



***Focus On The Future:
Inclusive Intelligence Solutions***

**May 1 - 3, 2024
Boyne Mountain Resort
Boyne Falls, Michigan**

In collaboration with:

**Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Opportunity/Workforce Development Agency
and
Michigan Department of Education/Office of Career and Technical Education**



On behalf of the Conference Planning Committee - Welcome to MOSPA 2024!



Tracey Taylor

Dear Esteemed Attendees,

As co-chairs of the MOSPA Conference, we extend our sincerest gratitude for your participation in our 49th annual gathering. It is an honor to host such a diverse and distinguished group of professionals and leaders in our field.

Throughout the conference, you have the opportunity to immerse yourselves in the latest state updates, glean insights from our esteemed keynote speaker, Seong-Hee Westlake, engage in enriching sessions, and foster meaningful connections during networking opportunities. Your active participation and enthusiasm are instrumental in making this event a resounding success.

In a world where change is the only constant, the importance of our work becomes increasingly evident. As we reflect on the past year and look forward to the challenges and opportunities ahead, we recognize that staying abreast of developments in our field is paramount. The landscape for special population students is evolving at an unprecedented pace, and it is only through collaboration, innovation, and continuous learning that we can help our students navigate these changes effectively.

Once again, we extend our heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you for your invaluable contributions to special population students. Your passion, expertise, and dedication are what make the MOSPA Conference a cornerstone of excellence in our community.

Here's to the journey ahead, filled with new discoveries, collaborations, and achievements. We look forward to welcoming you back next year to MOSPA's 50th anniversary as we continue to evolve and thrive together.

With warm regards,

Tracey Taylor and Nicole Reinhart-Huberty



Nicole Reinhart-Huberty

Welcome to 2023-24 MOSPA State Conference!

My name is Peter Gonzalez and I am excited to enter another year of serving students together. I have been a member of MOSPA since 2009. I have been serving as your MOSPA President since 2023 and am honored to have been elected to serve another term. A little bit about me, currently I serve as a Career Tech Specialist, providing ELL supports at the Kent Career Tech Center, in Grand Rapids. I've been in education for 28 years and have loved serving others.



Chef Pete

In these difficult times of short staffing and increased student demand the camaraderie of educators is even more important than in years past. The opportunity to share laughs, strategies and experiences with fellow educators is needed. This conference fills that need. I would like to welcome Dr. Seong- Hee as this year's keynote speaker Dr. Seong- Hee will bring a wealth of knowledge and insight to your conference. Also, Friday Morning session has a speciality of panelists that will help educate us on Perkins Laws and State reports. Please stop by and say hello, I look forward to meeting you and hearing about your experiences as well as your ideas for the future.

MOSPA is an organization that has a long and robust history of helping students. It was formed in 1975 to inform members of the requirements set forth by the Perkins legislation. Also, to assist in implementation of those requirements at the local level to ensure the needs of special population students are met. In addition, a goal of the organization and the state conference is to enhance the professional development of educators and paraprofessionals working with special population students. Each year the State Conference Committee puts together an event that honors the ideas and meets the diverse needs of our members. For more information about MOSPA, I invite you to visit the website: <https://mospaonline.org/>

Also, I would like to extend thanks to our industry sponsors for their contributions to our conference and to our Executive Board and State Conference Planning Committee. Without their continued efforts we would not be able to host this conference. Just as importantly, I would like to thank YOU for being a committed, hardworking, MOSPA member.

You are the BEST!

Looking forward to seeing you at the conference.

Peter Gonzalez
President
MOSPA

Welcome all to the 2024 MOSPA Conference!

On behalf of the organizing committee and MOSPA executive council, it is my distinct pleasure to extend a warm welcome to you all. We are thrilled to host the MOSPA 2024 conference, centered around the theme of “Focus on The Future: Inclusive Intelligence Solutions.” My name is Megan Downey and I currently work as the Interim Program Director for Occupational Support Program at Grand Rapids Community College working with special populations in Perkins and CTE programs. I have also had the pleasure of serving the MOSPA President Elect since 2023.



Megan Downey

As we gather for this significant event, we recognize the critical role each of you plays in shaping the future of education and empowering students from diverse backgrounds. This conference serves as a platform to exchange innovative ideas, best practices, and collaborative strategies that promote inclusivity and foster success for all learners. Your dedication to providing equitable opportunities in career and technical education is commendable, and we are eager to explore how we can further enhance our collective impact.

Throughout the conference, we encourage you to engage in enriching discussions, interactive workshops, and networking opportunities designed to inspire new perspectives and ignite transformative change. Together, let us harness the power of inclusive intelligence solutions to pave the way for a brighter, more equitable future for all students. Thank you for your commitment to excellence and dedication to the advancement of career and technical education

Lastly, let’s have fun!

