

Co-sponsored by St. Petersburg College's Critical Thinking Institute  
and the Florida Association on Higher Education and Disability (FL-AHEAD)

# *Narrowing the Gulf*

*for Underrepresented Students in Postsecondary Education  
and St. Petersburg College Critical Thinking Institute*

FOURTEENTH  
ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE

**April 4-5, 2013**

St. Petersburg College EpiCenter  
14805 58th St. N, Clearwater, FL



St. Petersburg College

**SPC**

# Narrowing the Gulf

for Underrepresented Students in Postsecondary Education and St. Petersburg College Critical Thinking Institute

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Join your colleagues for two days of learning and networking. Topics for sessions include:

- Transitioning issues that impact college students with autism spectrum
- Recognizing differences between high school and college for students with disabilities
- Strategies for teaching critical thinking
- Project Connect: Providing students with intellectual disabilities a college experience
- Project Access: Providing opportunities for deaf and hard of hearing students in STEM disciplines
- Working with returning veterans
- Eight strategies for bringing a higher level of thinking to career education
- Florida state and national updates
- Universal design
- Strategies for collaboration to serve students with disabilities
- Using your critical thinking skills
- Revelation theory of learning
- Intellectual traits and informal fallacies
- Ways to engage students in critical thinking in lecture classes
- Stress management
- Developing alternate texts using Microsoft Sharepoint
- Integrating learning support folders for online courses
- Transitioning former foster youth to college
- The value of assistive technology assessments
- Scholarship of teaching and learning
- Creating usable materials for the classroom
- Serving students in the new environment under the ADA
- Classroom Strategies for Working with Students with Attention Deficit Disorder
- Portfolios for Critical Thinking Ensuring Accessibility in New Course Development
- Using Innovative Simulation for Problem-based Learning
- Effective Strategies Using Online Video
- Aligning Students' Job Search Strategy
- Examining Text through the Critical Mind

## Opening Keynote Speaker: Saundra Yancy McGuire, Ph.D.

**Dr. Saundra Yancy McGuire** is Assistant Vice Chancellor and Professor of Chemistry at Louisiana State University. From 1999 to 2009, she served as director of LSU's nationally recognized campus-wide learning center, the Center for Academic Success. Prior to joining LSU in 1999, McGuire spent eleven years at Cornell University, where she received the highly coveted Clark Distinguished Teaching Award.

In November 2007, she received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring (PAESMEM) in a White House Oval Office Ceremony. In 2010, she was named a Fellow of the American Chemical Society and became one of only seven individuals in the nation to achieve Level Four Lifetime Learning Center Leadership Certification through the National College Learning Center Association (NCLCA). In 2011 she was named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and in 2012 was elected a fellow of The Council of Learning Assistance and Developmental Education Associations (CLADEA).

McGuire received her B.S. degree, magna cum laude, from Southern University in Baton Rouge, her Master's degree from Cornell University and her Ph.D. from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, where she received the Chancellor's Citation for Exceptional Professional Promise.



## Closing Keynote Speaker: Karen Mertes

The closing session will be a tribute to our veterans and military families. **Karen R. Mertes** is a retired Lieutenant Colonel of the United States Air Force and a lifetime member of the Military Officers Association of America. With more than 20 years serving in military intelligence and comptroller areas, Mertes is now a motivational speaker and corporate and non-profit consultant, sharing leadership tips and strategic, organizational and financial insights.

During her service at Misawa Air Base in Japan, Mertes was the only female Squadron Commander of 18 Commanders, leading her squadron to an "Outstanding" rating during the 2005 Headquarters Pacific Air Forces Unit Compliance Inspection. Hers was the only squadron to earn the outstanding rating, an honor that has been accomplished by only 4 of 216 comptroller Pacific Air Forces squadrons since 1970.

Mertes received the Major T. H. Baca Award for her contributions to women in the military. She has a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Boston University, a master of science in business administration and a second master of science in cost estimating and analysis from the prestigious Air Force Institute of Technology.

