

Joseph Polizzotto

PROFILE

Highly qualified **Access Technology Professional** with 17 years of post-secondary teaching experience. Known for leadership skills, clear communication, and wide breadth of technology knowledge.

EXPERIENCE

Accessibility Technologist

Wake Technical Community College, Raleigh NC July 2021 - Present

- Deliver professional development courses on accessibility
- Review academic content for accessibility

Alternative Media Supervisor

University of California (UC) Berkeley, Berkeley CA July 2018 – July 2021

- Supervise eight full-time alternative media specialists
- Oversee the production of alternative formats (braille, audio, large-print, E-Text) for over 100 qualifying students each semester
- Liaise with faculty and staff regarding ADA obligations and standards
- Develop and maintain accessibility standards and best practices in the production of alternative formats (HTML, EPUB, PDF, Large Print, Tactile, MP3, MS Word, braille).
- Maintain and update Alternative Media website
- Train students how to use assistive technologies (Kurzweil 3000, JAWS, ZoomText, NVDA, EPUB Reading Systems)

Access Technology Specialist Instructor

High Tech Center Training Unit (HTCTU), Cupertino CA March 2016 – June 2018

- Develop all-day trainings on assistive technology and alternate media at the HTCTU for staff in the 114 Disability Services departments of the California Community Colleges:
- Write manuals and guides outlining the best practices of how to create alternate media and train students with disabilities on assistive technology
- Outline basic computer specifications needed for alt media or AT workstations
- Train California Community Chancellor's Office employees on assistive technology
- Respond to queries and issues from colleagues in the field via the HTCTU listservs and by phone
- Assist Community College faculty with how to create accessible documents
- Report on emerging trends and technologies to the HTCTU Advisory Board
- Evaluate websites, documents, and applications for adherence to accessibility standards (WCAG 2.0 AA) by using a combination of automatic checkers and assistive technology
- Attend and present at national conferences on disability and access technology

- Provide insights on Higher Ed market to assistive technology vendors, such as Kurzweil Education, Text Help, Sonocent, Humanware, OrCam, MatchWare

High Tech Center Access Specialist, Learning Skills Associate Professor

Taft College, Taft CA August 2012- March 2016

- Responsible for alternate media production and assistive technology training for 300 students
- Identify preferences and needs for alternate and assistive technology for individuals with disabilities, using student documentation, staff conferences, and intake appointments
- Built and maintained alternate media database
- Tailor individual and group sessions on Dragon Naturally Speaking speech recognition, LiveScribe pens, Kurzweil 3000, JAWS, ZoomText Magnification, and other assistive technologies
- Oversee installation and configuration of accessible technology across campus
- Manage team of accommodation specialists who will train students on assistive technology
- Train team on how to produce DAISY, e-Text, tactile, large print, accessible PDFs, EPUB
- Address needs and concerns of faculty regarding disability law, universal design, and accommodations for students with disabilities
- Design and maintain High Tech Center website as a technology resource for faculty and students
- Research emerging technologies and develop strategies for implementation on campus
- Produce tutorials, newsletters, curriculum, and presentation on access technologies for campus
- Hire and schedule CART services and ASL interpreters for Deaf population at college
- Develop and deliver curriculum for students preparing for High School Equivalency exam

ESL Teaching

ESL Associate Professor

Taft College, Taft CA January 2011- August 2012

- Recorded and edited informational video about ESL program for recruitment purposes

ESL Instructor

Foothill College, Los Altos Hills, CA March 2008-December 2010

- Developed and delivered curriculum for advanced ESL learners in Silicon Valley

ESL Instructor

Evergreen Valley College, San Jose CA Sep. 2007-December 2010

- Created engaging, technology-based pronunciation exercises for Vietnamese ESL students

ESL Instructor

Cañada College, Redwood City CA Sep. 2005- December 2010

- Designed and delivered intensive ESL classes for urban Redwood City communities

ESL Instructor

Gavilan College, Gilroy CA June 2005-December 2010

- Devised and implemented learning styles test for ESL learners

Academic English Instructor

San Jose State University San Jose, CA September 2005-May 2005

- Prepared academic English lessons for incoming freshmen and trained academic English tutors

ESL Instructor

Metropolitan Adult Education, Campbell CA September 2000-August 2004

- Designed Vocational ESL and EL Civics curriculum for over a dozen different language groups

EDUCATION

Master of Arts (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages)

San Jose State University, San Jose CA - May 2004

Bachelor of Arts (History)

University of California, Santa Cruz CA - June 2000

Università degli studi di Padova, Italy—Education Abroad Program - June 1998- June 1999

AWARDS

- SPOT Award – UC Berkeley (2022)
- CAPED Vice President of CIGs Award (October 2015)
- Taft College Celebration of Success Award (May 2015)

PRESENTATIONS

"STEM Materials Remediation", a presentation to the North Carolina Accessibility Bridge Group, 2022

"Tools for Automating the Creation of MP3s" *Accessing Higher Ground Conference 2021*, (virtual)

"Turning Math in HTML" *Accessing Higher Ground Conference 2021*, (virtual)

"Training Program on Tools for Making Digital and Web STEM Content Accessible", Raised Lines Foundation (Delhi), 2021

