

Moderators:

Dr. Karyn L. Schulz

Dr. Schulz started her career in higher education in the early 1990s at what was then known as Essex Community College, in the Disability Support Services office. During her time in higher education, Dr. Schulz has held different positions but returned to supporting students with disabilities in 2008 at The University of Baltimore. She considers what she does as “coming home.” She continues to be a leader in her field as the current Past President of the state chapter of her national organization as well as a main point of contact for her peers in regards to the provision of accommodations.

Dr. Schulz fully believes that part of the responsibility of her position and the office’s mission, besides the provision of reasonable and appropriate accommodations, is to help students registered with the office connect with campus and community support systems that go beyond the mission of the office. This includes working closely with the University of Baltimore’s CARE Team, the Clinical Case Manager and others in order to provide a holistic support of students in need.

During the course of her tenure in her current position, Dr. Schulz has given numerous presentations about reasonable and appropriate accommodations, assistive technology and self-advocacy. She has also provided presentations, along with her colleagues, that focus on supporting students from a holistic perspective.

In her spare time Dr. Schulz loves spending time with her family and dogs and is an avid reader.

Pavan Purswani, M.S.

Pavan Purswani has worked in higher education for 15 years. Receiving his Master’s Degree in Counseling with a concentration in College Student Personnel from Shippensburg University and his Bachelor’s degree in Education from Bowling Green State University. Pavan realized that he was passionate about developing meaningful and educational relationships with students. During his time in the field, Pavan has worked at several institutions and gained experience at public and private institutions. Additionally, he has had the opportunity to develop a diverse set of skills in Case Management, Behavioral Intervention, Threat Assessment, Student Conduct, and Residential Life & Education, New Student Orientation, First Year Student Programs, Title IX and Civil Rights Investigation, Event Planning, Civic and Democratic Engagement, Multicultural Affairs as well as supervision and advising.

Pavan currently serves as the Director for Student Support at The University of Baltimore where he helps oversee the Student Conduct Process, Student Assistance Program, Student Emergency Assistance Fund, Compass Case Management Program and serves as a Primary Title IX investigator for student on student cases. He is currently also pursuing his doctorate at Morgan State University in the Higher Education Administration program. In Pavan’s downtime he enjoys reading, all things Ted Lasso and spending time with his family and two dogs.

Panelists:

Dr. Anthony Skevakis

Anthony Skevakis is a real person, not an AI ChatBot. As the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students, he provides vision, strategic direction and leadership for the Dean of Students Office at Towson University. He works directly with Student Outreach and Support, Counseling Center, Health Center, Student Success Programs, Civic Engagement and Social Responsibility, Student Accountability and Restorative Practices, Military & Veterans Center, and FoodShare.

With over 20 years of experience in higher education, Dr. Skevakis remains a student of the process as he uses his blend of tradecraft to help accompany students through their journey to graduation. He is co-chairing two high-impact bodies on campus, the Behavioral Intervention Team and the Student Success Council both of which help students get back on track. Prior to coming to Towson, Dr. Skevakis also served in roles at The University of Arizona, Florida Institute of Technology, and Saint Peter's University. He received a B.S. in psychology from The College of New Jersey, a Master of Counseling from Rider University, and an Ed.D. in Educational from the University of Arizona.

Sue Haddad, MA, LCPC, NCC

As the Interim Associate Dean of Student Affairs at Montgomery College's Rockville campus, Sue serves as the Chair of the Behavioral Intervention Team and oversees student health and wellness programming. Prior to this role, Sue served as the College-wide Chair of Disability Support Services. She is a seasoned counseling professional with over 20 years of experience, dedicated to serving and meeting the needs of diverse, underserved populations, including people with cognitive, emotional, physical, neurological, and physical disabilities, veterans, and those coping with substance abuse disorders. She is skilled in addressing a wide range of issues facing college students, including transitioning to college, student self-advocacy, anxiety, depression, and crisis intervention.

Sue holds a Master's Degree in Counseling and Personnel Services from the University of Maryland and a Post-Graduate Certificate in Clinical Community Counseling from Johns Hopkins University. She is a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor in the state of Maryland and a Nationally Certified Counselor. As a doctoral candidate in the Ph.D. Counselor Education and Supervision program from the University of the Cumberlands, her research interests include college students' mental health and wellness, crisis counseling, and social justice and advocacy.

James Miller, B.S.

Jim has over 31 years of law enforcement experience which includes criminal investigations, death investigations, hostage negotiations, background investigations, crisis response, supervision, leadership, police instructor, and incident management. During his tenure as a police officer he became the first Crisis Intervention Team officer trained on the Mid-Shore of Maryland. He supervised the CIT program for the Easton Police Department. After his retirement from the Police Department Jim was hired by the Sante Group to fill a role as a Crisis Response Specialist. During the last five years Jim has been

employed by the Chesapeake College where he is a supervisor of the Department of Public Safety and he is also the Co-Chair of the B.I.T. Jim currently has a BS Degree in Criminal Justice.

Kate R. D. Weeks, M.S.

Kate Weeks is currently the Director for Student Disability Support Services at Morgan State University. She has served in this role for seven years. Previously, she worked for The Johns Hopkins Health System assisting the units responsible for overseeing employee reasonable accommodations due to disability. Ms. Weeks was also a Disabilities Specialist at Towson University after teaching students with hearing impairments. Her career started as a teacher in a K-12 private school for students with learning disabilities.

Ms. Weeks graduated with her bachelor's degree from Towson University with a double major in Art Education and Deaf Studies. She also obtained her master's degree from Towson University with a dual concentration in Community Health and Administration.

Throughout her career, Ms. Weeks' focus has always been working with individuals with disabilities. She has served on various committees and has presented on topics related to disabilities and accommodations. It is her goal to help remove barriers for individuals with disabilities and create an inclusive environment.