Warm regards,

Megan Downey

MOSPA President - Elect

GENERAL INFORMATION

Awards



We invite nominations for the 2025 outstanding individual, program, or community partner who has gone above and beyond to support Special Population students and/or Occupational Programs/Career Technical Education. Five award categories are available for nominations and one winner from secondary and one winner from post-secondary will be selected for each category. The nomination form and criteria can be found by scanning the QR code in this section or by clicking this link, <https://mospaonline.org/awards-%26-recognition>, to open the page in an internet browser.

Door Prizes

Door prizes will be awarded at the conference wrap-up on Friday May 3rd at 10:45 a.m. It is not guaranteed that all attendees will receive a door prize. For all attendees to receive a door prize, everyone must bring one to donate. You may drop off your door prize donation at conference registration. Remember to hold on to the ticket you received from registration when you dropped off your door prize to be eligible to win prizes on Friday's giveaway.

Conference Breakout Sessions Evaluations



You will receive an evaluation link at the end of each session to share your feedback. We request that you fill out a breakout session evaluation online by scanning the QR code in this section or by clicking this link, <https://forms.gle/gv4yajhcVPPqDb6t7>, to open the form in an internet browser. Please assist in the continuation of the MOSPA Conference by providing your valued feedback after each session. This feedback assists with planning future conferences.

Name Badge

Your badge is your ticket to entry and must be worn at all times during the scheduled conference hours. Badges recognize you as a participant of the MOSPA conference. Name badge ribbons will also indicate the Conference Committee members, Executive Council members and Conference Presenters.

State Continuing Education Clock Hours (SCECHs) Information

For conference participants who are interested in receiving SCECHs, please see the conference committee member at Registration.

Thursday Night Social Event

Boyne Mountain will once again be offering a Mountain Crawl for all MOSPA participants. The event will take place Thursday, May 2nd from 5–9 pm. Pick up a card and have it punched when ordering drink specials at each location. Fill the card and turn it in at the Trophy Room Pub & Pizzeria to get your Mountain Crawl hat. Participating Boyne Mountain businesses include Trophy Room Pub & Pizzeria, 40 Acres Tavern and Everett's. From 6–8 pm MOSPA members can take a free ski lift ride to the top of the mountain and visit the Eagle's Nest to get your card punched.

2024 AGENDA AT-A-GLANCE

Wednesday, May 1, 2024	
2:30pm - 4:00pm	MOSPA Board Meeting, (Geneva - Lower Level)
4:30pm - 8:00pm	Registration (Lobby)
6:00pm - 8:00pm	Welcome Reception and Opening Remarks (Vienna)

Thursday, May 2, 2024	
7:30am - 5:00pm	Registration / Help Desk
8:00am - 9:00am	Breakfast - Matterhorn A & B
9:15am - 10:30am	Keynote Speaker, Seong-Hee Westlake - Matterhorn A & B
10:45am - 11:00am	Networking Break
11:00am - 12:15pm	Concurrent Breakout Sessions I
12:30pm - 1:30pm	MOSPA State Awards Banquet & Lunch - Matterhorn A & B
1:45pm - 3:00pm	Concurrent Breakout Sessions II
3:00pm - 3:30pm	Networking Break
3:30pm - 4:45pm	Concurrent Breakout Sessions III
TBA	Hospitality Event(s)

Friday, May 3, 2024	
8:00am - 11:00am	Registration / Help Desk
8:00am - 9:00am	Breakfast - Matterhorn A & B
9:15am - 10:30am	State of Michigan Perkins Secondary and Postsecondary Update and Local Best Practices
10:30am - 10:45am	Networking Break
10:45am - 12:00pm	Wrap-Up and Door Prizes - Matterhorn A & B

The Michigan Occupational Special Populations Association is committed to providing equal access to all persons in admission, access, or operation of programs and services at secondary and post-secondary level.

MOSPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Council	
President	Peter Gonzalez*
President Elect	Megan Downey*
Past President	Anthony Webster*
Secretary	Amy Dykhouse*
Co-Treasurer	Rhonda Donovan*
Co-Treasurer	Erik Dedenbach*
At-Large Representative	Brigitte June*

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Region 1:	Tim Zimmerman Jennifer Marley	Region 7:	Katrina Ware-Burchfield Josie Smith Dr. Holly McKee*
Region 2:	Tammy Kelley Shawn Kadwell	Region 8:	Vacant
Region 3:	Sandra Curran* Carla Shay John Boersma	Region 9:	Kenneth Cortese*
Region 4:	Amanda Koch*	Region 10:	Rosalyn Pollard Rhonda Donovan* Sue Tarrow
Region 5:	Terri West*	Region 11:	Maria Schmidt
Region 6:	Dorothy Getty-Gerlica		

State Liaisons	
Secondary State Liaison	Dr. Valerie Milton*
Post-Secondary State Liaison	Virginia Zimmerman*

2024 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Tracey Taylor, Conference Chair	Nicole Reinhart-Huberty, Conference Co-Chair
Ariel Maturine	Emily Sabrosky
James Simmons	Megan Downey
Virginia Zimmerman	

Additional Committee Members include Executive Council members and Regional Representatives above denoted by *.

