

## Preconference B



### Individual Education Program (IEP) - The Nuts and Bolts for Building and Implementing a Successful IEP



*Sean J. Smith, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Special Education, University of Kansas, NDSC Board of Directors, son with DS, Lawrence, KS*

IEPs are the blueprints for successful and individualized education for students with Down syndrome. This interactive workshop will engage participants in the various steps to prepare for and facilitate an effective IEP meeting, to collaborate and develop an individualized IEP that builds on the student's strengths, and ways to implement the IEP for enhanced inclusionary practice. Together, participants will investigate ways to facilitate a thoughtful IEP meeting by engaging all participants and strategies to write effective IEP goals. This workshop will also consider ways to implement the IEP and extend inclusionary practices across the academic year.

#### **About the Speaker:**

**Sean J. Smith, PhD** is a parent of a son, Nolan, with Down syndrome and a Professor of Special Education at the University of Kansas. Sean publishes widely on a variety of topics specific to technology innovations. He also presents nationally concentrating on tips, tools, and strategies to facilitate meaningful inclusion. Focused on supporting family members and educators on applying effective practices, Sean combines his work as a researcher with his school-based involvement with practitioners to ensure practical, but effective ideas. Sean also serves on the NDSC Board of Directors.