About the keynote speakers

**SRV in Unlikely Places**  
*Elizabeth Pennock Neuville*

The exporting of Western ideas is nothing new to the rest of the world, with mixed results. SRV, with its social science constructs, is full of universals, and so it seems a likely idea set to share in geographical regions where it is not known or studied. In this keynote address, Betsy will discuss some of the challenges, complexities and cautions about sharing SRV in Eastern Europe and the global south. Complexities of culture, assumptions about people, deeply held religious beliefs, segmentation and stratification patterns and societal values create a tricky scenario which requires thought and care.

At the same time, western service models have already been introduced and are on the rise, again, with mixed results. What does SRV have to offer to the service scene, and how has it been received, and what are the early signs of its use in framing the future for some groups of devalued people? Betsy will bring the complex issue of SRV use in India and Eastern Europe to the table for us to look at and to shed light on how we all might learn from these experiences.

Elizabeth ‘Betsy’ Neuville is both the Executive Director of the Keystone Institute, a US based educational institute, and Director of Keystone Institute India. She has over 30 years of experience in human services in a variety of roles. In her work with Keystone, Betsy has helped hundreds of adults and children with developmental disabilities and/or mental disorders to leave institutions and establish themselves as valued members of their communities. She has been involved with the closure of several large government run institutions, and she has established the use of person-centered processes to assist people to gain a vision of full, rich, community lives. Betsy has taught SRV in the USA, Azerbaijan, Canada, Holland, Ireland, India, Romania, the Republic of Moldova, Turkey and the UK. She has also developed materials and teaches on other topics including hospitality, eugenics, moral treatment and organizational values in action. She leads the Keystone Institute in their work of developing workshops and events relating to not only what the work is all about, but also why it really matters.

**Surveying the Conditions Necessary for SRV to Take Root and Thrive**  
*Bill Forman*

In this keynote presentation, Bill Forman will reflect on over 30 years of SRV dissemination and implementation in his hometown of Calgary, Alberta. He will explore the conditions that have supported or obstructed the adoption of SRV in various social, political and human service environments. Members of the audience will have the opportunity to consider the relevance of this material for their own communities.

Bill Forman has worked with or on behalf of persons with disabilities, their families and communities in a variety of capacities for over 30 years. He has been a classroom teacher, adult educator, support worker, community developer and advocate. Currently, Bill is the CEO of Progressive Alternatives Society of Calgary, an organization that was founded on the principles of normalization and Social Role Valorization. He is an SRV trainer and member of the North American SRV Council. He has participated in or led many PASSING evaluations and was a board member of Calgary Citizen Advocacy.
Supporting Children and their Families: The work of the Aozora Clinics in Japan

Hirotoshi Maeda, MD

We are excited to welcome Dr. Hirotoshi Maeda to the conference as a keynote speaker. He will be speaking about his work with the Aozora Clinics in Japan, which support children with significant illnesses and disabilities, and their families. As stated in the website, “The ultimate purpose of child home care is to create a society where all children, regardless of their disability or condition, are each valued as a human being, able to fully enjoy their life with their family and community. To achieve this, they provide patient and family centered care through community based, multi disciplinary comprehensive care in the family home.”

Pre-conference workshops

SRV and Educational Inclusion: Promoting the Valued Role of Student June 4 & 5

The role of student is typically a valued one for children and youth. There are a variety of factors that influence students’ experiences and how they are viewed and treated by others. While at school, the expectations, roles, activities, juxtapositions and interpretations that students experience, are for the most part, controlled by school staff and administrators. During this two-day pre-conference event, participants will have the opportunity to explore the teaching practices that enhance students’ competence, image and valued roles. In the language of education, this enhancement is typically associated with the practices of inclusive education. Participants will be visiting schools and have a chance to meet and talk with students, teachers and administrators. Participants will also consider whether a focus on inclusive education creates appropriate personal, social and academic challenges for all students and helps to maximize personal accomplishment and social engagement.

Educators who attend will be able to consider their practice through the lens of social role valorization (SRV). Family members will have a unique opportunity to meet and talk with educators about their work. Non-educators will be able to consider a field that has been inspired by SRV and related philosophies. Further, since the host schools are anxious to improve their practice, participants will be able to prepare suggestions based on an SRV perspective. These will be given to relevant school personnel after the pre-conference.

John Van Walleghem, PhD, a long-time educator in Manitoba will facilitate this event.

A Brief Introduction to Social Role Valorization June 4

Bill Forman and Peg Jenner will offer a one-day introduction to Social Role Valorization Theory (SRV). If you are new to, or would like to strengthen your knowledge of SRV, this is the workshop for you.

Bill Forman is the CEO of the Progressive Alternatives Society of Calgary, an organization founded on the principles of normalization and social role valorization. He is an SRV trainer and member of the North American SRV Council. He has taken part on or led PASSING evaluations and served on the board of Calgary Citizen Advocacy.

Peg Jenner lives in Toronto and was a board member of the Toronto Citizen Advocacy office where she was introduced to SRV and PASSING. She taught SRV at Centennial College, and guided her students to implement SRV during their practicums. Since 1995, she has taught a number of SRV workshops and has served on evaluation teams of Citizen Advocacy offices and human service programs. She is a longtime member of the Southern Ontario Training Group and the North American SRV Council.

A Day on Citizen Advocacy June 5

Wolf Wolfsberger conceptualized Citizen Advocacy as one way to help protect the interests of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. He also saw it as a key component of an effective protection and advocacy schema. John Murphy (Disability Rights Nebraska) and Katina Clay (Georgia Advocacy Office) will lead a day looking at what is required in order to have a good foundation for a Citizen Advocacy office. As they state: ‘We frequently use metaphors in Citizen Advocacy. We’ve used the three-legged stool to describe what must be in place to support Citizen Advocacy offices. The three legs must be leveled and strong. The first and most important leg is the Citizen Advocacy principles and practices; the second is a clear understanding of social devaluation and Social Role Valorization and the third is the legal and fiduciary oversight of a not for profit board of directors. We will spend the day examining how the interplay of all three of these necessary parts benefit a citizen Advocacy office.’

This event will be of interest to those already involved in Citizen Advocacy as well as those who would like to learn more about this concept. Both John and Katina are former board members of the Aozora Clinics and have extensive experience in supporting Citizen Advocacy boards and coordinators. This will be a unique opportunity to spend time with and learn from them. John Murphy is the Values-Based Program Director with Disability Rights Nebraska, which is that state’s protection and advocacy office. He has supported Citizen Advocacy offices in Nebraska for 30 years. Katina Clay is the Citizen Program Director at the Georgia Advocacy Office, which is also that state’s protection and advocacy office. She has worked as a CA coordinator, and now supports the Citizen Advocacy offices in the state of Georgia.

We hope to see you in Winnipeg!