

September 4, 2018

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Traveling to Pittsburgh for capacity building several weeks ago, I had the opportunity to reflect on the significant progress that we are making as a Consortium of Institutions in Higher Education in Pennsylvania who are on the cutting edge of providing fully inclusive college experiences for students with intellectual disability. Realistically, I am also keenly aware that lasting change takes time. Collectively, our efforts are asking establishments that have been in existence for many years to “just” change and include everyone on the college campus. While this idea refreshes some folks with significant possibilities, it threatens others with loss. Recognizing the resistance to change is a typical human response helps us to continue with determined spirit to pursue fully inclusive experiences on our college campuses. Diane Richler, Past President of Inclusion International, aptly states that “inclusion is not a strategy to help people fit into the systems and structures that exist in our societies: it is about transforming those systems and structures to make it better for everyone. Inclusion is about creating a better world for everyone.” Each of you, as a member of the Consortium, is making a better world in Pennsylvania for everyone. May we continue to flourish in our effort.

Ann Marie Licata, Ph.D., Director



Welcome to Katherine (Katie) Sternbergh, the newest member of AmeriCorps Vista program at Millersville University.

Katie is helping to lead Employment Services Program (ESP) - a college-based capacity building and data collection initiative linked with Integrated Studies and aimed at employing students with disabilities both during and post-college. Millersville partners with two other organizations on the project: The PA

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation and AHEDD, an employment services company specifically for persons with disabilities. Conceptually, Katie is developing a seamless system within the existing department of Experiential Learning and Career Management Office that serves as a one-stop-shop for all students to find career resources, including internships and employment both on and off campus. The design behind this model serves to build capacity for both the University and its students.

The Consortium aims to replicate the ESP model at other universities that are working toward the same goal of embedding their programs systemically.

WHAT IS HAPPENING

- [On September 13, 2018 ThinkCollege is holding a Public Policy Affinity Group webinar about Research in Inclusive Higher Education](#)
- [Save the date—Disability Rights and Public Policy in PA: A Commemorative Conference—September 28, 2018 at Winter Center, Millersville University](#)
- [State of the Art Conference will be held on October 10-11, 2018 at Syracuse Sheraton Hotel & Conference Center](#)
- [PEAC's 7th Annual Eastern PA Inclusion Conference—Embrace Inclusion: Capitalizing on Community Capacity will be held on November 7-8, 2018 at SugarHouse Casino in Philadelphia](#)
- [2018 AUCD Conference - We ALL Belong Here! Achieving Inclusive Communities will be held in Washington, DC, on November 11-14, 2018](#)
- [Pennsylvania Inclusive Postsecondary Education Symposium: Envisioning Possibilities, Eliminating Barriers, Building Capacity will be hosted by Lehigh Carbon Community College on November 16, 2018.](#)
- [Registration for TASH Conference is open. The Conference will be held in Portland, OR on November 28-30, 2018](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

- On August 27, 2018 we held our first Consortium monthly virtual meeting. You can access the agenda and the minutes at <https://files.acrobat.com/a/preview/61e4b202-cfce-43b0-b37e-923a451e03d1>
- PEAC (Pennsylvania Education For All Coalition) is looking for members of the Consortium to present at their 7th Annual Eastern PA Inclusion Conference. Call for Papers and Speaker Packet can be found at: <https://tinyurl.com/PEACConfcallforpapers>