"Accessible Learning Materials", World Blindness Summit, 2021

"Creating and Reading Accessible Math", *DAISY Webinar*, 2021

"Ways People with Print Disabilities Read", *DAISY Webinar*, 2021

"Turning Math into HTML", a presentation to the North Carolina Higher Education Digital Accessibility Group, 2021

"Do More with WordToEPUB", *DAISY Webinar*, 2020

"WordToEPUB Extended Tutorial", *DAISY Webinar*, 2020

"Create EPUB publications from Word with a simple tool anyone can use", *DAISY Webinar*, 2020 "Writing and reading accessible math in Word, HTML and EPUB" *Accessing Higher Ground Conference 2020*, (virtual)

"Creating accessible OER and other materials by leveraging advanced features of Word and WordToEPUB" *Accessing Higher Ground Conference 2020*, (virtual)

"Accessible HTML – Why It's a Good Format for your Students and How to Create It!" *Accessing Higher Ground Conference 2020*, (virtual)

"Transitioning Your Campus to EPUB3" *Accessing Higher Ground Conference 2020*, (virtual)

"Reading Systems Faceoff – How to access EPUB reading systems and how you can know which are the best" *Accessing Higher Ground Conference 2020*, (virtual)

"Getting to Grips with Creating and Editing EPUB" *Accessing Higher Ground Conference 2019*, Westminster CO

"Inside EPUB", *Accessing Higher Ground Conference 2019*, Westminster CO

"EPUB Face Off – Publishers Getting it Right or Wrong", *Accessing Higher Ground Conference 2019*, Westminster CO

"EPUB Reading Systems for Students with Learning Disabilities", *Accessing Higher Ground Conference 2019*, Westminster CO

"Adding accessibility enhancements to EPUB files", *ATN webinar series 2019*

"Reading EPUB with Dyslexia and Learning Disabilities" *ATN webinar series 2019*

"Markdown-An Easy-to-Write format for Alternate Media and Basic Notetaking". *CSUN 2018 Conference*, San Diego CA.

"Introducing Readiance: 'Read-Aloud' Books for Titles in the Public Domain". *CSUN 2018 Conference*, San Diego CA.

"Reaching the Higher Ed Market". *Kurzweil National Sales Meeting*, Tucson AZ.

"Tools for Automating the Captioning of Video". *Accessing Higher Ground Conference*, Westminster CO

"EPUB: Where We Are and Where We Are Going". *CAPED 2017 Pre- Conference*, Huntington Beach CA

"Using MathType to Make Textbooks Accessible". *CAPED 2017 Conference*, Huntington Beach CA.

"DIY Captioning Tools for Faculty". *2017 Post- Secondary Training Institute*, Boston MA

"Tools for Automating the Captioning of Video". *IAAP Webinar*, 2017

"A Captioning Workflow". Text A/V Event. New York, New York. 2017

"Introducing Aeneas: A Fast and Multi- Dimensional Tool". *CSUN 2017 Conference*, San Diego CA.

"Built- In Accessibility Tools for macOS and iOS". *CSUN 2017 Conference*, San Diego CA.

"Technology for Reading, Note- Taking, and Writing". Crafton Hills College, Yucaipa CA 2016

"We Have an App for That!" *2016 Assistive Technology Fair* at University of Nevada at Reno.

"MathML: An Overview of Creation and Usage", *CAPED 2016 Conference*, Monterey CA

"Equal Access to Electronic & Information Technology (E&IT)", *CAPED 2016 Preconference*, Monterey CA

"Technology for Reading, Note- Taking, and Writing". *Shasta College AT Workshops*, Redding CA 2016

"Note- taking Accommodations: How Technology Can Help". *2016 PTI Conference*, Philadelphia PA

"Closed Captioned Files Made Easier". *2016 CSUN Conference*, San Diego CA

"We Have an App for That!" Keynote at *Opening the College Door 2015 Conference* in Porterville CA.

"Overview of Cloud Services, E-readers, and Notetaking Solutions". *CAPED 2015*. "Assistive Technology and the English Classroom". *Building Bridges 2013 Conference*.

COMMITTEE INVOLVEMENT

UC Berkeley

- Ally in Canvas Pilot (2018-2019)

Taft College

- Taft Disabilities Partnership Team (2013-2016)
- Public Information Committee (2013-2016)
- Academic Senate (2011-2016)
- Academic Development Committee (2011-2013)
- Professional Development Committee (2011-2013)

Gavilan College

- Learning Council (2009-2011)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- EPUB for Higher Education– DAISY Consortium (2016– Present)
- EPUB Reading Systems Group– DAISY Consortium (2016– Present)
- Access Technology Higher Education Network (ATHEN) (2015-Present)
- Association of Higher Education And Disability (AHEAD) (2014-Present)
- California Post-secondary Education and Disability (CAPED) (2013-2018)
 - Co-Chair of Access Technology Interest Group (2014-2016)
- Teach Access Member (2016– 2018)
- High Tech Center Training Unit Advisory Board Member (2013-2018)
- Kurzweil Education Customer Advisory Board Member (2015-2018)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- HTML
- CSS
- JavaScript
- Express.js
- Sequelize
- MongoDB
- Bash
- Microsoft Office Suite
- Adobe Creative Cloud Suite
- Optical Character Recognition Tools