A Spectrum of Possibility

Preparing Teams to Support Students with ASD
Pursuing Higher Education

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Emerging Population of ASD on College Campuses

- Challenges with:
  - Life Skills
  - Socializing and friends
  - Organization and Executive Functioning
  - Anxiety

Students have both challenges AND strengths.
Interventions and Trends

- DSS/ Accessibility offices and accommodations
- Summer transition programs
- TPSID programs
- Student Support and Resource Models
A Spectrum of Possibility: Background and Rationale

- Funded by VDOE
- Lateral learning and storytelling
- Accessible content and format
- Experience as teacher
- The expert is the person who’s lived it.
- K-12 and transitioning population
A Spectrum of Possibility

- Audience: Anyone and everyone who has a vested interest in helping a young person with ASD to access college with success.
- Videos
- Fast Facts
A Spectrum of Possibility: Student Experiences
Student Experiences

- First hand experience
- Self-Efficacy
  - When we see someone like us being successful at something, it fosters the belief that we can do the same thing.
A Spectrum of Possibility: Parent Experiences
Parent/Family Experiences

- Family members as advocates
- Wealth of information for others, because...
  - They’ve navigated the complex systems, seen what works and doesn’t
  - Many parents make this their job, and they’re good at it.
A Spectrum of Possibility: Professor Experiences
Professor Experiences

- Reducing fear and uncertainty
- Awareness
- Faculty can be just as difficult to engage as students.
- Listen to what your faculty say they need and how to deliver it.
A Spectrum of Possibility: School Counselor Experiences
Counselor Experiences

- All students need a champion
- School counselors are instrumental in the career and college advising process.
  - So training and awareness of how to support SWD is key.
- High expectations for students with disabilities
- Collaborative efforts
Discussion

- Are you already promoting lateral learning at your institution? How?
  - Ideas for students? Faculty?

- Ways that colleges can engage with high school counselors or teachers to make transitions smoother?
Get Ready for College:

A Resource for Teens with Disabilities

- Self-paced virtual course
- Free, online resource
- For students, educators, families, and disability stakeholders
- Information needed to successfully navigate the college preparation, selection, and disability services process.
- Register at any time, self-paced.
- [Get Ready for College registration page](http://CenterOnTransition.org/GetReadyForCollege)

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