Opening Keynote Speaker



Seong-Hee Westlake, ATP, RET,
*Senior Rehabilitation Engineer at
University of Michigan Rehabilitation
Engineering Program (UMREP)*

Within her role at UMREP, Seong-Hee sees and treats patients of all ages and ability level. In addition to her role as a Rehabilitation Engineer, Seong-Hee also leads: an adaptive sports program, UMAISE (University of Michigan Adaptive & Inclusive Sports Experience), as the Director of Technology & Innovation, an adaptive gaming program, IMPART (IMProving Access to Rehabilitation Technologies), as the Co-Investigator and Accessibility Engineer, and an adaptive toy program, Tinkered Toy Box, as the Engineer and Program Manager. Outside of the University of Michigan Health System, Seong-Hee serves as a director on the Board of Directors for RESNA (Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America), the premier professional organization and credentialing body for Assistive Technology Professionals. In addition, Seong-Hee is the founder and owner of braillebot, LLC, an inclusive play and education company that manufactures braille educational toys.

MOSPA CONFERENCE 2024 EXPANDED PROGRAM

Thursday, May 2, 2024
Concurrent Breakout Sessions I
11:00am – 12:15pm

Presentation: MI Student Aid - Navigating State Financial Aid Programs and Resources

Location: Arlberg 1

Presenter: *Emily Hurtado-Arboleda*

Organization: *Michigan Department of Treasury - MI Student Aid*

Overview: Participants will acquire a better understanding of State of Michigan financial aid programs, including the new Michigan Achievement Scholarship, the Tuition Incentive Program (TIP), the Fostering Futures Scholarship (FFS) and more. MI Student Aid will share best practices and outreach strategies using data-driven approaches to support students from special populations in Michigan. Attendees will learn about the

MiSSG online data management system, MI Student Aid’s regional outreach blueprint, and MI Student Aid resources available to assist college access professionals.

Presentation: Guide to Youth Registered Apprenticeship in Michigan

Location: Matterhorn C

Presenter: Carrie Sutton

Co-Presenter: Schume’ Harrison

Organization: *Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity*

Overview: The purpose of this guide is to help expand the number of School-to-Registered Apprenticeship and Youth Registered Apprenticeship opportunities in Michigan. This is designed to be shared statewide with sponsors, employers, educators, and workforce development partners across the state. This guide provides information and resources to help increase the number of Youth Registered Apprenticeships and enhance programming at the local level.

Presentation: Building Partnerships to Support Special Populations Students

Location: Matterhorn D

Presenter: Amanda Koch

Organization: *Saginaw ISD Carrer and Technical Education*

Overview: This session will focus on the recruitment and utilization of partnerships to inform and place students in CTE programs. How to support students and staff to ensure a successful student experience. Take away sample practices, strategies, and resources used to create collaboration to increase special populations awareness and enrollment in CTE.

Concurrent Breakout Sessions I, continued

Presentation: Accessible Content

Location: Arlberg 2

Presenter: Miranda Grunwell

Organization: *Disability Network Southwest Michigan*

Overview: Join our workshop to create content that is accessible to everyone. Discover techniques to ensure that your material reaches everyone, including individuals with disabilities who may not be able to see your page, read your words, or here your recording. Our session delves into the fundamentals of accessible content, providing insights into crafting modifications for improved usability, particularly for screen reader users. Explore essential topics such as the definition of accessible content, implementation strategies, and optimizing content for screen reader compatibility.

Throughout the workshop, we will navigate key elements including font selection, color contrast, background simplicity, and employing plain language for enhanced accessibility. By adhering to best practices, you'll learn to foster inclusivity in all your communications. Embrace the concept that creating accessible content extends the reach of your message to all individuals, ensuring that everyone, regardless of disability, can fully engage with your material. Join us and empower yourself to make a meaningful impact through accessible communication.

Presentation: Support Staff Strategies

Location: Arlberg 3

Presenter: Shari Hawken

Organization: *Tuscola Technology Center*

Overview: Special Education Instructors have such a tremendous workload with statistics, counselors, general ed instructors, testing and IEP's that they often do not know the student. . Daily life for these students affect the way they behave in the classroom and grades they do or don't get. We work with their abilities; academically and behaviorally.

