Friday  
November 2nd 2018

6:00-7:00 PM BROADLIND BALLROOM/JERGINS TUNNEL  
Cocktail Reception/Conference Registration

Saturday  
November 3rd 2018

8:00-9:00 AM JERGINS TUNNEL  
Sneak Peek at Exhibitors/Breakfast/Conference Registration

9:00-9:10 AM PIKE 1 & 2  
Welcome and Opening Remarks

9:15-10:15 AM PIKE 1 & 2  
Traditional O&M Skills With Technology To Enhance Environmental Understanding CEUS: 1.0  
Greg Stilson

Greg Stilson has worked in product design and management in the assistive technology industry for the past 13 years. Some of the products that he was responsible for the design of include, the BrailleNote Touch, Trekker Breeze and Victor Reader Trek during his career with HumanWare. One of Greg’s passions has always been finding innovative ways to enhance a visually impaired person’s understand of the environment around them. That is what has led him to Aira. Currently Greg is the director of product management at Aira, responsible for the design and prioritization of Aira’s future product roadmap.

In his spare time Greg enjoys playing with his two year old daughter Lila, is a huge sports fan and making wine.

10:30-11:45 AM PIKE 1 & 2  
Essential Apps for O&M CEUS: 1.25  
Nicholas Leon

Nick began his career in Low Vision and Blindness in 2010 as an Manual Skills instructor. In 2015, he received his Master’s in Orientation and Mobility from Western Michigan University. Nick is currently a Teacher of the Visually Impaired intern with Sonja Biggs Educational Services.

10:30-11:45 AM PIKE 3  
Techno Timid? This session is for you CEUS: 1.25  
Brenda Naimy

Brenda Naimy’s first and last professional ambition was 34 years ago when she learned of the profession of O&M and decided that’s what she wanted to do. Her first O&M job was at a private agency, working with adults with visual impairments and kids with multiple disabilities. One Thursday, during happy hour with her colleagues, she made a decision to apply for an administrative position at the agency where they all worked. She spent the next several years directing multiple programs for children, youth and adults – which let toward her an early mid-life crisis in her 30s. Perhaps her greatest lesson learned was to never make big life decisions over happy hour. As luck would have it, a position in the O&M program a Cal State LA opened – and she has happily resided there for the last
23 years. In addition to teaching at Cal State LA, Brenda serves as an Appeals Specialist with Access Services, Inc., the ADA paratransit agency for Los Angeles County. Any other professional accomplishments have solely been due to the prodding and encouragement of others.

12:00-1:30 PM BROADLIND BALLROOM
Luncheon and Meritorious Service Award/Lifetime Achievement Awards

1:45-3:00 PM PIKE 1 & 2
O&M Advanced Skills Summer Camp Including Technology CEUS: 1.25
Terry Fields, Paula Chase, David Martinez, Vince Fazzi Jr., Phyllis Stokes, Timothy Toomey, Sandy Coller, and Lore Schindler

The LAUSD O&M department and Lore Schindler the VI Technology Coordinator are excited to share the successes and failures of offering a week long intensive course in advanced O&M skills.

1:45-3:00 PM PIKE 3
Preparing Youth with Vision Impairments to be Professionals in the 21st Century Workforce CEUS: 1.25
Cathleen Coombs, Chris LeRoy, Rob Schulenberg, Susan Pelbath, Christine Kae, and Bennet Kim

Cathleen Coombs is a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor with 29 years of experience working with various populations of people with disabilities, including youth, particularly those with vision impairments and those with developmental and intellectual disabilities. She has served as a Program Manager for a community-based adult program providing training and support in the community and at work. For the last 12 years she has been a Rehabilitation Counselor for California State Department of Rehabilitation, primarily as a counselor for blind and visually impaired youth and adults. During her tenure with DOR she has served as an advocate to improve outreach and services to youth with vision impairments, facilitating the California Transition Council and working on several transition projects statewide, and presenting at several transition conferences.

