

The Millie Blum Disability Studies Conference

ACCESSIBLE FUTURES

INTERSECTING FUTURITY AND DISABILITY

September 7th – 10th, 2020

An online conference

Traditionally, people with disabilities have been absent from imaginable futures. A fantasy about a “better” future commonly means the disappearance of disability altogether. But as history shows, this cultural longing for a total eradication of disability could be dangerous. Thus, following Alison Kafer’s (2013) call for “accessible futures,” our international and interdisciplinary disability studies conference is dedicated to the topic of futurity and the question of how to make futures accessible to people with disabilities. We will re-imagine futures in which people with disabilities are no more a “problem” or a “mistake” that needs to be “fixed,” but rather they are valued and understood as an integral part of society. Under this framework, we will discuss key issues like technology, disability politics, digital media, and policy.

The conference will be held on Zoom and broadcasted live on our [Facebook page](#)

✦ Times specified are Israel time.

✦ Lectures will be held in English and accompanied by real-time Hebrew transcription. The Panel will be conducted in Hebrew.

✦ The conference is open to the general public. Participation is free, but **pre-registration is required** at the [following link](#)

✦ Participants will receive an email with the link to Zoom towards the conference date.

✦ For questions, inquiries and additional accessibility needs, please contact us at: disability.studies@mail.huji.ac.il

Monday, September 7th

14:00 **Greetings and opening statement**
Dr. Roni Holler, Head of The Center for Disability Studies, Paul Baerwald School of Social Work and Social Welfare, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Efrat Stern, Director, IsraelUnlimited, The Joint
Jim Bloom, Board Member of the American Friends of the Hebrew University

14:15 **Remote Digital Access to Work and Life is a Human Right**
Prof. Katie Ellis, Director, Centre for Culture and Technology, School of Media, Creative Arts and Social Inquiry, Curtin University, Australia

15:15 **Commentator**
Dr. Carmit-Noa Shpigelman, Department of Community Mental Health, University of Haifa

15:25 **Discussion**

Tuesday, September 8th

17:00 **Ability Expectation and Ableism Governance: A Prerequisite of an Accessible Future**
Dr. Gregor Wolbring, Community Rehabilitation and Disability Studies, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary, Canada

18:00 **Commentator**
nili Broyer, The Center for Disability Studies, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

18:10 **Discussion**

Wednesday, September 9th

14:00 **Studies in Ableism (SiA): a Threat to Disability Politics or an Opportunity to explore Interest Convergence?**
Prof. Fiona Kumari Campbell, Professor of Disability and Ableism Studies, School of Education & Social Work, University of Dundee, Scotland

15:00 **Commentator**
Dr. Anat Greenstein, Isha L'Isha – Haifa Feminist Center

15:10 **Discussion**

Thursday, September 10th

14:00 **Accessible Society in a Post-Corona Era**
Moderator: Dr. Roni Holler

Panel speakers:

- **Dana Dimant**, activist and filmmaker
- **Yoav Kraiem**, Head of Social Change Unit, Beit Issie Shapiro
- **Efrat Stern**, Director, IsraelUnlimited, The Joint
- **Yotam Tolub**, Doctoral fellow in Law, Researcher at Minerva Center, University of Haifa
- **Avremi Torem**, Commissioner for Equal Rights of Persons with Disabilities

15:45 **Concluding Remarks**