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A NEWSLETTER FROM
THE CONSORTIUM FOR
POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION
FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Coming Events

The Division on Career Development and Transition announces their Fifteenth International Conference: From Cobblestones to Cornerstones, Revitalizing Transition Outcomes in 2009, October 29-31, 2009 Savannah, Georgia

<http://www.dcdt.org/dcdtsavannah.cfm>

Many consortium partners will present sessions related to transition and postsecondary education during the conference.

Think College Capacity Building Institute

In association with the Annual Meeting of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities

Sunday, November 8, 2009 at the

Renaissance Hotel, Washington, DC

This Capacity Building Institute will offer UCEDDs strategies and resources that can be used to support the development and implementation of postsecondary education options for people with developmental disabilities within their states. Participants in this day-long training will be eligible to apply for a \$15,000 mini-grant to support statewide planning or development/implementation of a PSE initiative in their state, through a competitive RFP process. Contact Cate Weir at cathryn.weir@umb.edu for more information.

TASH 2009 Tech Workshops

November 18, 2009

Pittsburgh, PA

<http://www.tash.org/2009tash/TASHTECHWorkshops.htm>

Think College is doing a TASH Tech Workshop that will feature a presentation of early results from the participatory action research being conducted at UMass Boston with students that are attending college who have intellectual disabilities as well as another presentation by a college student with intellectual disabilities and her mother .

Twelfth International Conference on Autism, Intellectual Disabilities & Other Developmental Disabilities
January 20-22, 2010

Sheraton Maui Resort & Spa Maui, Hawaii

<http://www.dddcec.org/conferences.htm>

Consortium partner, Robert A. Stodden, Director, Center on Disability Studies, University of Hawaii at Manoa will present on: Preparing Youth with Significant Disabilities for Postsecondary Education and Adulthood: Policy to Practice.

The annual Pacific Rim International Conference on Disabilities

April 12-13, 2010

Honolulu, Hawaii

<http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu/>

PAC RIM will be followed on April 14, 2010 with a Capacity Building Institute on the Transition to Postsecondary Education for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities and Autism. This workshop is recommended for college and university faculty, disability support personnel, high-school personnel, vocational rehabilitation counselors, DOE administrators and persons with disabilities and their advocates. Debra Hart and Cate Weir from ICI Boston will lead the CBI.

Council for Exceptional Children 2010 Convention & Expo, DDD Showcase Session

Nashville, TN April 21-24, 2010

<http://www.cec.sped.org/Content/NavigationMenu/ProfessionalDevelopment/ConventionExpo/>

Dr. Stodden will serve as the session leader for a panel discussion on intellectual disabilities and autism and postsecondary education. Panel Participants will include Paul Wehman, David Mank, and Debra Hart.

Partner Profile: The Trajan Center at UCLA

The Tarjan Center is part of a national network of federally-designated University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDDs). Housed in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of California, Los Angeles, the Center's mission is to provide leadership in education, research and innovative practices that supports the quality of life and community inclusion of all people with disabilities. The Tarjan Center serves as a bridge between the university and persons with disabilities from state, regional and local communities, state and local government agencies and community providers. Leadership activities:

- Collaborate with individuals with disabilities, agencies and policymakers in order to be responsive to the needs of people with disabilities in the areas of education, employment, mental health, health, volunteerism and the arts;
- Examine the impact of national and state policies on people with disabilities and their families;
- Expand the arts and cultural community's capacity to include audiences with disabilities and support the professional development of artists with disabilities;
- Facilitate the active engagement of people with disabilities in national service and volunteerism;
- Promote organizational practices and policies for postsecondary education and students with developmental disabilities and autism; and
- Provide clinical services that address the health and mental health needs of children, youth and adults with developmental disabilities.

Regional partners of the Tarjan Center include: the California State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Disability Rights California, the USC University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, and the UC Davis Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities. <http://tarjancenter.ucla.edu/>

The Tarjan Center features the **National Arts and Disability Center (NADC)**, an information and training center dedicated to the full inclusion of artists and audiences with disabilities in all facets of the arts. Through its Web site, it publishes resource directories and training materials, as well as showcases the talent of individuals with disabilities. The NADC also helps advance the professional development and employment of artists with disabilities and provides guidance and education to arts venues on how to remove the barriers that prevent people with disabilities from taking part in the arts community. <http://nadc.ucla.edu/>

Resources You Can Use

AHEAD—The Association on Higher Education and Disability

AHEAD is a professional membership organization for individuals involved in the development of policy and the provision of quality services to meet the needs of persons with disabilities involved in all areas of higher education. Their Web site has many links and resources for educators, students, and parents. Their Resources and Programs page (<http://www.ahead.org/resources>) addresses issues related to Diversity, Access, Civil Rights, Governmental Relations, IDEA, and many other related areas. Their Parents and Students pages (<http://www.ahead.org/students-parents/transitions>) include FAQs asked by families and contain a detailed list of transitional resources found nationally.