We know what triggers or what boosts the student to propel their assignments. This is why I'd like to see a breakout session to get information that Support Staff can use for the benefit of special pops. Our time together can be used as a trial & error, strategies to what works for different students and how to work with the instructors that only know the IEP but not students. While I am confident to lead a group discussion, I appreciate this to be an open opportunity to share knowledge within our sectors. I am sure that each of us have open ended questions that hearing what someone else has to say will help him/herself.

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Concurrent Breakout Sessions I, continued

Presentation: Empowering Diverse Learners: The Transformative Impacts of TextHelp Technologies

Location: Arlberg 4

Presenter: Beth Batts

Organization: *BB Consulting, Founder, University of Davenport, Institute of Professional Excellence*

Overview: In this presentation, we spotlight TextHelp, an innovative suite of assistive technology tools designed to transform learning for diverse student populations. Key offerings like OrbitNote, Equatio, and Read&Write are showcased, each providing unique support—ranging from text-to-speech and predictive spelling to making PDFs interactive. These tools, anchored in Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles, aim to create an inclusive educational landscape where every learner, particularly those with unique challenges, can achieve success. The presentation emphasizes how TextHelp equips students with the means to enhance confidence and foster independence. We'll delve into the functionalities of each tool: OrbitNote's ability to turn PDFs into collaborative workspaces, Equatio's role in demystifying math and science for special needs and ELL students, and Read&Write's comprehensive literacy support. A pivotal section is dedicated to the Read&Write case study within Plymouth Canton, Michigan, illustrating its targeted application to a specific school within a larger district. This example highlights the tool's effectiveness in narrowing achievement gaps for students with IEPs and ELL learners, evidenced by a notable 10 percentile growth in reading scores at the pilot school, vastly outperforming the control school's 1.4 percentile increase. This session aims to demonstrate TextHelp's capacity to significantly enhance academic performance, underscoring the importance of integrating such technologies to support diverse learning needs. Attendees will gain insights into the impactful outcomes of TextHelp's tools, not only for the students they directly serve but also for the broader educational community in which they have impact.

Concurrent Breakout Sessions II

1:45pm - 3:00pm

Presentation: Career Technical Education (CTE) and English Learners/Multilingual Learners

Location: Arlberg1

Presenter: Rachel Manzer

Organization: *Ottawa Area Intermediate School District*

Overview: This session offers tools and considerations to enhance the experience of ELs in CTE programs. We will focus on three key areas:

- Facilitating increased access to CTE programs for ELs.
- Equipping CTE staff with the skills and knowledge to effectively support ELs.
- Ensuring comprehensive support for ELs within CTE programs.

Concurrent Breakout Sessions II, continued

Presentation: Assistive Technology: What is it? How can it help?

Location: Arlberg 3

Presenter: Erin Shannon

Organization: *Michigan Disability Rights Coalition*

Overview: This session will outline what, exactly, assistive technology is and its potential to enhance all aspects of life for those experiencing disability. Different types of assistive technology will be discussed, as will the Michigan Assistive Technology Program. This program is interactive. Participants will be given the opportunity to ask questions and engage with assistive technology. Through participation in this session, attendees will be able to: define what assistive technology is, have increased knowledge of various types of AT available, have a clearer understanding of how AT can benefit students/individuals with disabilities, how to obtain funding for AT in Michigan.

Presentation: Teaching Talent to Thrive - Overview of T3 Resources at Capital Area Michigan Works!

Location: Arlberg 2

Presenter: Amirika Richardson

Organization: *Capital Area Michigan Works!*

Overview: T3, also known as Teach Talent Thrive, is a network of connected assets supporting education and talent development in Michigan's capital area. T3's partners work to increase high school graduation rates, ensure all students are college and career-ready, and increase the number of people with the education and skills needed to support our continued prosperity into the future. T3 is committed to helping education providers and employers work together using tools and resources to become Michigan's exemplary STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) region. T3 strives to build a community committed to lifelong learning led by business and community stakeholders to ensure regional prosperity in the ever-changing new economy. Our presentation will include resources and tools for motivating and skill-building career leaders at an early age. We teach talent to thrive.

Presentation: Demystifying Artificial Intelligence (AI): Exploring Its Potential and Limitations in Real-World Applications

Location: Matterhorn D

Presenter: Cheryl Wilson

Organization: *Michigan Department of Education*

Overview: In less than a year, the AI tool, ChatGPT has become a topic of conversations across industries and a media buzzword that has taken news outlets and social platforms by storm. We've heard the hype. ChatGPT is able to converse like a human, create novel content, answer questions about virtually anything and even write its own code. But, what is it really? How can it be applied to real-world applications and what are its limitations? Join Cheryl Wilson, Computer Science Consultant at the Michigan Department of Education, for an interactive discussion as she answers all of these questions and more about AI.

