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COLLEGE AUTISM NETWORK
ADVOCACY | RESEARCH | TRAINING

College Autism Network Newsletter

May 2022

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Upcoming Webinar on Counseling Services for Autistic Students



We're excited to announce the first session of our new webinar series, Foothills Academy. On *June 1, from 3:30 till 5 pm ET*, we will host a group of clinicians who

are skilled at working with autistic and other neurodivergent college students. This is an ideal opportunity to invite counseling center colleagues who often have autistic students on their caseloads and would benefit from learning more about serving this unique population. The webinar is free for CAN members and their guests, and \$50 for non-members.

[Register Here](#)

Here's a more extensive description:

Counseling Services for a Neurodiverse Campus: Supporting Autistic and Other Neurodivergent Students in Clinical Settings

Many U.S. campuses report an increase in students who identify as autistic or otherwise neurodivergent. While they are often supported by a disability resource center, an autism-specific program, or external providers, they are increasingly looking to all campus offices to provide neuroinclusive services. In this webinar, a diverse group of clinicians and administrators will share experiences and strategies for effective clinical relationships with autistic and other neurodivergent students. This webinar is designed for counseling center and other clinical staff who wish to better understand the characteristics of autism and how to work in an accepting and effective way to support the success of autistic students who seek counseling.

Summit Call for Proposals Deadline June 5



If you're thinking about submitting a proposal for the **2022 College Autism Summit**, to be held October 12-14 at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN, the clock is ticking! You have till midnight, June 5 to submit a proposal. Details can be found at the Summit **website**.

[Submit a Program Proposal](#)

- Mental Health, Anxiety and Autism
- Partnering with Business Experts

These recordings are free for Summit attendees, \$25 per collection for CAN members, and \$50 per collection for non-CAN members. This is an efficient and inexpensive approach to professional development that we hope you'll use. **Visit our website** for titles and presenter info and to access this valuable content.

[Visit Our Website](#)

This Month's CANVAS Call: Research on Autistic Undergraduates

Join this month's call as we wrap up the academic year with Ph.D. student Kayden Stockwell from the Department of Psychology at the University of Virginia.

Date and time: Friday, May 20 at 1 pm ET

Title: Understanding the Experience of Autistic Undergraduates at the University of Virginia

Description: Using a mixed-methods approach, we are interested in understanding what it's like to be an autistic undergraduate at UVA. The experiences students share with us will be used to provide feedback to the university on where support has been working and recommendations on how it could be improved.

Here is the **meeting link** for this call.

[Meeting Link](#)

Curriculum for Career Services Pros Who Want to Learn About Autism

Our ACE (Autism Career Empowerment) curriculum has proven to be an effective and inexpensive (as in, "free") way to help



colleagues, especially those in the career services field, learn more about how to work with autistic students. This modular curriculum makes a great gift to colleagues! Encourage them to register and work their way through the 13 modules. At the conclusion of that effort, you will have a more knowledgeable and supportive colleague, and they will think you are a genius. Take a look yourself, and encourage your colleagues to **sign up for ACE**. ACE is a collaboration of Vanderbilt's **Frist Center for Autism and Innovation** and the College Autism Network.

[Sign Up for Ace](#)

CAN Members in the News

We love it when the mainstream media features **stories on autistic college students**, and we love it even more when they go to the source: some of the smart and experienced members of the College Autism Network, in this case, Jane Thierfeld Brown, Adam Lalor and Emily Raclaw.

[Read Article](#)

CANVAS Community Seeking Input for Research Presence at the Summit

Hello! In preparation for the College Autism Summit this October, the Research Symposium committee would like your input. We are planning sessions related to all phases of the research process and have created **a survey** to ask for input regarding publishing. We would like to hear from everyone- even if you haven't published before or are a well-seasoned and published author! There are a lot of open-ended questions, but please don't feel obligated to answer them all... only the ones you would like to contribute to! Thank you!

The Research Symposium Committee

[Take Survey](#)

Autistic Voices Have A Lot to Say

One of the benefits of a month dedicated to autism awareness is that we see and hear content in media outlets that isn't there the rest of the year. There were two contributions that I read this month that really stood out for me, so since I happen to have a newsletter, which you're currently reading, I wanted to



share them. **The first is from a first-year student at Rowan University, Julie Gerber.** I loved the practical, direct and fun way she describes herself and other autistic people, and plan to quote her liberally. Rowan University has a great autism support program, so here's a tip of the hat to Chiara Latimer and Mollie Rubinstein whom Julie says provide "amazing support" through the **PATH Program.**

The other article actually appeared in December on the website Public Neurodiversity Support Center. It's written by Mykola Bilokonsky, a 38-year old "Autistic and ADHD software engineer." He is directing this at journalists and others who write about autism and autistic people, encouraging them to actually get educated about the topic before they write that "Autism Awareness Month" article or cover some event for a TV news station. This is a long essay, but I can't recommend it highly enough. It is provocative and informative, and I learned a lot. So pour a cup of your preferred beverage and settle in with **this thoughtful essay.**

--Lee Williams

Landmark College Summer Institute Opportunity

There's still time to register for Landmark's excellent summer institute in beautiful Putney, VT. This year's theme is "Neurodiversity and Intersectionality." The dates are June 27 and 28. **Here's the link.**

[Register Here](#)