“Chris LeRoy is in his 44th year in education. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a B.A. in Religious Studies from University of California, Riverside, and has a M.A in Special Education from California State University, San Bernardino. As a special education teacher, he piloted the first integrated class for students with moderate severe needs in San Bernardino City USD, which was selected as a California State Exemplary Program in 1987. First as a Program Specialist, and now as Transition Services Program Manager he supports families and guides students to plan and train for successful adult lives. He is currently WorkAbility State Advisory Chair and serves as Adjunct Faculty for special education at CSUSB. He co-authored THE BASICS, a widely used student skills framework published by Lakeshore. Currently, he is focusing on enhancing WORC (Working On Real Careers) a community and university college 18-22 year program. In his other life, Chris is a musician-songwriter, film score composer with songs in films (Empire Records), television (Sons of Anarchy), albums and video games”

“Rob Schulenberg began his special education career in Arizona working at the School for the Blind in Tucson, teaching elementary, middle, and high school programs. He spent 3 years in the Peace Corps serving Latin American and the Caribbean, working with ministers of education to develop special education policy and curriculum. He has developed transition and recreation programs, and his current position as Director of Transition Services for Wayfinder Family Services has led him to develop cutting edge programming to prepare youth and young adults with visual impairments for life after high school.”
Rob has a Master’s degree in Special Education and an Education Specialist degree in Special Education with a minor in Educational Leadership. He has held teaching credentials in visual impairment, learning disabilities, cross categorical high incident disabilities, and high school English. He is currently a doctoral student in the Doctorate of Education program for Organizational Change in Leadership at University of Southern California.

Sue Pelbath has a Master’s Degree in Rehabilitation Counseling and a graduate specialization certificate in Rehabilitation Technology. She has over fifteen years’ experience in high school special education and is currently the Assistant Administrator at the Department of Rehabilitation’s Orientation Center for the Blind.

Life begins and ends with hopes and dreams. Christine Kae, LCSW is passionate about students and families reaching their potential through healing and determination. After earning her Masters in Social Work from the University of Southern California, she joined the K-12 education to fulfill her passion. As a Los Angeles Unified School District Pupil Services Counselor in the Southeast Los Angeles area, she worked through barriers and daily challenges along with her students and their families. Within a few years, she focused her work with probation and foster youth – increasing awareness, connecting community partners and engaging with the transition process to post-secondary options. Currently Christine serves as the CaPROMISE LEA manager for LAUSD; linking the school district with key partners including the Department of Rehabilitation, Department of Public Social Services, Independent Living Centers and participating districts to increase post-secondary outcomes for young adults with disabilities. She is committed to working with students achieve their hopes and dreams.

Contract Administrator Department of Rehabilitation, Blind Field Services
Bennet Kim is a Contract Administrator, who completed a Master of Science in Rehabilitation Counseling at California State University, Fresno (CSUF); and has also obtained various certificates funded by the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) including: a Certificate of Achievement: Rehabilitation Research Institute for Underrepresented Populations, Certificate of Completion for the Deaf/Blindness and Certificate in the course of study as a Vision Specialist. Her years of experience as a Contract Administrator, a Rehabilitation Specialist, Rehabilitation Supervisor, and Senior Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (QRP) at the Department of Rehabilitation have given her an opportunity to formulate, develop and implement departmental policies in order to provide, improve, and expand vocational rehabilitation services including academic planning for consumers. It has also given her an opportunity to explore inadequacy of systems and/or policies for people with disabilities and to modify those systems and policies for the better based on limited resources in order to empower individuals with special needs and allow for enhancement of various administrative functions and skills.

3:15-4:15 PM PIKE 1 & 2
OCR Everywhere! It’s Easier Than You Think! CEUS: 1.0
Yurika Vu and Vanessa Herndon

Yurika Vu received her Master’s degree in Vision Rehab Therapy from Western Michigan University and Orientation and Mobility credential from San Francisco State University and has served in the field of blindness for over a decade. She currently works at the California School for the Blind as the Assistive Technology Coordinator. Previously, she worked at the Western Blind Rehab Center in Palo Alto CA. as a Computer Access Technology Specialist working with visually impaired veterans and active duty service members. She was published as co-author in the Journal of Visual Impairment: Neurological Vision Rehabilitation: Description and Case Study.
Vanessa Herndon is a Teacher of the Visually Impaired. She received her teaching credential from San Francisco State University. She has worked at the California School for the Blind since 2014, initially as a teacher with transition age students (2014-2017) and currently works at the California School for the Blind supporting students and teachers to infuse assistive technology in their academic and daily lives.

