



The US—Japan Business Leadership Institute on Youth Disability Employment WEBINAR SERIES

**Education to Employment: How do Students with Disabilities Navigate
Access Barriers and Accommodations in Higher Education?**

Webinar #2

US (EST) Time: 13 May 2021, 8pm-9:30pm
Japan Time: 14 May 2021, 9am-10:30am

The panel will focus on one of the ‘first steps’ to achieving employment of youth with disabilities: eliminating systemic barriers to higher education. Panelists will discuss how students with disabilities are not only affected by lack of accommodations during entrance exams and in classroom settings, but also by limited access to housing, transportation, and other community services necessary for independent living and thriving in academic spaces. The panel discussion will highlight cross-national (US–Japan) differences in approaches to accommodation in higher education and reveal how ‘access-makers’ in both countries can learn from one another to facilitate inclusion. The role of government in supporting the transition of young people with disabilities from higher education to employment will also be addressed.

**The webinars are free and open to public.
Registration is required.**

For more information:

Dr. Heike Boeltzig-Brown
Project Director
heike.boeltzig-brown@umb.edu

Miwa Tanabe
Project Coordinator
miwa.tanabe@umb.edu

We will provide the following accommodations for each webinar:

- English and Japanese interpretation
- English and Japanese Live captions (CART)
- American sign language and Japanese sign language

Please contact us if you need additional accessibility accommodations to fully participate in this webinar series.

Register: https://communityinclusion.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_0eL7uPFqQQiaL8e1emtSdA

The project is funded by the U.S. Embassy Tokyo.



Institute for Community Inclusion at UMass Boston

Dean Adams, Ph.D.

Scholar and educator, University of Illinois Chicago and National Louis University

Dean Adams has a Ph.D. in Special Education with concentrations in Women and Gender Studies, and Disability Studies from Syracuse University. Dean has been teaching courses and presenting on topics such as disability culture and history, inclusive pedagogy, universal design for learning, and the intersections of disability, race, and gender for over a decade. His current work has been in the areas of DisCrit (a framework that uses disability studies and critical race theory to examine how race, racism, dis/ability and ableism are infused into educational institutions); and analysis of the school to prison pipeline. Dean was the Interim Director of the Disability Cultural Center at University of Illinois Chicago (UIC), as well as working with the Inclusive Classroom Initiative on a training module for faculty and staff on meeting the needs of students with disabilities at UIC.



Wendy Harbour, Ph.D.

Director, National Center for College Students with Disabilities, AHEAD

Wendy Harbour directs the National Center for College Students with Disabilities (NCCSD), based at the Association on Higher Education And Disability (AHEAD). In this role, she oversees all technical assistance, outreach, and research efforts, while advising the national DREAM student group. President Obama appointed Wendy to the National Council on Disability, where she has worked on reports about mental health and sexual assault issues for college students with disabilities, and served on the federal intradepartmental Disability Policy Group. Wendy is an adjunct lecturer in policy and communication equity at Saint Catherine University, and coordinator of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Disability Consortium. She has been a principal investigator or project director for over 10 state and federal grants. Her publications focus on universal design for learning, higher education and disability policy, and intersections of disability and race. She is active in the Deaf community and lives with her wife and son in Minnesota.



Jun Murata

***Associate Professor, General Student Support Center, Kyoto University
Chief Coordinator, Disability Support Office, Kyoto University
Director, Higher Education Accessibility Platform***

Jun Murata has been engaged in student disability support at Kyoto University since 2007. As an assistant professor in the General Student Support Center, Jun builds cross-departmental support for students with disabilities and systems for providing accommodations. As the chief coordinator of the Disability Support Office, Jun works directly with students with disabilities. Jun has spearheaded the creation of barrier-free campus maps and peer support programs. More recently, he has been focusing on college-to-work transition support, and on making disaster-preparedness programs at Kyoto University disability-inclusive. Jun serves on the board of the Association on Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD Japan). He directs the Higher Education Accessibility Platform, or HEAP, a project funded by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT). HEAP aims to build higher education capacity around disability. Jun has co-edited / co-authored two books on disability issues, including one book on career education and support for high school and college students with disabilities. In 2018, he participated in the Leadership Institute on Serving College Students with Disabilities in Higher Education in Japan, implemented by the Institute for Community Inclusion at the University of Massachusetts Boston.