Concurrent Breakout Sessions II, continued

Presentation: Accessing Resources for Students Basic Needs

Location: Matterhorn C

Presenter: Rhonda Donovan

Organization: *Schoolcraft College*

Overview: With the rising cost of education, many students today are struggling with needs we consider basic needs such as food, housing, transportation, and more. For example, some of our students find themselves faced with the decision to stay in school or buy food to eat. In our post-Covid world, many of our students are experiencing deficiencies in their basic needs being met. There are multiple reasons for the large increase in needs including the rising costs of food, utilities, etc. as well as job loss, familial status changes and more. Dr. Maslow, a psychologist in the 1940s, proposed a theory that we now call Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs. Maslow believed that if the basic physiological needs of people are not met, they will not succeed in the other areas of life – safety, love and belonging, esteem and self-actualization. How can we assist our students who do not have the basic resources to succeed in their education and in life? This session will address resources we can provide to our students both inside our institutions as well as tapping into community resources to help our students access basic needs they are lacking.



Photos from 2019 Conference

Concurrent Breakout Sessions III

3:30pm - 4:45pm

Presentation: State of Michigan Future Faculty Fellowship (FFF) Program

Location: Arlberg 4

Presenter: Christel Smith

Organization: *Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity*

Overview: The Future Faculty Fellowship (FFF) Program, administered by the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity, is a pioneering, initiative program designed to cultivate a diverse pipeline of future educators and administrators for Michigan’s universities and community colleges. The program aims to address the critical shortage of faculty in all fields by providing aspiring educators with comprehensive support and professional development opportunities.

Through a rigorous selection process, the FFF Program identifies talented individuals with a passion for teaching and equips them with the necessary skills and knowledge to excel in the post-secondary setting. Participants engage in intensive coursework, mentorship, and hands-on teaching experiences, guided by experienced faculty mentors who are committed to fostering their growth and success.

One of the program’s key strengths lies in its emphasis on diversity and inclusion. By actively recruiting individuals from underrepresented backgrounds, including racial and ethnic minorities, women, and individuals with disabilities, the FFF Program seeks to create a faculty workforce that reflects the rich diversity of Michigan’s communities. This commitment to diversity not only enriches the educational experience for students but also contributes to the overall vitality and inclusivity of the post-secondary environment.

In summary, the Future Faculty Fellowship Program is a visionary initiative that addresses the pressing need for qualified faculty in Michigan’s community colleges while championing diversity, innovation, and excellence in higher education.

Presentation: Mindfulness

Location: Matterhorn D

Presenter: Kire Wierda

Organization: *Montcalm Community College*

Overview: In today’s world, cultivating Mindfulness has become increasingly essential for personal well-being and professional effectiveness. This Mindfulness workshop offers a transformative journey for participants to cultivate greater awareness, resilience, and effectiveness in their personal and professional lives. Through a combination of interactive sessions, guided meditations, and reflective exercises, participants will explore the principles of Mindfulness and learn practical strategies to integrate mindfulness into their daily lives. By embracing Mindfulness as a way of being, individuals can navigate life’s challenges with greater clarity, compassion, and purpose.

Concurrent Breakout Sessions III, continued**Presentation: Cars, Canines, Cadavers - Oh my! AR/VR for Career Exploration****Location:** Arlberg 3**Presenter:** Tom Pachera, *CTE Director of Ann Arbor Public Schools*

Overview: Discover how Michigan districts and colleges have taken their CTE training through creative approaches that include augmented/virtual reality (AR/VR). Tom Pachera, CTE Director of Ann Arbor Public Schools will share best practices for helping students gain exposure to multiple career pathways, including Health Sciences, Advanced Manufacturing, Agri-Science, and Transportation.

Presentation: How to Succeed and Communicate Effectively with the Most Challenging Personalities - How To Get Along When You Don't Get Along**Location:** Arlberg 1**Presenter:** Beth Kohler**Organization:** *Special Education Mediation Services*

Overview: True family and school collaboration is what we all strive to accomplish, but sometimes personalities and disagreements over how best to educate children create roadblocks to our success. How do you rebuild a trusting relationship when that trust has been broken? What are the most common barriers to collaboration? What is our role, and how do we move forward successfully?

Learning objectives: Learn how to overcome the top five barriers to collaboration, what role we each play in disagreements and building blocks to moving forward successfully.

Presentation: Boosting Your Power Posing & Superhero Landings**Location:** Matterhorn C**Presenter:** Dr. Darrell King**Organization:** *Michigan State University*

Overview: This session will focus on how you can use Power Posing and Superhero Landings to boost your students' confidence and enhance their career prospects. Along with using the metaphor of Superhero Landings, you can help students boost their confidence for job interviews, tough conversations or completing impossible tasks.

