



University of Kansas Professionals for Disability

The **KU Professionals for Disability** is:

- An official student organization located within the Department of Special Education at the University of Kansas.
- An organization open to all students who have an interest in the disability field.
- An avenue for bringing students and professionals together for social and educational opportunities.
- Founded in 2002 through the inspiration and efforts of graduate students in the Department of Special Education, the organization now has an informal membership of approximately 50 active students.

Mission of KUPD

- To support students who are preparing to enter a career in the disability field.
- To provide opportunities for students to gain awareness of current and emerging issues in the field.
- To provide opportunities for students to network with other students and professionals.
- To increase student involvement in local, state, and national professional organizations.

Scheduled Meetings

- Each month KUPD schedules an educational presentation on a different disability-related topic. These are known as "Luncheon Lectures." Past topics have included international perspectives on disability issues; disability advocacy in the context of political ideologies; the job search process and achieving tenure in academic settings; and issues affecting students with disabilities in an urban environment.
- The Annual KUPD Student Conference, held at the University of Kansas Union in the spring, is a highlight event that has the feel of a professional conference. The conference provides a forum for the special education community to learn more about ongoing KU student research projects as well as an opportunity for the student presenters to engage in a professional development activity.
- On the second Friday of each month informal social gatherings are planned at various locations on campus and in the Lawrence community that provide opportunities for students to develop relationships with other special education graduate students.

Experience the excitement of being part of KUPD

- Sign up on our listserv by emailing Sheila Smith, president (smsmith2@ku.edu), Sunday Dove, vice-president (sdove@ku.edu), Susana Bernad-Ripoll, vice-president (bernad@ku.edu), or Luchara Sayles Wallace, treasurer (lsw7@ku.edu).
- Come to activities to get to know and learn from other students and faculty with like interests.
- Join in by volunteering to assist with events and to help plan activities.

<http://www.soe.ku.edu/depts/sped/KUPD.php>

KU Professionals for Disability (KUPD)

KUPD Spring 2006 Activities

<p>Student Socials Monthly gatherings at a local restaurant, building, or professor's home.</p>	<p>Monthly – 2nd Fridays February 10 March 10 April 7 (tentative)</p>
<p>2nd Annual KUPD Student Research Conference</p> <p>An informal conference will be held to provide students with opportunities to present their research in preparation for upcoming conferences, oral exams, or dissertation defenses</p> <p>Keynote speaker: <i>Dr. Hank Bohanon, a 2000 graduate of the University of Kansas, is currently employed as an assistant professor at Loyola University. Hank will speak on "Research to Practice".</i></p>	<p>Friday, March 10, 2006 8:00 a.m. -12:30 p.m. Kansas Union 6th floor – Centennial Room</p>
<p>Brown Bag Discussion (in conjunction with the Beach Center on Disability)</p> <p>Dr. Richard Hastings who is a family researcher at the University of Wales Bangor and Dean Climent Giné who is a psychologist and is from a university in Barcelona will be in town for work with the Beach Center on Disability.</p> <p>An opportunity will be provided for students to engage in discussion with these prominent researchers from Wales and Spain!</p>	<p>Monday, March 13, 2006 12:00-1:00 p.m. JRP, room 247</p>
<p>Luncheon Lecture <i>Stress Management: How to manage life as a graduate student</i></p> <p>Dr. Donald Deshler, Center for Research on Learning</p>	<p>Thursday, March 16, 2006 JRP 247; 12:00-1:30 p.m.</p>
<p>Luncheon Lecture <i>International Perspectives on Disability</i></p> <p>Speakers to be announced at a later date</p>	<p>Thursday, April 20, 2006 JRP 247; 12:00-1:30 p.m.</p>
<p>End of the Semester Gathering KUPD will host an event to close the semester</p>	<p>May 12, 2005 Dr. Ann Turnbull and Professor Rud Turnbull's house 4:30-6:30 p.m.</p>

All dates and times are subject to change. Exact times and locations will be announced closer to the event dates.

Questions: Sheila Smith, president (smsmith2@ku.edu), Sunday Dove, vice-president (sdove@ku.edu), Susana Bernad, vice president (bernad@ku.edu) or Luchara Sayles Wallace, treasurer (lsw7@ku.edu)