AHEAD is sponsoring an audio conference on January 21, 2010 entitled: Think College: Postsecondary Education for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities. Cate Weir and Debra Hart will present and provide an overview of the two federal grants that support Think College. <http://www.ahead.org/events-and-workshops/audio-conference>

Publications We Like

From the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth

All are available at <http://www.ncwd-youth.info/type/guide>

Guideposts for Success

The *Guideposts* are based on what research tells us that all youth and youth with disabilities need to transition to adulthood successfully. This document provides a statement of principles, a direction that will lead to better outcomes for all young people, and a way to organize policy and practice.

Career Planning Begins with Assessment: A Guide for Professionals Serving Youth with Educational and Career Development Challenges

This guide serves as a resource for multiple audiences within the workforce development system. Youth service professionals will find information on selecting career-related assessments, determining when to refer youth for additional assessment, and additional issues such as accommodations, legal issues, and ethical considerations. Administrators and policymakers will find information on developing practical and effective policies, encouraging collaboration among programs, and spearheading interagency assessment systems.

Paving the Way to Work: A Guide to Career-Focused Mentoring

This guide is intended for individuals designing mentoring programs for youth, including youth with disabilities.

The 411 on Disability Disclosure: A Workbook for Youth with Disabilities

This guide is designed for youth and adults working with them to learn about disability disclosure. This workbook helps young people make informed decisions about whether or not to disclose their disability and understand how that decision may impact their education, employment, and social lives.

Postsecondary Program Profile

Learn Independence, Vocational and Educational Skills (L.I.V.E.S.) Program at the State University of New York at Geneseo

L.I.V.E.S. is a four-year transition program which provides students with intellectual and/or other developmental disabilities the chance to learn independence, vocational skills, and educational skills within an inclusive community. The program enrolls 8-12 to students each year who meet the criteria for Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (OMRDD) services and are 18 years of age or older and is funded through a collaborative partnership with SUNY-Geneseo, the Genesee Valley Board of Cooperative Education Services (B.O.C.E.S.), Hilltop Industries (a Division of The Arc of Livingston-Wyoming), and Finger Lakes Developmental Disabilities Service Organization.

The program is developed from individualized diagnostic assessments, which include career interests, learning styles, social and independent living skills, and academic skills assessments. Upon completion of the plan of study and their individually designed capstone, students receive a certificate of completion and an assessment of their digital portfolio, which highlights the in progress towards their goals.

"Working with the students in the L.I.V.E.S. program was a great experience that really taught me the value and importance of education for ALL and not just some. Everyone involved has something to bring to the table and the end result is a learning experience that goes beyond just that of the students." ~ A Secondary Education-History Major and Student Volunteer

For more information on the L.I.V.E.S. Program, please contact Elizabeth Hall Ph.D., halle@geneseo.edu or Tabitha Buggie-Hunt Ph.D., tbuggieh@geneseo.edu

**THE CONSORTIUM FOR
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The Think College Web site is designed for students, family members, and professionals. It is undergoing a complete redesign and more features and resources will be added in the next several months.

Currently, the site includes a searchable database of postsecondary education programs that support people with intellectual disabilities, a resource section that contains links to other sites, and a bibliography listing related publications. We encourage Individuals to submit suggestions for additional links and publications.



www.thinkcollege.net

CONSORTIUM PARTNERS—

THE UNIVERSITY CENTERS FOR EXCELLENCE IN DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AT:

University of Massachusetts Boston (primary) University of Minnesota

University of Hawaii University of Delaware The Ohio State University

Vanderbilt University University of South Carolina

University of California Los Angeles

In conjunction with the **Association for University Centers on Disabilities**

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To subscribe electronically, please send your email address to Carrie Coslin at cosl0001@umn.edu.

Please distribute widely to interested parties.

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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Administration for Children & Families

ADMINISTRATION ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (ADD)

