CARY SUPALO, Ph.D.

Dr. Supalo received his Ph.D. from The Pennsylvania State University in 2010, with a research interest in chemical education. He focused on the development of a series of talking and audible laboratory tools that promotes a hands-on science learning experience in the secondary science laboratory classroom. Through his research, he modified various laboratory curricula to develop a set of best practices for teaching science in a hands-on way to students who are blind. His passion is further motivated by his direct involvement with the National Federation of the Blind (NFB), which is the largest consumer organization of blind persons in the United States. Through his volunteer activities on behalf of NFB, he has conducted numerous hands-on science workshops for middle and high school students with BLV. His drive for the development of new access technologies in the science laboratory classroom is supported by United States Federal grants to support the product development he conducts through his firm, Independence Science. Additionally, Dr. Supalo serves as a visiting scientist in the Department of Chemistry at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana. Dr. Supalo also currently serves as a research developer with the Educational Testing Service in Princeton, New Jersey. His research addresses accessibility as it relates to high stakes assessments and working to help develop the next-generation interfaces needed to promote inclusion in the STEM fields of study. He has a strong passion for collaborating with anyone interested in working to make the hands-on science learning experience for students with disabilities more of a reality.