

Patricia A. Morrissey, Ph.D.

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Personal Goal: Through diverse venues promote and create positive perception, acceptance, inclusion, and valuing of individuals with disabilities.

Strengths

- Many years of experience promoting and educating about federal policies and resources associated with empowering individuals with disabilities
- Experience with diverse stakeholders in developing and revising program initiatives and legislation
- Knowledge of federal programs and resources to assist with empowering individuals with the full range of disabilities
- Experience in building unlikely partnerships and achieving consensus on goals
- Adept at problem solving, developing and identifying strategies that result in the use of practices that pay off
- Strong, recognized, oral and written, verbal skills, especially those needed to explain or persuade

Education

Harford Community College, A.A. in liberal arts [REDACTED] Stetson University, B.A. in psychology [REDACTED]
The Pennsylvania State University, M.Ed. [REDACTED] and Ph.D. [REDACTED] in special education

Chronological Employment Record

September 2016 to present: Director, Center on Disability Studies, College of Education, University of Hawaii at Moana. Oversee a research, training, community service, and dissemination unit with 80 staff and 30 projects.

Oct. 2014 to present: Chair, United States International Council on Disabilities (USICD). Elected chair (a volunteer position, no compensation) of the board of directors of the USICD. Advise and direct staff on policy, grant opportunities, fund raising, and finances. USICD has a paid staff of two, contracted consultants, and a board of 22.

Aug. 2013 to Present: Launcher of three social media platforms to promote the ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, understanding of U.S. disability policy, and how to effectively engage elected officials:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/RatifyCRPD (Reach has been as high as 150,000; likes 10,000+. Blog: wecandothisifwetry.blogspot.com (179 posts as of August 2017 and 77,000+ views) Twitter: @AuntPip (over 1,200 tweets; many retweets).

Sept. 2012 to present: Member of the Governmental Affairs Committee, Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology of North America.
Assistive Technology of North America.

Jun. 2010 to present: Board member, U.S. International Council on Disabilities.

2001 to Jan. 2009: Commissioner of the Administration on Developmental Disabilities. Oversaw four discretionary grant programs authorized by the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000. In June 2004 was the invited keynote speaker in Beijing, China at an international conference on special education. In August 2004 appointed to the U.S. delegation participating in the development of the United Nations' disability rights treaty, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Aug. 2000 – Aug. 2001: Senior Associate, Booz-Allen & Hamilton, Worldwide Technology Business, Disability Consulting Services, advised federal clients on effective and compliant means to provide opportunities for and services to individuals with disabilities, especially complying with section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, which deals with accessible information technology, including websites.

Jan. 1997 - Aug. 2000: Senior Disability Policy Advisor, Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions. Responsible for legislation on federal disability policy under the jurisdiction of the Committee for the Chairman. Specifically, drafted and guided through to enactment the following: the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Amendments of 1997, the Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1998, the Education of the Deaf Act Amendments of 1998, the Assistive Technology Act of 1998, the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 and the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act Amendments of 1999 (S. 1809, passed the Senate in November, 1999).

Feb. 1995 - Dec. 1996: Staff Director, Senate Subcommittee on Disability Policy. Oversaw and drafted legislation under the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee.

Sept. 1994 - Jan. 1995: Vice President, Government Relations for Community Programs, American Rehabilitation Association. Oversaw government relations department; had responsibility for developing strategies related to effective interaction with the federal legislative and executive branches of government on behalf of private community rehabilitation programs.

May 1991 - Aug. 1994: Governmental relations specialist with the law firm, McGuinness & Williams, and Vice President of Employment Advisory Services, Inc. Advised corporate, public, and federal clients on federal disability policy. Developed customized training materials and conducted training for employers. Served as a technical advisor to and appeared in commercial training videos on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). For the Employment Policy Foundation wrote *Disability Etiquette in the Workplace* (1992). For the Vocational Education Association, wrote the book, *Educator's Guide to the Americans with Disabilities Act* (1993).

Nov. 1990 - April 1991: Author under contract to LRP Publications. Wrote two books on the ADA: *A Primer for Corporate America on Civil Rights for the Disabled* (1991) and *Employer's Guide to the Americans with Disabilities Act* (1991, supplements in 1992, 1993, and 1994).

[REDACTED]: Professional staff and senior legislative associate on the House Committee on Education and Labor. Drafted for and advised members of the committee on legislation affecting individuals with disabilities. Negotiated with federal executive branch, trade associations, professional organizations, and advocacy groups and House and Senate staff on legislation before and after -- committee consideration, floor action, and final passage. Made presentations to international and domestic groups on the federal legislative process. For diverse audiences, wrote analyses of legislative options to influence development of final legislation. Legislative drafting contribution: drafted the House version of the Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Act [REDACTED], amendments to the Americans with Disabilities Act (retained in final passage, [REDACTED]), amendments to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (formerly the Education of the Handicapped Act, in [REDACTED] the Rehabilitation Act (in [REDACTED]), and the Carl Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act of 1990 (retained in final passage).

[REDACTED]: Deputy Commissioner of the Rehabilitation Services Administration, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services in the U.S. Department of Education. Managed a \$1 billion grant program with 220 employees and 10 regional offices.

[REDACTED]: Policy specialist with the Institute on Program Evaluation, General Accounting Office. Advised on strategies for providing reports to Congress in a timely manner and "user-friendly" format.

[REDACTED]: Professional staff on the Education and Labor Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives. Advised the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Select Education on disability policy.

[REDACTED]: Coordinator of a National Policy Fellowship Program at the Institute for Educational Leadership. Administered a fellowship program that placed mid-career professionals with senior officials in the Executive Branch, national trade organizations, and offices of Members and Committees of the U.S. Congress.

[REDACTED]: Visiting professor, Department of Special Education, University of Hawaii. Taught graduate level courses in special education policy and individualizing instruction for students with disabilities.

[REDACTED]: Program specialist in the Bureau of Education for the Handicapped, U.S. Office of Education, U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. As part of a task force, developed the initial evaluation plan for and monitoring system of the newly enacted Education of All Handicapped Children Act.

[REDACTED]: Research associate in the Center for Innovation in Teaching the Handicapped and assistant professor in the Department of Special Education, Indiana University (Bloomington). Taught graduate level courses in special education (i.e., federal policy, learning disabilities); conducted research on peer tutoring; wrote grant proposals and published in the area of materials development for teachers of students with disabilities and accommodation of individual learning styles.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]: Research assistant. Developed test questions for a computer-assisted course – “Introduction to the Education of Exceptional Children,” offered by the Department for Exceptional Education, the Pennsylvania State University.

[REDACTED]: Psychology technician in the Psychology Branch, Medical Research Laboratory, Edgewood Arsenal, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. Administered cognitive and physical performance tests to military volunteers; developed evaluation forms; conducted statistical analyses; interpreted data; and wrote reports.

[REDACTED]: Program developer. Designed the initial computerized data entry system for tracking information on medical students for the University of Florida Medical School.

[REDACTED]: Research assistant in a project, conducted by the Department of Psychology, the John Hopkins University. Evaluated shape, color, and quantity recognition and retention by Head Start enrollees.

Presentations: Since 1981, annually have made presentations to many national and international organizations on – how to create environments and conditions to facilitate participation and contributions by individuals with disabilities, pending disability-related legislation, the federal legislative process, and how to effectively engage elected officials.