dyslexia.”

Moderator: Adeline Ventrone-Ortega

### *10:45-11:45 am | Breakout session #2*

#### **From Community Research to Local Organizing**

Yuval Yossefy, Community Organizer, LA Vote Center Accessibility Audit

### *12:00-1:00 pm | Breakout session #3*

#### **Under Scrutiny**

Fred Ariel Hernandez, PhD, UCLA

"Codifying Athletic Bodies: 'Maximum Allowable Standing Height' and Disciplining Innovations."

*The FaceOut Project - A Conversation on Facial Differences*

Mette A. E. Kim-Larsen, independent scholar

“An Archival Prologue.”

Sora J. Kasuga, Founder, The FaceOut Project

“Facial Difference and the Move Toward Collective Liberation.”

Moderator: David Bawolski

### *2:30-3:30 pm | Breakout session #4*

#### **Pathways to Empowerment: Integrating Disability Studies Principles in Advocacy, Care, and Education**

Katie Shi, UCLA undergraduate student

“A Comprehensive Wellness Approach for People with Multiple Sclerosis”

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Moderator: Lonnell Edwards, UCLA Academic Advisor

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Loyola Marymount University Department of Women’s and Gender Studies & the LMU Disabled Students Union

“Disability Studies and Community at LMU”

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**UNH 1857**

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**The Future of Arts is Accessible: A Conversation Centering Disabled Artistry and Inclusive Environments**

Quinn O’Connor, disabled producer, UCLA alum &  
Diana Wyenn, disabled director and choreographer

*10:45-11:45 am | Breakout session #2*

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“Just Moody?: Gender, PMDD, and Spaces of Anxiety”

Sarah Gutknecht, LMU undergraduate student

“The Weight of Emptiness: Identity and PCOS”

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Victoria Marks, UCLA Department of World Arts & Cultures/Dance, Chair of UCLA’s Disability Studies

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"Experiences Of Transgender and Nonbinary Autistic Adults"

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Eric J. Miller, Professor of Law, Loyola Law School

"Policing Dis/ability."

Moderator: Zoe Bauer

**UNH 1866**

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Dr. Terese "Tisa" Aceves, LMU Professor of Education

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Marisol Chianello, JD, TIGER Program Director at Learning Rights

"Overcoming Growing Pains in a Post-Covid Era."

Mariana Lenero, TIGER Educational Consultant, Enrichment Classes

"Accessing to Information Beyond the Law: What Families Need & Want to Know"

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"The Real-Life Impact of TIGER."

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"Positioning Disabled Students as Mathematicians: Disability Justice and Counternarratives Through Student Work Analysis in Mathematics Teacher Learning"

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Seth Beese | Undivided

*Undivided* helps families raising kids with disabilities and learning differences get what they need to thrive. Fueled by families, backed by experts.

Caitlin Solone, PhD, UCLA & Doug Roland

"Partnering to Empower Authentic Disabled Narratives in University Classrooms."

Moderator: Alex Ruiz

### *2:30-3:30 pm | Breakout session #4*

#### **The School to Prison Pipeline**

Vivian Wong, Interim Clinic Director for the Youth Justice Education Clinic at the Center for Juvenile Law and Policy and Adjunct Professor, & Stacy Nuñez, Staff Attorney and Adjunct Professor, Youth Justice Education Clinic

"Dismantling the School-Prison Nexus for Students with Disabilities"

Patricia Hori, JD candidate at Loyola Law School & Christopher J. Cormier, PhD, LMU School of Education

"Special Education Penitentiary: An Examination and Call for Eradication of Private Alternative Schools."

Moderator: Cassandra Erickson

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Ben Schwartzman, Ph.D. Vanderbilt University, Alex Sturm, PhD, LMU Associate Professor of Psychological Sciences, & Victoria Graf, PhD, LMU School of Ed Professor Emerita

"Expanding Access to Inclusive Higher Education for Students with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in Los Angeles"

Jessica Broutt, Program Director, Pathway at UCLA Extension & Michael Harley, Executive Director of Level Up Solutions

"What makes a great residential program for neurodivergent students?"

