

Subject: April Newsletter

Date: Monday, April 1, 2019 at 8:15:25 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: College Autism Network

To: Jackson, Brittany 1.

Here's your monthly update filled with research, resources, and news related to college students with autism.

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COLLEGE AUTISM NETWORK
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In The News

[UW Autism Center project shows how autism touches many](#)

[Autism Stories](#) is a new project from the [UW Autism Center \(UWAC\)](#) which presents conversations about peoples' experiences with or around autism. The work aims to highlight how everyone is connected and that people are not alone in their journeys.



[Arts festival aims to celebrate autistic creativity and accessibility](#)

People have all different ways of expressing themselves; the arts are an important way for people on the spectrum to be creative and communicate. The University of Kent is hosting an arts festival this year which embraces that idea, and aims to make the event as accessible to neurodiversity as

possible.

[How colleges can prepare for students with autism](#)



This article examines some of the issues that people with autism can face at college and some ways a university can fill the gaps through the story of Kieran Barrett-Snyder. One of the resources the article mentions is autism support programs, which you can learn about on our [Institutional Initiatives database](#).

Resources for Students

Institutional Initiatives Highlight





The **Drexel Autism Support Program (DASP)** at Drexel University is a student-centered program for current Drexel students with the goal of promoting academic and social competency, self-advocacy, interpersonal skills, independent living, and social integration. DASP currently has 50 students and there is no cost to participants. The program provides the following:

- One-on-one coaching
- Opportunity to attend the Dragon Scholars summer program prior to freshman year at Drexel
- Social trainings and workshops
- Connections to other resources on campus
- Peer mentoring

DASP collaborates often with the AJ Drexel Autism Institute as well as other campus partners. DASP recently held the “Autism at Work Summit: University Series” in collaboration with SAP and is always looking to establish relationships with employers for neurodiverse co-op students and graduates.

Our goal is to ensure that DASP participants take advantage of University life, develop the academic and social skills needed to pursue career opportunities, and lead a full and enriched life.

Research Update

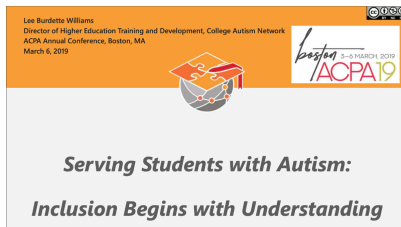


Join us for our next CANVAS meeting on **Tues, April 23** (12pm - 1pm CST) via [Google Hangouts](#). If you plan on attending, write your name in the [meeting agenda](#). We are excited to have Yasamin Bolourian and Sasha Zeedyk (University of California-Riverside) as our featured presenters. They will be discussing some of their recent research endeavors.

Brad Cox (Florida State University), Jiedi Lei (University of Bath), and Brett Ranon Nachman (University of Wisconsin-Madison) will be facilitating a Special Interest Group (SIG) at this May's [International Society for Autism Research \(INSAR\) conference](#) in Montreal. The session, "Adapting and Advancing Postsecondary Education for Autistic Students," invites attendees to participate in guided dialogues, as well as explore and identify research priorities on supporting autistic students as they progress through various stages of postsecondary education. The conference takes place May 1 - May 4, specific day and time TBD. Stay tuned for more details.



Training and Resources



Our Director of Higher Education Training and Development Lee Burdette Williams is wrapping up the spring conference season. Lee started in Jacksonville presenting to student conduct professionals at the national ASCA conference, then headed to Boston for ACPA's national conference, followed quickly by a trip out west to Los Angeles for NASPA's annual conference. In between those events, she presented to the University of Texas-Austin's student affairs team. Lee heads into spring with a couple more dates on the calendar: a local Vermont high school to talk with parents of students with IEPs who are college-bound, and then to Orlando for the National Conference on Trusteeship sponsored by the Association of Governing Boards. If you'd like Lee or Brad Cox to visit your campus or present to your organization, contact Lee directly at lee@collegeautismnetwork.org.



College Inclusion Summit

October 23-25, 2019
Nashville, Tennessee

The College Autism Network (CAN) is thrilled to announce that, in collaboration with Vanderbilt's Frist Center for Autism and Innovation, the third annual College Inclusion Summit will be held October 23-25, 2019 in Nashville, Tennessee. The Summit brings together scholars, practitioners, administrators, and self-advocates to discuss evidence-driven strategies to support college students with autism and other learning differences.

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for the third annual College Inclusion Summit! Further information will be posted on the CAN website in the coming months, and be sure to check CAN's email newsletters for more information on program proposals, registration and accommodations.

More information can be found at <http://CollegeAutismNetwork.org/> and at <http://CollegeInclusionSummit.org/>. Questions can be directed to lee@collegeautismnetwork.org



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We are always looking for new resources to share. If you have any resources related to ASD in college, please email us at info@collegeautismnetwork.org so we can share the knowledge!

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