

Subject: College Autism Network - August 2022 Updates

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COLLEGE AUTISM NETWORK
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College Autism Network News and Notes August 2022

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College Autism Summit Announces Closing Speakers: A Conversation with the Cast and Creator of “As We See It”

If you've not yet watched Amazon's terrific original series, [“As We See It,”](#) the story of three autistic young adults trying to figure out how to live their best lives, you're missing something special. We are excited to announce that the series' cast members and its creator will join us virtually at the College Autism Summit, October 12-14. This is an opportunity to have a conversation with three autistic actors about their work, their newfound fame, and their hopes for other autistic performers and artists. Actors Rick Glassman, Sue Ann

Pien and Albert Rutecki and series creator Jason Katims will join us via Zoom on Friday afternoon. Your to-do list? 1) Binge-watch the series, and 2) register for the Summit.

The College Autism Summit, to be held in person at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN, is the premiere professional development event for autism support professionals, scholars and researchers, and self-advocates who want to influence the conversation. This year's lineup includes opening speaker **Eric Garcia**, journalist and author of "We Are Not Broken: Changing the Autism Conversation," a preconference



workshop presented by Laurie Ackles, director of the Spectrum Support Program at RIT, "Building, Expanding or Improving a College Program for Students with Autism," plus over 30 diverse general sessions and panels on topics like mental health, dating relationships, employment preparation, supervising staff.

Join us at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN, October 12-14! Thanks to our generous sponsors, registration rates are very reasonable. Book now to receive the conference rate at one of our three hotels.

Our New Adventure! The Consultants' Collective

We often get requests from institutions and organizations seeking expert advice on how to start, improve and evaluate an autism program, or how to engage instructors and



staff in training opportunities to learn about autistic students. Sometimes campuses are looking for outside experts to provide training for faculty, staff and students on campus, or virtually. We have experts! And now we have the **CAN Consultants'**

Collective, a group of professionals eager to work with other campuses on a variety of topics. If you have a need for one of those prophets from another land, we encourage you to connect with one of our consultants. And if you'd like to be one of those consultants, just let **Lee** know and she'll give you the details.

CANVAS Upcoming Research Presentation, Friday, August 12 at 1 pm ET

Mark your calendars for the next CANVAS presentation by Dr. Amber Meyers, Professor at Tarrant County College who will be giving a talk entitled *"People Matter: Recruiting High School Students into Dual Credit Classes."* Here are the details:

Meeting Agenda: Please indicate if you plan to attend by **listing your name and affiliation here**.

Meeting Link: <https://ncsu.zoom.us/j/97829001357>

Presentation Description: Disparities exist regarding representation by autistic students in dual credit classes (classes granting both high school and college credit). Success in these classes can lead to



higher college enrollment and graduation rates. Discussions with autistic high school students who successfully completed a dual credit class reveal key figures influencing students' decisions to enroll. Partnerships between colleges and school districts ought to, but often do not, reflect parity when recruiting and enrolling autistic students. This presentation seeks to identify key factors in the recruitment and enrollment decision process as well as factors for student support during the courses.

Drexel University Looking for New Colleagues

CAN member Amy Edwards has a couple of positions working in the Drexel Autism Support Program (DASP) and asked that we share these with you for your own interest or to forward on to potential applicants. One is an **advisor role**, and the other is an **administrative assistant** role.

Do you have a position you'd like to share? Send it to [Lee](#) for inclusion in our monthly newsletter or ask to have it shared on the program directors' listserv (if you're not on that, in which case, feel free to post the position yourself).

CAN Members in the News

Here's a [nice piece from CBS Philly](#) on West Chester University's summer program. CAN contributor Cherie Fishbaugh is working hard this summer! We encourage you to contact Cherie (when she comes up for air) if you're interested in designing a summer transition program to lengthen the runway for your new students.

Driving with Autism Training Opportunity

While we don't often promote fee-based services outside of college programs, this one seems like something everyone should know about. "Driving with Autism" is an 8-part webinar series taught by a live, virtual instructor and focuses on the specific training needs of autistic individuals. The basic series is \$399, but if it helps a person develop a useful skill for work and school attendance, it's well worth it.