Moderator: TBD

**UNH 2002**

*10:45-11:45 am | Breakout session #2*

**From Research to Reality: Building Accessible Social Media**

Arezo Ahmadi, UCSF student of medicine, Chandler Webster, UCLA Alum, Emily Frake, Ph.D., & Caitlin Solone, Ph.D., UCLA

*12:00-1:00 pm | Breakout session #3*

**Center for the Study of Los Angeles's (StudyLA's) Angeleno Poll: Perspectives of Disabled Angelenos**

Brianne Gilbert, Managing Director, Center for the Study of Los Angeles  
Student research assistants from the Center for the Study of Los Angeles:

- ★ Maricia Marquez – Trust in Institutions
- ★ Garrett Howard-Jimenez – Treatment by and perceptions of LAPD
- ★ Francesca Lovato – Views on Housing
- ★ Elijah Vera – Impacts of Pandemic
- ★ Sofia Butler – Views on Homelessness
- ★ Mariah Allen – Labor in LA

## UNH 2330

*12:00-1:00 pm | Breakout session #3*

### **Navigating Neurodiversity in the Workplace: A conversation with Higher Education Disability Specialists and Neurodivergent Professionals**

Michelle Yeung, LMU Research and Educational Applications Analyst

Natalie Aguilar, LMU Learning Specialist

Elmira Irvin, LMU Assistant Director of Disability Support Services

## Center for Faculty Development | UNH 3030

*2:30-3:30 pm | Breakout session #4*

### **A Culture of Inclusivity: Embracing Neurodivergent students through Culturally Responsive Practices**

Dr. Amra Pepic-Koubati, Orange Coast College

# Conference Themes

## [Theme 1: Education, Higher Ed, and the Workplace](#)

This theme explores the enhancement of inclusivity in education through diverse panels, focusing on implementing supportive environments for neurodivergent students and those with disabilities. Discussions range from auditing syllabi for inclusivity, designing effective residential programs, to mainstreaming students with intellectual disabilities in higher education. Participants will gain insights into fostering equitable educational practices and the eradication of exclusionary settings. Keywords: Neurodiversity; Educational Equity; Accessibility

## [Theme 2: Social justice and community](#)

This theme engages with critical social justice issues through presentations and workshops that advocate for inclusive practices and community empowerment. Key discussions include access justice for the Deaf community, inclusive employment for disabled individuals, and the intersectionality of race and disability in legal contexts. Participants will explore effective community-based models and policy approaches that emphasize equity, communication, and cultural affirmation for marginalized groups. Keywords: Intersectionality; Community Empowerment; Accessibility Justice; Deaf

## [Theme 3: Art and culture](#)

This theme explores innovative artistic expressions and cultural representations from a disability perspective. Panels and workshops highlight diverse approaches, such as visual and gestural communication in theater, the adaptive sport of Takkyu Volley, and the inclusive potential of graphic medicine. Discussions will also focus on enhancing accessibility in social media, re-imagining physical spaces, and the transformative power of art in challenging societal norms and embracing disability as a creative force. Keywords: Inclusive Artistry; Accessibility; Disability Representation; Cultural Reimagining

## [Theme 4: Intersections](#)

This theme delves into the intersectionality of various identities and conditions, examining how they shape experiences and perceptions within society. Presentations explore the nuances of living with conditions like depression, dyslexia, and Tourette Syndrome, alongside the unique challenges faced by transgender and nonbinary autistic individuals. Discussions also cover the intersection of neurodiversity and workplace inclusion, advocating for more supportive and understanding environments in both educational and professional settings.

Keywords: Intersectionality; Neurodiversity; Mental Health

### *Theme 5: Care*

This theme focuses on the complexities of care across different contexts and life stages, examining the specialized needs and challenges within various populations. Presentations explore the evolving landscape of psychiatric disabilities among college students, the distinct aging process of individuals with Down syndrome in Japan, and the impact of urban gentrification on long-term care facilities for disabled adults. Each session aims to deepen understanding and stimulate discussion on improving care practices and policies to ensure dignity and justice for all individuals, particularly those with disabilities.

Keywords: Disability Care; Psychiatric Support; Aging with Disabilities; Housing Justice