1/16/16. There have been some recent news items pertinent to science and disability issues. The news feature in the 16 October 2015 issue of Science magazine on the use of exoskeletons in the military was fascinating. If only we could carry over some of that technology soon to improve the mobility of persons with disabilities!

A recent letter to the editor by Dov Greenbaum mentions this and also states "Therapeutic implementation may also compel us to redefine nontrivial concepts of disability and ableness in light of the growing capacity to technologically supplement human frailties."

Indeed. Comments anyone?

We would like to welcome two new members, Seth Davis and Hal Frost, who have written contributions to the newsletter on Page 2

President’s Corner
-Richard Mankin

Student Grant Awardees since 1990
1990 Wendy Pava, Birgit Wolz, Elaine Hall
1991 Kevin Wilkins, Shan Ming Lee
1992 Meghal Antani, Lynn Hanninen, Mara Frohlinger
1993 David Fass, William Hylton
1995 Chris Tromborg
1996 Anne-Michelle Singleton
1997 Leslie Harper
1998 Maura O’Modhrain
1999 Joseph Barbera, Byunggyoo Kim
2000 Jennifer Last
2001 Cassandra Quave
2002 My Lien Nguyen
2003 Mark Woods
2004 Jessica Mahood
2005 Cheryl Fogle
2007 Melodi King
2008 Ryan McKindles
2009 Emma Sacks
2010 Shaun Kane
2011 Lisa Dunning
2012 Kim Yeoman
2013 Naomi Delventhal
2014 Amy Nichols
2015 Rosemarie Figueroa

The next annual meeting of FSD is 10:00 AM-12:00 PM, Saturday, February 13, 2016 in the Congressional Room at the Marriott Wardman Park, Washington DC.
Hello Richard ... this is Seth Davis – I just wanted to give a friendly note to you. Was looking into disability clubs/organizations/foundations and found your group online.

I am a retired SSgt from the Marine Corps and retired about 2 years ago from the “Corps”. I was working in the ground electronics field or 2862 community and tried to pursue as much leadership, technical training, warfighting material, and complementary training as possible. Most of my career was in Camp Pendleton, Twentynine Palms, and Okinawa, Japan. For about 16 years I was working on man-pack radio systems, switches, fiber optics, CAT 5 copper, firmware upgrades, Assault Amphibious Vehicle ancillary systems, and I was also a hazardous materials technician. Since the war on terror has become expensive whether we like it or not there has been a reduction of forces in the Marine Corps and my peer group of SSgts’ 2862 was over staffed and the “Corps” offered me an early retirement. So I felt it was a good time to take the pension and for me to get out and work on my graduate education.

My wife is a dual citizen of the US and Philippines, so I took the opportunity to move to the Philippines and attend Ateneo De Davao University (Ateneo means Athens of Davao). The veteran’s administration G.I. Bill Post 9/11 Chapter 33 is pretty good and I can apply it here in Davao, Philippines. The University is accredited and one of the institutions the V.A. will allocate money to for my education. There is a good cost of living and for now am getting a decent allowance to attend Ateneo.

My current goal is finish an M.B.A. then pursue some technical training in machining. I plan to open a business/corporation where I can make paper and also metal training cards or knowledge cards and primarily export these education products overseas. I also would like to learn more educationally in pursuing a Ph.D. in Library digital and automation studies. So we’ll see.

Of course the Philippines is a different place so one of the things you first notice is Ateneo De Davao is one of the better schools in the Philippines and the combined tuition price for 4 graduate courses of 12 units is only about $500. Additionally there are actually some good quality Universities in the Philippines and most of the instruction is conducted in reasonably decent English.

For now I’m just networking. It’s like so many things in life it’s good to be prepared before you’re in a serious need or a crisis. I want to develop some more friendships and alliances which can always be of value one way or another even if it is as simple as getting academic advice or an opinion.

Dear Dr. Mankin,

Perhaps you remember me from the 2008 annual meeting of FSD at the 2008 annual meeting of the AAAS in Boston, MA in February, 2008. By looking at the minutes of subsequent meetings, it’s clear that FSD has grown since 2008 in maturity such as dealing with a broader range of disability issues.

I, too, have progressed in recent years in now reaching out to advocate change more, as opposed to simply seeking help for myself as a person with a major disability history. But, to first do this, I had to write down my story, which has taken about a decade to do.

To minimize Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in revisiting old memories of what had happened to me and how I then dealt with unjust discrimination not only in the workplace but also in professional organizations as a mid-career, then end-of-career scientist, I put together a 10-p. CV done in a non-traditional way. In case it is a story that the FSD can use, I ask that at least you look at its p.1. Other attachments provide online resources about my background.

