

# **An Introduction to Computer Access Solutions**

*March 17, 2010: 9:30 am to 2:30 pm (\$67 Members / \$79 non-Members)*

## **Target Audience**

This session is designed for assistive technology professionals, OT's, PT's, special and general educators, student service teams as well as any other individual supporting those with physical difficulties who need to access computers for educational, vocational, and/or communication uses.

## **Description of Experience**

This session will introduce attendees to many ways individuals with disabilities can access a computer. Many different pieces of hardware as well as software programs will be introduced and discussed. Hands-on time with support will be provided via a "rotating" computer lab design. During this part lab, part lecture-style session, we will discuss everything from the basic accessibility features already available on your computer to specialized input devices for those with multiple physical challenges, as well as speech recognition software and an overview of products for those with low vision or blindness.

## **Learning Objectives**

- Discover a variety of ways to adapt a computer to make it more accessible to persons with a variety of disabilities
- Identify the different categories of Computer Access
- Identify populations of individuals who could be more employable if they had more of a means to participate
- Determine a "general best fit" for computer access based on a short description of individual needs
- Discuss strategies that can be used for involving and motivating individuals to accomplish tasks once thought to be too difficult

*Presented by Diana Jurist*