

THE CONSORTIUM NEWSLETTER

Supporting Authentic, Inclusive
Postsecondary Education

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When considering the “curriculum” for students in our inclusive postsecondary education programs, it is critical to ask, “What does the typical college student do when selecting courses?” Our experience leads us to know that college students select courses based upon major of study, interests, and availability of courses to fit within their preferred window of time. They have flexibility to pick and choose some courses as electives and others they do not based upon what may be required for completion of their declared major.

Our charge in creating inclusive postsecondary programs is to create this same experience for students enrolled in our programs. According to Thinkcollege.net, “The most inclusive programs offer students opportunities to take college courses from the course catalog, and they offer support to the students to participate in those classes. Students may participate in these classes as an audit student, or they may take them for credit. At many programs, students have a wide array of courses they can select, guided by their personal goals and interests.”

To be inclusive – courses where anyone on campus participates based upon major and choice – is not only optimal; it is imperative. Less than fully inclusive or what may be considered segregated courses places students with intellectual disability in environments that create images of non-equality and severely limits opportunities for their learning. In the words of John O’Brien- innovator, author, and international leader - “anything compromising on inclusion is damaging to the individual”. Logically, for students’ greatest personal growth and development, inclusive college classroom experiences must not be conceded.

Ann Marie Licata, Ph.D., Director

Consortium Members Champion Diversity Efforts on Campus



Dr. Linda Rhen was selected for Penn State Harrisburg’s **Faculty Diversity Award**. Linda was recognized for the time and effort that she has selflessly committed to developing the Career Studies Program at **Penn State Harrisburg**.



Recognized for the contribution to creating a more inclusive campus environment the **Disability Pride Committee** received the **Commitment to Social Justice** award at **Millersville University’s** 2017-2018 Distinguished Leadership Awards.

WHAT IS HAPPENING

- Check out this free lecture: *Changing the Conversation Engaging Communities in Improving Outcomes for Individuals with Disabilities* by Erik Carter on [May 2, 2018 in Philadelphia, PA](#) and [May 3, 2018 in Pittsburgh, PA](#).
- [Consider attending “United States Disability Policy: A Rich History, An Unsure Future” by Michael Gamel-McCormick, Disability Policy Director for U.S. Senator Bob Casey of Pennsylvania on May 31, 2018 in Pittsburgh, PA](#)
- [Register for The Arc of Pennsylvania’s Advocacy & Policy Conference on June 4-5, 2018](#)
- [Save the date - June 22, 2018 – Third Annual Regional Summit Post-Secondary Inclusive College Programs](#)
- [Need more info on authentic inclusive postsecondary programs? Plan to attend SRV training at Millersville University on June 25-27, 2018](#)
- [Equity & Excellence Access in Higher Education: AHEAD Annual Conference—July 16-20, 2018 in Albuquerque, New Mexico](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

“Changing the rules of who attends college in an inclusive capacity promotes a culture shift on the campus.”

Read more here as journalist Tina Calabro describes one young man’s journey to find inclusive postsecondary education in PA: <https://tinyurl.com/y7ma8qxx>

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