

Subject: College Autism Network - February 2023 Updates

Date: Thursday, February 2, 2023 at 1:45:32 PM Eastern Standard Time

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COLLEGE AUTISM NETWORK
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College Autism Network News and Notes February 2023

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Employment 3-Part Series to Launch in February

Mark your calendars for an exciting opportunity to explore the opportunities and challenges of neurodiversity and employment. CAN and UConn's Center for Neurodiversity



Employment and Innovation are co-sponsoring a three-part series in February and March: Understanding the Employment Landscape for Neurodivergent College Students: How it works, Who is doing it well, Why it matters.

These will be a series of discussions among employers and college support

professionals with the goal of mapping the landscape, increasing understanding and exploring strategies for improvement in both directions. Dates are February 22, March 8, and March 22, 1-2 pm ET. To register and receive the Zoom link, please visit the [CAN site](#). This event is free.

CANVAS February 17 Call to Focus on Supporting Autistic Students

Join the CANVAS (CAN Virtual Association of Scholars) community for a presentation by Elinor Lim, a Ph.D. student at the University of Portsmouth (U.K.) as she presents her research:

Supporting Autistic University Students: Perspectives of Autistic Students and Disability Support Staff



Elinor's research focuses on increasing inclusivity in higher education; specifically, how institutions can better support their autistic students. She will be presenting findings from her recently-completed MSc research, which involved interviewing autistic university students as well as university disability support office staff members to better understand processes and experiences of supporting autistic university students in the UK.

When: Friday, February 17 at 12 pm ET

Link: <https://ncsu.zoom.us/j/96055356966>

Agenda: [Click here](#) to write your name and indicate that you will be in attendance

Raise the Roof for Autism Invites CAN Members on AZ Adventure

April 16 - 19

We're excited to pass this invitation along! "College Autism Network Summit Participants and CAN Members are invited to attend our



special autism adventure education FAM (familiarization) trip to Arizona. Four days with RTRFA will do the same for you as it does for students. We'll expand your horizons, show you how the human desire for adventure (and travel) can change perspectives, and why and how the lessons we teach can be generalized into everyday life for your students. *Learn through firsthand experience.* For qualified educators and program directors the trip includes a fully guided Arizona adventure with 3-nights hotel accommodations, most meals, transportation, training and interactive adventure. We accommodate all fitness levels and abilities. Price: \$300 a person." [**More Information >>>**](#).



Upcoming Program Directors Call on Autism Acceptance Month (April) Ideas

Do you have a program or promotion idea? Are you looking for some? Are you troubled by the very idea of an “autism acceptance month”? CAN’s program directors and leaders are invited to share, listen, vent. Join us on Thursday, February 23 at 4 pm ET. You’ll get a link and a reminder via the Program Directors’ listserv. If you’re not on this listserv but should be, contact [**Lee**](#) to be added.

Intersectional Identity Research Featured on NPR

The emerging research and conversation about the intersectionality of trans and autism is discussed on this recent NPR broadcast. While the headline reads “Transgender and Non-binary People are Six Times More Likely to Have Autism,” it is, as always, more complicated than that. The featured research has been conducted by Dr. Lawrence Fung of Stanford, known to us as the coordinator of the Stanford Neurodiversity Summit. Listen or read [**here**](#).

Study Explores Links Between ADHD, Depression and Anxiety, and Autism

Though this study (and article) focuses on ADHD, it acknowledges the more commonly-known connections between autism, depression and anxiety.

Researchers at several British universities collaborated on this research. “Through innovative analytical techniques, the study authors further confirmed that having more of an ADHD personality was more strongly linked to anxiety and depression than autistic traits.”



Harvard Business article about ND student support:

You know something is high-brow mainstream when it shows up in a Harvard Business publication. The article suggests four strategies that can make a difference for ND students. Nothing that regular readers of our newsletter don't know (and probably suggest on a regular basis to faculty colleagues), but now you have AN ARTICLE FROM HARVARD! to back you up.

Yale Study on Eye Contact Raises Interesting Questions

What? Harvard's not enough? How about Yale? This study explores the connection