



# The US—Japan Business Leadership Institute on Youth Disability Employment WEBINAR SERIES

**Education to Employment: How do Students with Disabilities Navigate  
Access Barriers and Accommodations in Higher Education?**

## Webinar #2

**US (EST) Time: 13 May 2021, 8pm-9:30pm**  
**Japan Time: 14 May 2021, 9am-10:30am**

The panel will focus on one of the ‘first steps’ to achieving employment of youth with disabilities: eliminating systemic barriers to higher education. Panelists will discuss how students with disabilities are not only affected by lack of accommodations during entrance exams and in classroom settings, but also by limited access to housing, transportation, and other community services necessary for independent living and thriving in academic spaces. The panel discussion will highlight cross-national (US–Japan) differences in approaches to accommodation in higher education and reveal how ‘access-makers’ in both countries can learn from one another to facilitate inclusion. The role of government in supporting the transition of young people with disabilities from higher education to employment will also be addressed.

**The webinars are free and open to public.  
Registration is required.**

### For more information:

**Dr. Heike Boeltzig-Brown**

Project Director

[heike.boeltzig-brown@umb.edu](mailto:heike.boeltzig-brown@umb.edu)

**Miwa Tanabe**

Project Coordinator

[miwa.tanabe@umb.edu](mailto:miwa.tanabe@umb.edu)

We will provide the following accommodations for each webinar:

- English and Japanese interpretation
- English and Japanese Live captions (CART)
- American sign language and Japanese sign language

Please contact us if you need additional accessibility accommodations to fully participate in this webinar series.

**Register:** [https://communityinclusion.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_0eL7uPFqQQiaL8e1emtSdA](https://communityinclusion.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_0eL7uPFqQQiaL8e1emtSdA)

The project is funded by the U.S. Embassy Tokyo.



Institute for Community Inclusion at UMass Boston



**Dean Adams, Ph.D.**

***Scholar and educator, University of Illinois Chicago and National Louis University***

Dean Adams has a Ph.D. in Special Education with concentrations in Women and Gender Studies, and Disability Studies from Syracuse University. Dean has been teaching courses and presenting on topics such as disability culture and history, inclusive pedagogy, universal design for learning, and the intersections of disability, race, and gender for over a decade. His current work has been in the areas of DisCrit (a framework that uses disability studies and critical race theory to examine how race, racism, dis/ability and ableism are infused into educational institutions); and analysis of the school to prison pipeline. Dean was the Interim Director of the Disability Cultural Center at University of Illinois Chicago (UIC), as well as working with the Inclusive Classroom Initiative on a training module for faculty and staff on meeting the needs of students with disabilities at UIC.

**Amanda Kraus, Ph.D.**

***Assistant Vice President for Campus Life, University of Arizona***

***Executive Director & ADA/504 Compliance Officer, Disability Resources, University of Arizona***

***Associate Professor of Practice, Higher Education, University of Arizona***

Amanda Kraus has lived in Tucson and worked at the University of Arizona (UA) for 20 years. In her role as the assistant vice president for campus life, she serves as executive director for disability resources and the University's ADA/504 compliance officer. UA's Disability Resource Center is one of the largest in the nation, and is considered an international model of progressive service delivery. The Center leads efforts to design campus environments and experiences to be usable and welcoming for a diverse range of individuals, thereby reducing the need for individual accommodations or modifications. Amanda is also an associate professor of practice in UA's Center for the Study of Higher Education, where she coordinates the MA program and teaches courses on student services and disability. She looks to disability studies to inform her research and teaching, in which she frames disability in the context of social justice, shaped by dynamics of power and privilege. Outside of work, Amanda is an avid wheelchair tennis player. She works to grow opportunities for players with disabilities and to increase the national visibility of wheelchair tennis.

**Jun Murata**

***Associate Professor, General Student Support Center, Kyoto University***

***Chief Coordinator, Disability Support Office, Kyoto University***

***Director, Higher Education Accessibility Platform***

Jun Murata has been engaged in student disability support at Kyoto University since 2007. As an assistant professor in the General Student Support Center, Jun builds cross-departmental support for students with disabilities and systems for providing accommodations. As the chief coordinator of the Disability Support Office, Jun works directly with students with disabilities. Jun has spearheaded the creation of barrier-free campus maps and peer support programs. More recently, he has been focusing on college-to-work transition support, and on making disaster-preparedness programs at Kyoto University disability-inclusive. Jun serves on the board of the Association on Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD Japan). He directs the Higher Education Accessibility Platform, or HEAP, a project funded by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT). HEAP aims to build higher education capacity around disability. Jun has co-edited / co-authored two books on disability issues, including one book on career education and support for high school and college students with disabilities. In 2018, he participated in the Leadership Institute on Serving College Students with Disabilities in Higher Education in Japan, implemented by the Institute for Community Inclusion at the University of Massachusetts Boston.