3:15-4:15 PM PIKE 3
Assisting Clients to Become Ready for Guide Dog Mobility: A Readiness Checklist CEUS: 1.0
Marc Gillard

Marc Gillard has worked in the guide dog field for over 26 years and is a COMS and licensed guide dog instructor. He is currently the Orientation & Mobility Services Manager at Guide Dogs for the Blind.

Marc manages GDB’s new O&M immersion program and also provides education and training to O&M specialists in GDB’s Orientation and Mobility Seminar and represents GDB by speaking at professional conferences and seminars both nationally and internationally.

Marc began his career as an apprentice guide dog instructor in Melbourne, Australia with the Royal Guide Dogs Association and received a postgraduate diploma in Orientation & Mobility from La Trobe University.

Throughout his career Marc has held various positions including Field Manager, Apprentice Training Manager and Guide Dog Services Manager.
He has served as an assessor for the International Guide Dog Federation completing guide dog organization assessments throughout the world including France, Belgium, Japan, Norway and Israel.

4:30-5:30 PM PIKE 1 & 2
CAOMS Statewide Board Meeting

6:00-7:30 PM TBD
Statewide Board Member Dinner

Sunday
November 4th 2018

8:00-9:00 AM PIKE 1 & 2
Breakfast/General Chapter Meeting

9:15-10:45 AM PIKE 1 & 2
3D Printed Materials: From Idea to Implementation CEUS: 1.5
Leslie Edmonds

Leslie Edmonds is a Teacher of the Visually Impaired and Assistive Technology Specialist in Sonoma County. She has been teaching at a County Office of Education for 13 years and has provided Teletherapy Services to areas of California, Nevada, and Alaska for 4 years.

9:15-10:45 AM PIKE 3
GPS Advanced Wayfinding – Victor Reader Trek (Limited Space Available) CEUS: 1.5
Sara Hernandez and Brittany Angell
Sara Hernandez has been in the field of Visual Impairments and Blindness for the past 9 years. She is currently an O&M instructor working with adults. Sara has been volunteering with the non-profit for the Blind, PRIISMA, in Tijuana, Mexico providing O&M instruction to children and adults for the past 3 years.

Brittany Angell has been in the field of Orientation and Mobility for the past 8 years. She has experience with teaching O&M to school aged students from Pre-K to High School and is currently an O&M instructor working with adults. Her specialties include working with adults who have Traumatic or Acquired Brain Injury, teaching power mobility and mentoring interns.

11:00-12:00 PM PIKE 1 & 2
Making Tactile Maps by 3D Printing CEUS: 1.0
Michael Cheverie

Michael Cheverie has been teaching for over 35 years in the Los Angeles area and for over 20 years in the Los Angeles Unified School District. After acquiring a Bachelor of Science degree in physics and economics at UCLA, and doing some graduate work in physics, he began his teaching career as a teacher of Advanced Placement Physics and Calculus at Fairfax High School in West Hollywood. Later, he became the Coordinator of the California Demonstration Center of Mathematics location at Pacoima Middle School in the San Fernando Valley, as well as chair of the mathematics department at Pacoima Middle School. Mr. Cheverie’s experience also includes private educational consulting, including work as a traveling teacher with the actresses Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen. He now teaches blind and low-vision students at the Valley Academy of Arts and Sciences in Granada Hills, California. Some of his areas of interest include use of 3D printing to illustrate concepts in mathematics and the sciences and to make tactile maps for the visually impaired, making mathematics accessible to blind students through the use of MathML and LaTeX, and using microcontroller-based data collection devices to make the sciences more accessible to blind students. Mr. Cheverie is also passionate about helping his visually impaired students learn to code.

11:00-12:00 PM PIKE 3
Video Assessment in Guide Dog Mobility CEUS: 1.0
Michal Anna Padilla

Michal Anna Padilla is the Training Supervisor at Guide Dogs of the Desert. She is an Orientation and Mobility Specialists in addition to a Guide Dog Mobility Instructor. Working in the field for 10 years, she is actively involved in the admissions, training and instruction aspects of the organization.

12:15-1:30 AM PIKE 1 & 2
Teletherapy: Teaching Online to Underserved Communities CEUS: 1.25
Leslie Edmonds

Leslie Edmonds is a Teacher of the Visually Impaired and Assistive Technology Specialist in Sonoma County. She has been teaching at a County Office of Education for 13 years and has provided Teletherapy Services to areas of California, Nevada, and Alaska for 4 years.

1:30 PM
Conference Concludes