After surviving a personal tragedy caused by a drunk driver, Mertes founded Fulfill Your Destiny, Inc, a non-profit corporation that assists people whose career life paths have been altered by injury or unforeseen circumstances. Special consideration is given to those individuals, both civilian and military, who have a traumatic brain injury.

Mertes is a Community Action Board member of WEDU, an honorary chairperson for the Women, War and Peace Project and is on the boards of directors for Dress for Success, Hands Across the Bay and the Network of Executive Women. She is on the scholarship selection committee for Tampa Bay Business Professional Women, serves on Congresswoman Castor's Academy Nominating Committee and is a member of Charity Chics, Working Women of Tampa Bay and the South Tampa Chamber of Commerce.

Mertes is featured on the cover and in the book *Fearless Women Visions of a New World* and received the Fearless Women 2012 Award in Los Angeles. She recently appeared on the nationally syndicated show 'Daytime' and was a featured guest on Senior Voice Radio's 'Health, Wealth and Wisdom' and Unity FM's, 'From Good to Amazing'. Mertes was named the Tampa Bay Business and Professional Women's 2012 Outstanding Woman of the Year and was awarded the "Most Valuable Chic" by the Charity Chics. She was honored by the Tampa Bay Lightning as one of their Community Heroes while Bay News 9 featured her on their Everyday Heroes segment. She was recognized by e-Women Network as their Chapter Honors Award winner and was also honored by the Centre Club Executive Women's Council at the inaugural Breakfast of Champions in 2011.



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## Agenda:

### Thursday, April 4

7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.	Registration and Information Table Open
7:30-8:30 a.m.	Continental breakfast
8:30-9:30 a.m.	Opening General Session Keynote Address by Dr. Sandra Yancy McGuire
9:30-9:55 a.m.	Break
9:55-10:55 a.m.	Breakout Session I
10:55-11:10 a.m.	Break
11:10 a.m.-12:10 p.m.	Breakout Session II
12:10-1:30 p.m.	Lunch on your own FL-AHEAD Luncheon and Spring Meeting
1:30-2:30 p.m.	Breakout Session III
2:30-2:40 p.m.	Break
2:40-3:40 p.m.	Breakout Session IV
3:45-5 p.m.	Florida Update

### Friday, April 5

7:30 a.m.-12 p.m.	Registration and Information Desk Open
7:30-8:30 a.m.	Continental breakfast
8:30-9:30 a.m.	Breakout Session V
9:30-9:45 a.m.	Break
9:45-10:45 a.m.	Breakout Session VI
10:45-11:00 a.m.	Break
11 a.m.-12 p.m.	Closing General Session A Tribute to our Veterans and Military Families Keynote Address by Karen Mertes

## Special Presentation by:

**Jean Ashmore**, Association on Higher Education and Disability, will discuss the new environment and innovative approaches to serving students with disabilities as impacted by the Americans with Disabilities Act as Amended.

**Wanda Young**, Coordinator, Access and Equity, Division of Community Colleges, Florida Department of Education, will provide a special presentation to Florida Disability Service Providers to bring conference participants up to date on statewide issues and policies.

## Workshop Presenters include:

- Julie Balassa, Valencia College
- Dr. Beth Carlson, St. Petersburg College
- Eric Carver, St. Petersburg College
- Jeff Cavanagh, St. Petersburg College
- John Connor, Daytona State College
- Karen Fritch, St. Petersburg College
- Christine Georgallis, St. Leo University
- Larry Goldsmith, St. Petersburg College
- Lynn Grinnell, St. Petersburg College
- Jennifer Haber, St. Petersburg College
- Dr. J.R. Harding, Agency for Persons with Disabilities
- Gay Hawk, National Alliance for Mental Illness
- Mickie Hayes, University of South Florida St. Petersburg
- Dr. Ken Marquard, Miami-Dade College
- Monica Lara, St. Petersburg College
- Dave Monroe, St. Petersburg College
- Carol A. Preston, Fielding Graduate University, Calif.
- Ginny Price, St. Petersburg College
- Dr. Wendy Rice, Tampa, FL
- Susan Richmond, Center for Autism Related Disorders
- Alan Shapiro, St. Petersburg College
- Joseph A. Tedesco, AMAC at the Georgia Institute of Technology
- Dr. Janice Thiel, St. Petersburg College

## What previous conference attendees say about Narrowing the Gulf:

*"I had a great experience as a presenter and a participant. The closing keynote speaker was great! This was a wonderful conference!"*

Marian Colello, Director, Occupational Program Support Services and Perkins Grant Coordinator  
Bucks County Community College, Penn.

