

Leading Practices for Improving Accessibility and Inclusion in Field and Laboratory Science: A Conversation Series (Conversation # 5): Keynotes and Panelists

**Dr. Ashley Shew, Keynote**

Ashley Shew is an Associate Professor in Science, Technology, and Society at Virginia Tech. Shew works on disability narratives about technology, funded by a National Science Foundation CAREER grant on Disability, Experience, and Technological Imagination (#1750250). She is author of *Animal Constructions and Technological Knowledge* (2017) and co-editor of three volumes in Philosophy of Technology. She currently serves as co-editor-in-chief for *Techné* (the journal of the Society for Philosophy and Technology) and on the editorial board for the new journal *Including Disability*. Shew cares about public and interdisciplinary engagement and has published in *Nature*, *the Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Inside Higher Ed*, *Nursing Clio*, *Catalyst*, and *IEEE Technology and Society Magazine*. She's working on a popular-oriented book called *Technoableism* and, with her research team and colleague Hanna Herdegen, working on open educational resources on counternarratives about technology and disability. Her website: <http://techanddisability.com>

**Dr. J.R. Harding, Keynote**

Dr. J.R. Harding is an associate lecturer in the Department of Management at Florida State University's College of Business. His academic specialty is educational leadership, with a focus on disability subject matter. Harding is a two-time U.S. Presidential appointee, and a seven-time Florida Gubernatorial appointee. He has contributed to national, state, and community public policy advancing independence and self-sufficiency of persons with disabilities for 30 years. Harding received his bachelor's degree in English from Wright State University, his master's degree in educational leadership from the University of West Florida and his Ed.S. and Ed.D. in higher education from Florida State University.

**Dr. Richard Boyce, Panelist**

Richard Boyce is an associate professor at the University of Pittsburgh in the Department of Biomedical Informatics.

**Jesse Shanahan, Panelist**

Jesse Shanahan is a machine learning developer with a focus on humanitarian uses of AI and AI ethics. With an academic background in applied linguistics and astrophysics, Jesse has contributed to research in the fields of technology ethics and extragalactic astrophysics, and they hold a patent for cybersecurity applications of machine learning. In addition to their research, Jesse co-founded the American Astronomical Society's Working Group on Accessibility and Disability and is an avid science communicator with publications featured in *Science Magazine*, *Forbes*, and *Astronomy Magazine*. While they currently work as the Technical Lead of Applied AI for Peltarion, a Swedish AI start-up with a mission to democratize AI, they have many hobbies outside of work, including a Twitch channel devoted to science education and two dogs - Tennessee and Hubble.