Presentation: Did You Know That Many of the Graduation Requirements Can Be Met in Career and Technical Education? Let's Talk About the MMC Flexibility!**Location:** Arlberg 2**Presenter:** Rashell Bowerman**Co-Presenter:** Dorthy Switalski**Organization:** Michigan Department of Education

Overview: The Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC) graduation requirements are not meant to be a one-size fits all. Instead, the content of the MMC should be embedded into courses, experiences, and CTE programs, allowing students to gain the required proficiencies in meaningful ways. This session will discuss in detail the MMC as well as flexibility and waiver options applicable to CTE.

Friday, May 3, 2024
Concurrent Breakout Sessions IV
9:15 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.

Presentation: Advancing Education Equity: Perkins V, Math Achievement, and Industry Credentials

Location: Matterhorn C

Presenter: Dr. Valerie Milton

Organization: Michigan Department of Education - Office of Career and Technical Education

Overview: The session will begin with an overview of the Perkins V Legislation, highlighting key changes and implications for career and technical education (CTE) programs. Participants will share innovative strategies, resources, and best practices to address the unique learning needs of diverse student groups, ensuring equitable access to high-quality math education. Furthermore, participants will gain insights into the importance of industry credentials in preparing students for future career success. A hands-on activity will involve reviewing state-approved credentials in the Career and Technical Education Information Systems Credentials database, providing attendees with practical experience in navigating and utilizing this valuable resource to support student career pathways. Throughout the session, there will be opportunities for interactive discussions, networking, and sharing of experiences.

Presentation: State of Michigan Perkins Postsecondary Update and Local Best Practices

Location: Matterhorn D

Presenter: Virginia Zimmerman

Organization: Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity-Workforce Development

Panelists: Stacey Burns, *North Central Michigan College* and Dr. Rebecca Myszenski, *CS Mott Community College*

Overview: This session aims to offer an interactive discussion on the topic of administering Perkins V in Michigan, including information impacting postsecondary Perkins V Special Populations. This presentation will walk through the fundamentals of Perkins V and how institutions access and utilize Perkins funding to support CTE Programs of Study for promoting equitable access and success in CTE programs. The question-and-answer component will feature examples of promising practices and successful initiatives implemented by institutions and organizations to support special populations in CTE programs.

SECONDARY 2024 MOSPA STATE AWARD RECIPIENTS



Professional Category
Cynthia Olson
Tuscola Technology Center

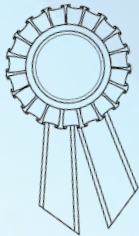


Support Staff
Jayna Wekenmen
Mecosta Osceola Career Center



SPOP Student
Gabriel Therrien
Saginaw Career Complex

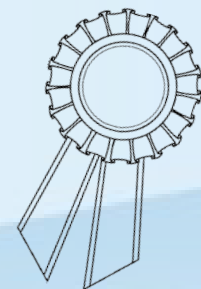
POST SECONDARY 2024 MOSPA STATE AWARD RECIPIENTS



Support Staff
Tammy Atwood
Wayne County Community College



SPOP Student
James Kleiber
Wayne County Community College



OUTSTANDING PROGRAM
**Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning,
and Refrigeration Technology**
Jeff Brandes, Mott Community College



MOSPA 2024 MICHELLE GLENN AWARD RECIPIENT

Dr. Rebecca Myszenski
Mott Community College



With nearly two decades of dedicated service at Mott Community College (MCC), Dr. Myszenski has consistently demonstrated an unwavering commitment to advancing students in CTE, Programs that support CTE and the Mission of the College. She is a compassionate leader that is committed to ensuring that all students have access to high quality, affordable education while removing barriers to learning and success. Starting as a physical therapy instructor she brought her knowledge from industry into the classroom to educate students in the physical therapy program. She quickly rose to the position of coordinator for the physical therapy program. In that role, she proactively established strategic partnerships with student services professionals to better support students.

