

**Teaching Fellows Junior Conference**

**Promoting an Inclusive Learning Environment Through Classroom Design**

**Dr. Kristy Williams**

**Session Descriptor:** My presentation focuses on promoting inclusive learning environments through classroom design. When ensuring we provide inclusive learning opportunities for special education and culturally diverse students, we tend to focus on teaching practices, technology, and curriculums but overlook one of the most important factors in creating an inclusive learning environment: the physical setup of our learning space. Our physical spaces have a large impact on the effectiveness of our efforts in promoting inclusive learning environments.

**Presenter Bio:** My name is Krystin Williams, and I'm an South Carolina native. I earned a Bachelor of Arts (BA), a Master of Education (M.Ed), and a Doctor of Education (Ed.D) degree from the University of South Carolina. My studies have been centered on autism, creating inclusive learning environments, and retaining special education teachers. After teaching special education at every grade level in K-12 public education for 13 years, I transitioned to higher education. I currently teach special education courses at Francis Marion University for both undergraduate and graduate students.