

CANVAS Meeting Minutes, 5-20-22

Participants in Attendance

- Alex
- Beth Felsen (Spectrum Transition Coaching)
- Bill
- Brad Cox (Florida State | College Autism Network)
- Brett Ranon Nachman (College Autism Network | NC State)
- Carolyn O’Laughlin (Saint Louis University)
- Courtney Butler (Rutgers University)
- Dayna Holbel (Emory Autism Center)
- Florencia Ardon (Cornell University)
- Hamida
- Jackie Lorraine (Washington University in St. Louis)
- Jomarie Coloriano (Gateway Technical College)
- Julie Humbel-Courtney (Ohio State)
- June Shin (Seattle Central College)
- Katie McDermott
- Ken Gobbo (Landmark College)
- Lars Veerhoff (Fontys University of Applied Science)
- Laurie Ackles (RIT)
- Nick Top (Utah Valley University)
- Sasha Zeedyk (Cal State Fullerton)
- Shana D. Oates (University of Southern Mississippi)
- TC Waisman (Autism Training Academy)
- Tom Beeson (Clemson University)

Note: A few other individuals joined in as well, though names were not recorded

Meeting Plan

CANVAS Updates

- Join our CANVAS list-serv - Our primary means of connecting, sharing info
 - Click [here to join](#)
 - Send email to the list
<https://groups.google.com/a/collegeautismnetwork.org/forum/#!forum/can-canvas/join> by emailing can-canvas@collegeautismnetwork.org
 - [CAN Membership Details](#) We appreciate the support your membership provides to help us offer CANVAS and other opportunities.
 - [Summit Collections](#)
 - [Foothills Academy: “Counseling Services for a Neurodiverse Campus: Supporting Autistic and Other Neurodivergent Students in Clinical Settings”](#) (Wed, June 1 at 3:30pm ET)
- **Share a Resource!** Are you conducting any research studies that you’d like the community to know about? Read an interesting article recently? Discovered a

cool resource? This is your chance to briefly share that news with the CANVAS group! List your name and any relevant links below so others may access it at their convenience!

- [Dissertation on Self-Determination and Coaching](#) (P. Violi)
- Forthcoming *Autism* article on Universal Design training (TC Waisman)

Presentation Notes

- **Brett Ranon Nachman** (College Autism Network | NC State University)
- **Presentation Title:** Translating Passion to Professional Pathways: Supporting Autistic Community College Students' Career Aspirations
- In light of a presenter scheduling change, Brett stepped in to serve as the main presenter, discussing some of his dissertation research on autistic community college students.
- Brett began by outlining his personal and professional journey as a former autistic community college student himself, utilizing graduate school as a space to more saliently embrace his autism identity and fold it into his scholarship. In recent years, Brett has published eight journal articles (and counting) related to autism and higher education.
- For the context of this presentation, Brett honed in on a piece of his dissertation research, exploring the role of autistic students processing their career aspirations in light of their areas of interest.
- In sharing existent literature, Brett noted the emergence of inquiry into autistic students' career prospects and issues surrounding underemployment.
- Brett drew from Social Cognitive Career Theory to account for the roles of self-efficacy, personal goals, and outcome expectations within autistic students' experiences. He is interested in the factors that influence how autistic individuals view themselves in this space.
- He conducted his study at a community college boasting a longstanding autism program. Brett curated surveys, interviews, observations, written reflections, and documents. For the context of this particular inquiry, he spotlighted 13 autistic student participants.
- Findings centered on how students sought majors that aligned with their interests, processed how extracurricular activities related to their core interests, gained prospects in their intended fields, and projected what their careers could entail. Students drew from resources, including those provided by their families, college, and autism program.
- Brett envisions this work may be insightful for practitioners in informing how they engage in job shadowing, internships, and other professional exposure with students, as well as researchers in the areas of scholarship they explore related to engaging students in professional opportunities.
- This is an emergent area of work, and Brett will be crafting a manuscript around this topic. He welcomed CANVAS participants' ideas and questions.

Upcoming CANVAS Meetings

- CANVAS will return monthly in July. Here is the tentative schedule for the coming months.
 - Dr. Theo Bakker: Thurs, July 21 at 12pm ET
 - Amber Meyers: Fri, Aug 12 at 1pm ET
 - Kayden Stockwell: Fri, Sept 9 at 1pm ET
 - Brian Irvine: Wed, Oct 5 at 4pm ET