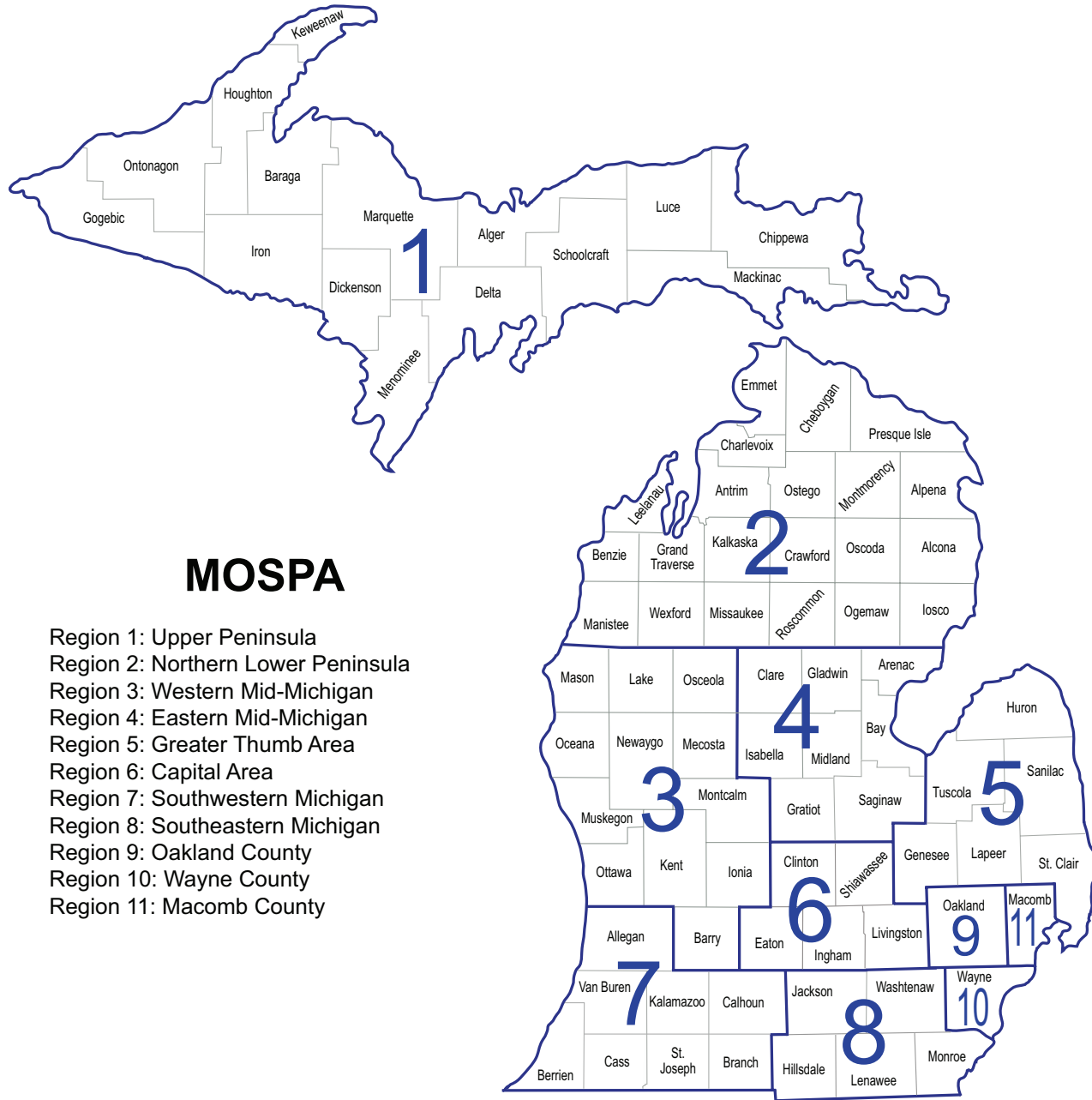
Upon her promotion to Dean of Health Sciences, Dr. Myszenski spearheaded initiatives to raise awareness of available services for special populations, ensuring that students in CTE programs were well-informed and supported. In this role she oversaw Nursing, Dental Assisting, Dental Hygiene, Respiratory, Physical and Occupational therapy. She helped create a pathway for the SP coordinator to be at all of the health science orientations to ensure students were aware of the services provided by the Special Populations program. Additionally, she forged alliances with external organizations such as the Flint Healthcare Employment Opportunities (FHEO) program, expanding resources available to students’ pursuing careers in health sciences.

In her current role as Assistant Vice President for CTE, Dr. Myszenski has spearheaded the modernization of articulation agreements with high schools statewide, aligning them with the Michigan Department of Education standards. She has also championed Credit for Prior Learning, recognizing the value of experiential learning and third-party credentials in shaping students’ educational journeys. Under her leadership, a robust Credit for Prior Learning process was established, allowing students to leverage their prior experiences and third-party credentials to earn up to 30 credits towards their Associate degree.

Beyond her professional responsibilities, Rebecca is a staunch advocate for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) within CTE programming. She actively participates in the Perkins V Executive Committee Meetings, ensuring that DEI considerations are integrated into all aspects of our CTE initiatives.

In conclusion, Dr. Rebecca Myszenski exemplifies the essence of the Michelle Glenn Award criteria through her tireless service, innovative contributions, and unwavering commitment to equity and inclusion within Special Populations, CTE and Mott Community College. I wholeheartedly endorse her nomination for this esteemed recognition.

