

Kristin Leslie, MAT, OTR/L

Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA

Kristin.Leslie@cwu.edu | kleslie12@gmail.com

[linkedin.com/in/kristin-leslie-014741132](https://www.linkedin.com/in/kristin-leslie-014741132) | <https://specialedtechcenter.com/>

♦ **Professional Summary**

Educational leader with over 25 years of experience in special education, assistive technology, and inclusive learning practices. Known for directing statewide initiatives and managing multiple, multi-year grants that center access, Inclusion, and belonging for students with disabilities. Skilled in writing, implementing, and reporting on grant programs that support both educators and families. Current director of the Special Education Technology Center (SETC) grant, the Open Educational Resources (OER) grant (3 years), and the Family Connections for Inclusive Voices grant (2025–2027). Manage the Digital Equity grant resources that resulted in Inclusive technology pilots in over 20 school districts. These projects have focused on expanding access to inclusive technology, building capacity in the field, and creating professional learning communities that bring caregivers and educators together to support student inclusion.

♦ **Core Skills & Competencies**

- Inclusive Leadership & Strategic Planning
 - Equity-Centered Professional Development
 - Grant Writing, Implementation & Reporting
 - Cross-Agency Collaboration & Stakeholder Engagement
 - AT, AAC & AI Integration in Education
 - MTSS, UDL & Culturally Responsive Practices
 - Program Design & Team Mentorship
 - Public Speaking
 - Coaching Educators, Parents & IEP Teams
-

♦ Leadership & Professional Experience

Director, Assistive Technology Specialist | Special Education Technology Center (SETC) – Central Washington University

2007–Present | OSPI State Needs Project, Ellensburg, WA

- Direct statewide initiatives that expand AT access and inclusive learning opportunities for students with disabilities.
- Lead strategic planning, grant writing, implementation, and reporting across multiple equity-focused projects.
- Manage multimillion-dollar grant portfolios while fostering collaboration with local, state, and national partners.
- Supervise and mentor a dynamic team, aligning staff passions with project goals and cultivating leadership.
- Design and deliver professional development, consultation, and technical assistance to educators and families nationwide.
- Represent CWU, SETC in collaboration with Inclusionary Practices Technical Assistance Network.

Occupational Therapist | ESD 105 & Various Public School Districts (WA State)

1998–Present

- Deliver direct and consultative OT services to students aged 3–21.
- Conduct motor and assistive technology evaluations.
- Assist in program development for preschool, k-12, & transition programs.
- Train/Mentor educators and families in inclusive practices & technology integration.
- Supervised & collaborated with COTAs in the implementation of OT services
- Implemented a Co-Teaching program within an inclusive preschool setting
- **Districts:** Ellensburg SD, Zillah SD, Toppenish SD, ESD 105, Federal Way SD, Shoreline SD.

♦ **Designed & Delivered Professional Development**

Sampling of Presentations & Webinars Topics

- Alternative Access for Students with Physical Disabilities and IDD: Tools and Strategies for Inclusion & Matching Tools to Student Strengths
 - Switch Access & Play: Supporting Early Learners with Significant Support Needs
 - iPad & Computer Access for Students with Complex Needs
 - Building AT Capacity: Creating District AT Procedures & Implementation Pathways
 - Strategic Use of AI in Inclusive Classrooms
 - UDL & Literacy Supports for Students with Complex Needs
 - Accessible Educational Materials (AEM): Tools to Support Curriculum Access
 - Tier 1 Technology Supports: Embedding Inclusive Tech in Universal Instruction
-

♦ **Education & Licensure**

M.A. in Education – Grand Canyon University, 2003

B.S. in Occupational Therapy – University of Puget Sound, 1998

- WA State Occupational Therapy License (1998-Present)
 - NBCOT Certified (1998–Present)
 - ESA Certification (1999–Present)
 - ATP – RESNA Certified (2016–2022)
-

♦ **Awards & Recent Professional Development**

- **Orchid Award for Lifetime Achievement (2024)** – Received in appreciation for outstanding contributions to inclusive learning, with special recognition for vision and leadership in inspiring educators.
- Leadership Skills, CWU (2024)

- FERPA, Budgeting, Grant Management, & Anti-Racism Policies – CWU (2016–2025)
 - ATIA & Closing the Gap Conference (2014–2024)
 - Anti-Racism & Cultural Humility in Therapy (2025)
-

♦ **Notable Grants & Initiatives**

- **Special Education Technology Center (SETC)** *(2007–Present)*
Ongoing OSPI-funded statewide project (\$600K/year) supporting inclusive technology integration, professional development, and technical assistance for educators and families.
- **Open Educational Resources (OER) Grant** *(2021–Present)*
Multi-year initiative promoting accessible, inclusive open educational resources. Provided PD and technical support to educators in adapting curriculum to meet the needs of diverse learners. (\$65K/year)
- **Family Connections for Inclusive Voices Grant** *(2025–2027)*
New initiative bringing together caregivers and educators to co-create inclusive learning environments and build community support networks for families of students with disabilities. (\$100K/year)
- **Digital Equity Grant** *(2023–2024)*
Focused on reducing the digital divide by expanding access to devices, training, and inclusive digital tools in under-resourced communities. (\$50K)

♦ **Asynchronous Course Design, Development & Delivery**

- **Accessible Content for All** – Co-designed and led development of asynchronous modules for educators and families focused on inclusive digital content.
- **Unlocking Literacy for Students with Disabilities** – Co-designed course supporting evidence-based strategies and assistive technology tools to promote literacy.
- **AT in the Schools** – Co-designed comprehensive modules that provide foundational knowledge of assistive technology in K–12 settings.
- **AI for Personalized Learning** – Oversaw development of training focused on leveraging AI tools to support differentiated instruction for students with disabilities.

- **Communication for Students with Complex Needs (Deaf/Blind)** – Designed the asynchronous structure and content framework; others facilitated presentation delivery.