POWERFUL STRATEGIES FOR INCLUSIVE COLLEGE PREPARATION

Best Practices for Preparing your Young Adult with IDD for College Life

Presentation by Karla Wade, PhD

Brought to you by GAPSEC

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The Georgia Inclusive Post-Secondary Education Consortium seeks to create opportunities for students who have historically not had access to post-secondary educational opportunities. Members of the Consortium are committed to providing information and training resources for individuals, families, colleges & universities, and agencies to achieve the goal of inclusive PSE opportunities for all.

The GAIPSEC is a project of the Center for Leadership in Disability at Georgia State University. The Steering Committee is composed of individuals from colleges & universities, the GCDD, GVRA, GAO, DBHDD, and other organizations.
Help Build PSE in Georgia

You can help BUILD inclusive PSE in Georgia and this is how!

• Learn about inclusive PSE through the GAIPSEC and ThinkCollege!
• Join our mailing list (email smiller65@gsu.edu to have your name added)
• Share information with parents, students and educators
• Contact your legislator and ask them to support the call for funding
• Make contact with anyone you have a connection with a college or university and share with them about inclusive PSE opportunities.
Topics for Today

• Goals and Activities to prepare
• How to Include Students in the IEP
• Tips for a Successful College Interview
• Leveraging Technology and Helpful Apps
In Georgia

Currently:

- **Kennesaw State University Academy for Inclusive Learning and Social Growth (est. 2009)**
  - 2 year certificate program
  - Students audit classes with their typical peers
  - Job Shadowing and Job Development
  - **Student Housing is a Family Choice**

Under Development:

- University of Georgia Fanning Institute
- Columbus State University COUGARS

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Welcome to Think College!

Doors to colleges are opening for people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities in many different ways all over the country. This website is designed to share what is currently going on, provide resources and strategies, let you know about training events, and give you ways to talk to others. The information is for middle school aged students as well as adults attending or planning for college. It provides information and tools for students, families, and professionals: click on the tabs above to see what's here for you.
Think College Program Database

Find and compare information about college programs for students with intellectual disabilities! Click “Start Your Search” to customize your options, or “View All Programs” to view the whole database.

This information was submitted to Think College by the college programs. Think College does not necessarily endorse a program simply because it is listed in the database.
A shift in thinking

Parents

Students

Schools

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The new reality

Wrong Question

Why should YOU go to college? There are no jobs out there for YOU people.

Right Question

What’s your major?
Goals & Activities

- Self-Identification
- Electronic communication
- Academic rigor
- Employment Outcomes

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• Identify and request learning style
• Make an appointment with Gen. Ed. Teacher to review accommodations & evaluate effectiveness

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Consider these **Electronic Resources & Apps**

- Calendars for reminders, alerts, planning, etc.
- Initiate emails to request meetings, give information
- Text, tweet, and FB message
Useful Apps

• Evernote
• Dropbox
• GoTasks
• Remind 101
• Dragon
• Do not ask to be excused from the requirements of the course. Ask instead, “How close can I come to the syllabus demand?”

• Consider dismissing Support Services (speech, PT, OT) especially pull-outs
• No “College just for College-sake”
• Be serious and supportive about a vocational destination

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Reduce support requirements
• No paraprofessionals in college
• No IEPs in college

Allow failure
• Learn from failure
• Make a better plan

Buy the Sweatshirt
• And the keyring
• And the bumper sticker
• And the magnet

Encourage self-determination
• Choice-making
• Self-identification
• IEP ATTENDANCE
Person Responsible?

STUDENT

parent

teacher

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Leverage the Transition Plan within the IEP
Transition Plan Domains

What will this student do during THIS YEAR in these domains to come closer to the desired post-secondary goal?

- Education
- Preparation for Employment
- Community Involvement
- Adult Living and Post-School Options
- Related Services
- Daily Living Skills
College Ready Rubric

- Evaluates readiness for Inclusive College Programs
- Recommends goals and activities
- Aligned to Transition Plan Domains
- Suggested for Admissions Interview/Application Attachment

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The Entrance Interview

• Talk about your interest in college and your passion for learning
• Bring along something to show your accomplishments and/or readiness (Scrapbook, Awards, Recommendation from community leader, report/evaluation)
Entrance Interview Success

• Show the committee that you would be a good representative for the program
  • You know how to ask for help when you need it
  • You will commit to completion
  • You will go on to be a valuable graduate
  • You have the skills to succeed and are willing to learn
Strategies for Success, Book I

Five powerful strategies to help prepare young adults with developmental disabilities for Inclusive Post-Secondary programs. Suitable for families with high-school and middle-school aged youth, this small but powerful book is packed with great ideas.

Strategies for Success, Book II

Compliment to the successful Strategies for Success: Book I, this easy-to-read e-book gives parents and families five more powerful ways to prepare their young adult for Inclusive Post-Secondary programs. Order this e-book using PayPal, and a PDF copy will be delivered to your inbox.
Other resources

• Spring Break & Summer Intensives: KSU Academy for Inclusive Learning
  • Full week on-campus experience
  • Register for telephone interview kwade20@kennesaw.edu
• Club College-Bound at MJCCA: 8 weeks Feb/March 2014 Saturdays
  • Registration $45/Sessions $20
  • Register & parking pass at clubcollege-bound.com
Questions

• We have 10 minutes for questions
• Please type your questions in the dialog box, and Susanna will ask Karla questions, time permitting
• You will also receive Karla’s email for further questions
Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, caring citizens can change the world. Indeed, it’s the only thing that has.

~Margaret Mead

Karla Wade, PhD
karlawade1110@gmail.com