MOSPA REGIONS



MOSPA

- Region 1: Upper Peninsula
- Region 2: Northern Lower Peninsula
- Region 3: Western Mid-Michigan
- Region 4: Eastern Mid-Michigan
- Region 5: Greater Thumb Area
- Region 6: Capital Area
- Region 7: Southwestern Michigan
- Region 8: Southeastern Michigan
- Region 9: Oakland County
- Region 10: Wayne County
- Region 11: Macomb County

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Thank You

**Department of Labor & Economic Opportunity,
Workforce Development Agency,
Kellogg Community College,
and Edge**

**for the generous and continued
support of MOSPA and this conference!**



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR & ECONOMIC
OPPORTUNITY



WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT



KELLOGG
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

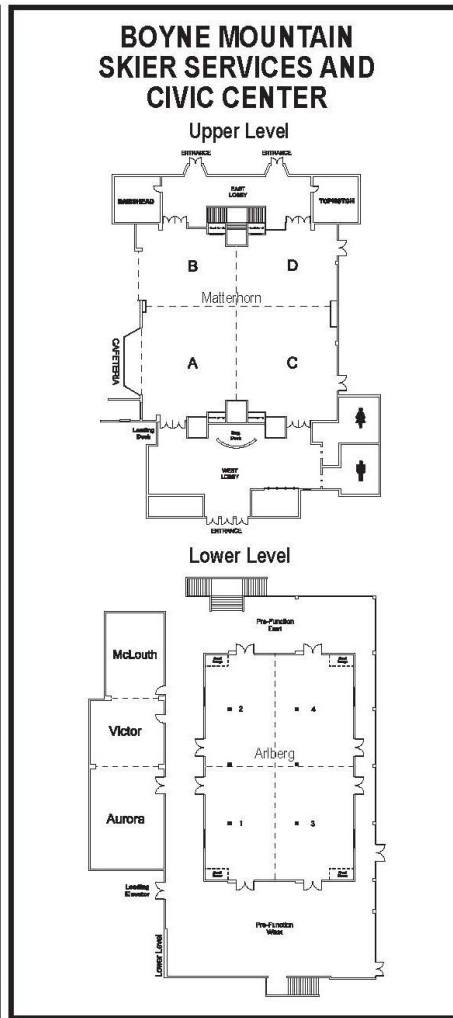
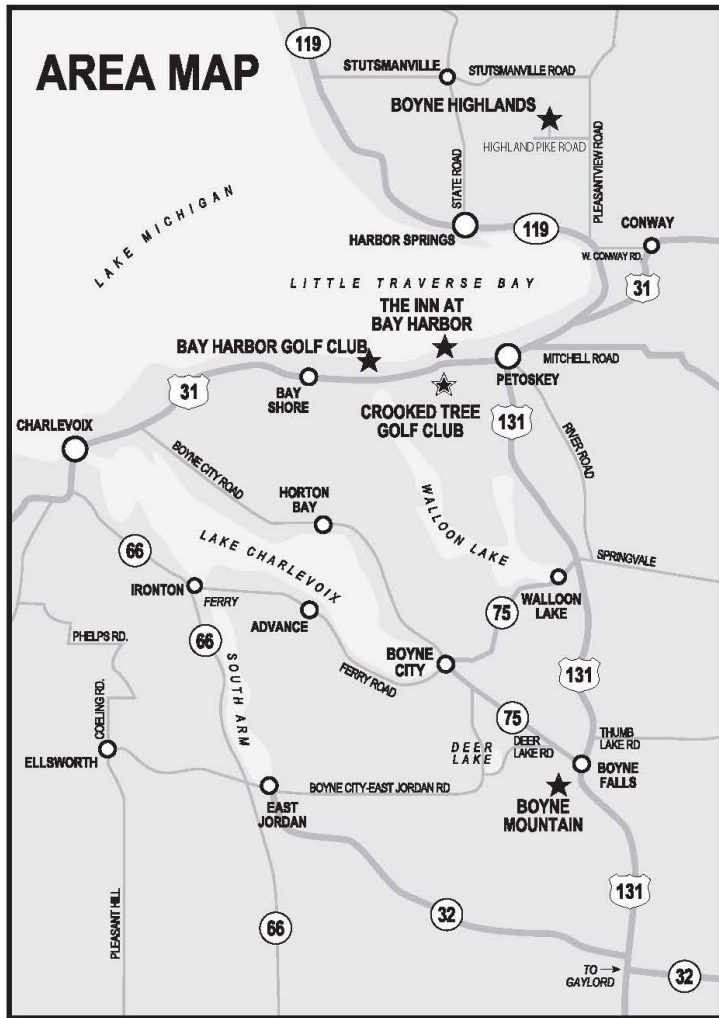
EDGE



BOYNE MOUNTAIN RESORT MAPS & INFORMATION

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MICHIGAN OCCUPATIONAL SPECIAL POPULATIONS ASSOCIATION

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