Please let me know if it is any help in FSD’s efforts to help STEM leaders (e.g., Principal Investigators) who experience wild rides like mine with onset at mid-career of a major mental disability that leads to layoffs and worse.

Such stories may not only be a source of encouragement to other people having their own disability troubles but also may provide a game-changing educational resource for shifting the mindset of managers and members of governance structures of professional organizations of mental disability as a liability to accomplishment of vision and mission.

This is all I can do at age 73 and in declining health, such that I am no longer able to travel to conferences. Furthermore, I am not able nowadays to be in the loop on action items, but can still provide catalytic ideas which others might like, then use to jumpstart a new program, for example.

Thanks for listening.

With best wishes to you and your colleagues, Hal Frost

Hal included a CV and some other information which appears in the archives on our website at http://STEMD.org
AGENDA

- Call to Order/Introduction: President Richard Mankin called the meeting to order and introduced special guests and attendees.
  Special guests: Yew Hung Leong- Major: Computer Science, UC-Berkeley.; Rush Holt (Chief Executive Officer, AAAS); Chris Gaston (Director of Executive Office Operations, AAAS);
  Other Attendees: Yoshiko Miwa; Rory Cooper; Ai Hirayama; Morton Ann Gernsbacher; Deborah Seiler; Imke Durre; Inge Durre; Angela Lee Foreman; Ted Conway; Laureen Summers; Trish Morse; Ian Kanair.
  There was discussion about the activities of different members during the past year, including papers that Yoshiko Miwa published about the status of persons with disabilities in Japan.


- Treasurer’s Report- Angela Foreman, Treasurer, presented a summary of her report published in the 2015 Winter Newsletter. The society has a cash balance of approximately $21,500.

- Science Student Grant Committee Report – Richard Mankin presented the grant committee report (other committee members were Angela Foreman, Imke Durre, and Laureen Summers). Rosemarie Figueroa, a PhD student in Industrial and Operations Engineering at the University of Michigan won an award for the project “Development of a 3-d anthropometric model for simulating hand work”.

- New Business: It was discussed that the next AAAS meeting (in Washington, DC) will have a focus on science and diversity. In support of this focus, the AAAS Project on Science, Technology, and Disability is preparing a proposal to obtain funding to sponsor a preconference workshop for former EntryPoint students to encourage networking and collaborative activities. Plans also are in progress to develop funding to re-establish the Annual Luncheon for Students with Disabilities that was discontinued after 2011. In this regard, Rory Cooper brought up several potential funding sources, including the Equal Rights Center (ERC). To capture these ideas in the form of an action item, it was moved, seconded, and passed that the Foundation for Science and Disability provide up to $5000 for a Luncheon for Students with Disabilities at the AAAS meeting in 2016. The motion also created an Ad-Hoc subcommittee (Ted Conway, Laureen Summers, Rory Cooper, Angela Foreman, and Richard Mankin) to draft a grant proposal sponsoring a workshop in which former EntryPoint students will present current research in a poster session and also will make presentations in the Luncheon for Students with Disabilities. Work on this subcommittee will commence during the week after the Emerging Researchers Network annual meeting February 19-21, 2015.

- Adjournment- The meeting adjourned at noon.


January 2016 Followup on February 13, 2015 New Business
The Luncheon for Students with Disabilities was funded with $5000 from the Foundation for Science and Disability. In addition, there are several concerns that we have postponed into 2016:
Need to establish a national venue or society for scientists & engineers with disabilities to become a resource for individuals. There is a need for Focus on:

a. Entry-level information & support
b. Career development for mid-level career professionals
c. Mentoring – for both aspects (entry-level & mid-level), leading to professional advancement.
d. Increased use of social media (Facebook, Skype, etc.) for virtual (online) meetings

Treasurer Report for 2016 Annual meeting:

Foundation For Science and Disability Treasurer Report


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The Foundation for Science and Disability (http://stemd.org) was founded in 1978 to promote the integration of persons with disabilities into the mainstream of the scientific community. A major focus of FSD has been the removal of barriers that restrict opportunities to develop careers and conduct scientific research. The Foundation also provides grants to students with disabilities who are conducting research in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics.

President: Richard Mankin (rmankin1@ufl.edu)
Treasurer: Angela Lee Foreman (angelaleeforeman@yahoo.com)
https://www.facebook.com/groups/360413492800/
http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=4116054&trk=hb_side_g

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### Foundation for Science and Disability 2016 Dues Notice

**Membership Application / Renewal Form**

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Please make checks out to: Foundation for Science and Disability and mail to: Angela Lee Foreman, Foundation for Science and Disability, P. O. Box 3384, San Leandro, CA 94578.

Please list a change of address, if any, and / or list any comments for the Board of Directors below. Also, please forward us your email address if you would like to receive pdfs of future Newsletters.

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