

# **ELIA Alphabet and ELIA Life Technology**

**Andrew Chopaitis**

President, ELIA Life Technology

Time: 12:30 pm, October 21 (Monday), 2013

Location: NAC 7/225, City College of New York

## **Abstract:**

The talk will be on the ELIA Alphabet and ELIA Life Technology. The ELIA® Tactile Alphabet is specifically designed for visually impaired persons who were previously sighted. It can be learned in under an hour and provides greater independence to those who learn it. ELIA Life Technology is a company that develops assistive hardware and software for the blind:

<http://www.elialife.com/index.html>

## **Bio-sketch**

Mr. Chopaitis is the president of ELIA Life Technology, a company that develops assistive hardware and software for the blind. Mr. Chopaitis founded the company and has led its R&D, financing, and business development efforts. This includes executing >\$1 million in related grants, patenting the alphabet, raising \$450,000 in financing, authoring peer-reviewed journal articles, and presenting research results at professional conferences. He is a regular participant in SBIR conferences and has built relationships with SBIR program officers at NIH, NIST, and NSF. NIH recruited him to serve on grant review committees for SBIR and basic research grants (R01, R03 and R25). He has also forged partnerships with leading organizations serving the blind, including Lighthouse International and the Guild for the Blind. He has in-depth knowledge of capital markets from his experience as an equity research analyst. He earned a BA in International Business from Lehigh (1990). In 1992 he was an assistant coach for the Yale University lacrosse team, helping them achieve a NCAA quarterfinals berth. He is the inventor for patents D521,054, D480,750, D472,265 and patent applications US 20060035199 and US 20050106537.