*"Narrowing the Gulf is a perfect example of life-long learning. I've been an educator for thirty plus years and I have learned many things from this conference."*

Elaine Cope  
Technical College of the Low Country  
Beaufort, S.C.



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## Conference Site

This conference is held at St. Petersburg College's EpiCenter, a joint-use facility between the college and Pinellas County where professionals from business, government and academia come together to provide a unique blend of information and services. The EpiCenter hosts SPC's Corporate Training Center, providing innovative business solutions and training to meet the needs of businesses and individuals. The Corporate Training Center offers credit and non-credit classes in professional development, technology, regulated industries, and business solutions. The facility also provides more than 10,000 square feet of innovative Collaborative Labs space where businesses can focus on planning, strategizing, problem-solving and business development. Additionally, instructional space for SPC's Technology Management bachelor's degree program is housed at the EpiCenter.

## Hotel

A block of rooms has been reserved for conference participants at the Holiday Inn Express, 13625 Icot Blvd., Clearwater, Fla. This newly renovated hotel is within walking distance of the conference site. Transportation will also be provided for those who prefer to ride. Room rates: \$79 per night plus tax. There are suites available at \$99 a night plus tax. Guest room rates include a hot breakfast each morning. Call 1-800-465-4329 and ask for a reservation with the St. Petersburg College Narrowing the Gulf group rate.

Registration can be completed online at [www.spcollege.edu/dr.htm](http://www.spcollege.edu/dr.htm) or by completing the registration form below and fax, mail or email to:

Peg Connell  
Conference Coordinator  
St. Petersburg College  
PO Box 13489, St. Petersburg, FL 33733  
727-341-3398  
FAX: 727-341-3242  
[connellp@spcollege.edu](mailto:connellp@spcollege.edu)

## Conference Registration Fee:

Early Bird: Before Feb. 25 .....\$125  
Feb. 25-March 12.....\$150  
After March 12.....\$175  
AHEAD members  
(National Association or state affiliate)..... \$99  
Students ..... \$50

The Board of Trustees of St. Petersburg College affirms its equal opportunity policy in accordance with the provisions of the Florida Educational Equity Act and all other relevant state and federal laws, rules and regulations. The college will not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, or against any qualified individual with disabilities in its employment practices or in the admission and treatment of students. Recognizing that sexual harassment constitutes discrimination on the basis of sex and violates this Rule, the college will not tolerate such conduct. Should you experience such behavior, please contact Pamela Smith, the director of EA/EO/Title IX Coordinator at 727-341-3261; by mail at P.O. Box 13489, St. Petersburg, FL 33733-3489; or by email at [eaao\\_director@spcollege.edu](mailto:eaao_director@spcollege.edu).

13-0034-01

## REGISTRATION FORM

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Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Name as you would like it to appear on badge \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization \_\_\_\_\_  
Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT METHOD:** Credit cards are not accepted for this conference

- Purchase Order # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check \_\_\_\_\_ (St. Petersburg College Employer Identification #: 59-1211489)

Please submit registration form with your check or money order to:  
Peg Connell  
St. Petersburg College  
PO Box 13489, St. Petersburg, FL 33733  
727-341-3398

Purchase orders may be submitted electronically with registration form to: [Connell.Peg@spcollege.edu](mailto:Connell.Peg@spcollege.edu)

### REGISTRATION FEE:

- Early Bird: Before Feb. 25..... \$125  
 Feb. 25-March 12..... \$150  
 After March 12 ..... \$175  
 FL-AHEAD, any AHEAD affiliate or the national association members ..... \$99 (includes cost of Thursday luncheon)  
 Students ..... \$50

Do you need special accommodations to participate in this conference? If yes, a representative from the conference will contact you to arrange accommodations.  Yes  No

