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## Annual Autism Conference Coming To UNH August 10-13

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June 25, 2009

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DURHAM, N.H. - The Institute on Disability (IOD) at the University of New Hampshire presents the eleventh annual Autism Summer Institute August 10-13, 2009, on the UNH campus in Durham. This year's four-day institute, "Show Me the Evidence: Evidence-Based Practices for Supporting Students with ASD in Schools and Communities," is open to anyone interested in learning more about Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) from experts on the subject, including persons living with ASD.

### **11th Annual Autism Summer Institute**

**Dates:** August 10-13, 2009

**Times:** Monday - 8:00am to 3:30pm, Tuesday, Wednesday - 9:00am to 3:30pm, Thursday - 9:00am to 12:00pm

**Location:** UNH Holloway Commons and Memorial Union Building, Durham

**Registration fees:**

Professionals: \$399

Parents, full-time students, self-advocates: \$325 (family and self-advocate scholarships may be available)

Students attending for credit: \$99 (requires permission and code to register)

Keynote(s) only: \$30 each

Groups: \$375 - Groups of three or more qualify for the discounted group rate (subject to verification)

**To Register:** Visit <http://www.iod.unh.edu/events.html#asi> or call 603.228.2084

The goal of this year's Autism Summer Institute is to provide strengths-based perspectives about students with ASD - views and approaches that examine and build on students' strengths and abilities - in order to improve the quality of education in inclusive settings. Participants will gain knowledge and skills to evaluate and select supports and strategies based on research evidence that will enhance the full participation of students with ASD in their schools and communities.

Among the featured keynote presenters will be Ari Ne'eman, an individual who experiences Asperger's Syndrome and the founding president of the Autistic Self Advocacy Network, a non-profit organization of adults and youth on the autism spectrum. Joining Ari will be Dan Habib, IOD filmmaker in residence and creator of the film "Including Samuel" Lana L. Collet-Klingenberg of the National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorders; Cathy Pratt of the Indiana Resource Center for Autism; and Michael McSheehan, clinical assistant professor at UNH and co-author of the book "The Beyond Access Model."

In addition to the keynote presentations, the institute offers frequent opportunities for participants to interact, discuss strategies, and develop specific action plans in age-specific "home" groups. Several opportunities to attend breakout sessions on evidence-based practices will allow participants to customize their learning experiences to meet their individual needs.

The Institute on Disability at the University of New Hampshire was established in 1987 to provide a coherent university-based focus for the improvement of knowledge, policies, and practices related to the lives of persons with disabilities and their families. Its mission is to advance policies and systems changes, promising practices, education, and research that strengthen communities to ensure full access, equal opportunities, and participation for all persons.

The University of New Hampshire, founded in 1866, is a world-class public research university with the feel of a New England liberal arts college. A land, sea, space-grant and community-engaged university, UNH is the state's flagship public institution, enrolling 11,800 undergraduate and 2,400 graduate students.

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