Youngsters with poor executive skills are disorganized or forgetful, have trouble getting started on tasks, get distracted easily, lose papers or assignments, forget to bring home the materials to complete homework, or forget to hand homework in. They may rush through work or dawdle; they make careless mistakes that they fail to catch. They don’t know where to begin on long-term assignments and they put the assignment off until the last minute, in part because they have trouble judging the magnitude of the task and how long it will take to complete it. Their workspaces are disorganized, and teachers may refer to their desks, backpacks, and notebooks as “black holes.” Students with executive skill deficits present tremendous challenges to both parents and teachers who often find themselves frustrated by children whose problems in school seem to have little to do with how smart they are or how easily they learn.

Learning Objectives
As a result of these presentations, participants will:
- understand executive skills within the context of brain development;
- be able to identify how executive skills affect school performance and daily living;
- have access to a repertoire of strategies to improve executive skills in students. These will include strategies to modify the environment to reduce the impact of weak executive skills and procedures like coaching that can be used to teach children how to improve specific executive skill deficits in the context of home or school performance expectations.
About our Keynote Speaker

Peg Dawson received her doctorate in school/child clinical psychology from the University of Virginia. She worked as a school psychologist for 16 years in Maine and New Hampshire, and for the past 20 years has worked at the Center for Learning & Attention Disorders in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, where she specializes in the assessment of children and adults with learning and attention disorders. Along with her colleague, Dr. Richard Guare, she has authored several books, including a book for professionals, Executive Skills in Children and Adolescents: A Practical Guide to Assessment and Intervention (recently revised) as well as a book for parents, Smart but Scattered. Their most recent books are Coaching Students with Executive Skills Deficits and Smart but Scattered Teens. Dr. Dawson is a past president of both the National Association of School Psychologists and the International School Psychology Association. She is also the 2006 recipient of NASP's Lifetime Achievement Award and a 2010 recipient of the International School Psychology Association Distinguished Services Award.

School Psychology Committee

MARIAN C. FISH
Conference Coordinator

DAVID S. GOH

EMILIA LOPEZ

SHERRIE PROCTOR

ROSelyn Ross

DIANE MANTELLINO
College Assistant

How to Reach Queens College

Queens College is located at the corner of the Long Island Expressway and Kissena Blvd. in Flushing (exit 24 of the LIE).

BY CAR
The campus can be reached from Manhattan via the Midtown Tunnel; from the Bronx or Westchester via the RFK, Bronx Whitestone, or Throgs Neck Bridges; and from farther out on Long Island via the Long Island Expressway, Northern State/Grand Central Parkway, or Northern Blvd.

BY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Via Flushing
Take the Long Island Railroad or the #7 subway to Main St., Flushing. From Main St., take the Q25 or Q34 bus to the main gate; or take the Q17 bus to the corner of Kissena Blvd. and the Long Island Expressway, and walk one block south to the main gate.

Via Forest Hills
Take the E, F, M, or R subway to 71st Ave., Forest Hills. From the corner of Queens Blvd. and 70th Rd., take the Q64 bus to Kissena Blvd. and Jewel Ave., and walk one block north to the main gate.

Via Jamaica
Take the E, J, or Z subway to Jamaica Center (Parsons Blvd. and Archer Ave.), or the Long Island Railroad to Jamaica Station (Sutphin Blvd. and Archer Ave.). From either of these locations, take the Q25 or Q34 bus to the main gate.

For further information, contact:

Dr. Marian C. Fish
718-997-5230
Graduate Program in School Psychology
Queens College, CUNY
Flushing, NY 11367-1597
schoolpsych@qc.cuny.edu