Advancing the Craft of Disability Resources: A Panel Discussion / AHEAD 2021

Session 7.1, Friday 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Tom Thompson, Nicole Ofiesh and Paul Grossman - panelists

# Description

All successful civil rights movements benefit from an array of activists, professionals, and legal advocates collaborating to compel change. A panel of experienced practitioners will discuss growth and changes in the progressive acquisition of disability rights: where we've been, where we might go, and how we might get there.  We will cover legal, educational/pedagogical and administrative contributions.

## Introduction

Our profession, Disability Resources and Services in higher education, has grown the efforts of individuals who have worked in this field and brought insights, knowledge and experience related to the legal foundations, the educational (pedagogical) practices and the administrative policies/procedures and practices which facilitate access and accommodations. This panel features three long term professionals (each with 30 – 40+ years of experience) who will discuss one “pillar” of this profession.

### Process

Each panelist will speak for 15 minutes and will invite some comments from the participants. It is our hope that this discussion will spur efforts on your own campus to think about the architecture and structures you’ve built or are building where you work.

### Personal Disclosure

As the proposer and facilitator for this panel, Tom, I have come to believe that our field invites ‘artistic endeavors’, i.e. attempts to create systems that serve others well and environments that are welcoming, inclusive and accessible.