College Autism Network News and Notes

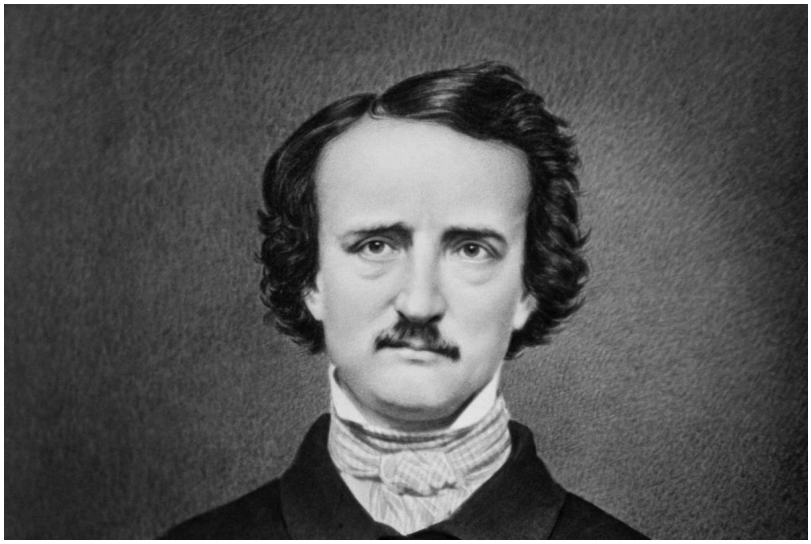
November 2026

Baltimore Bound! See you at the Summit

COLLEGE AUTISM SUMMIT 2026
BALTIMORE, MD // NOV. 8-11

Summit by the numbers: 370 attendees, 60 breakout sessions, 25 exhibitors, 12 books to raffle, 4 plenaries, 3 therapy dogs, 2 keynotes and one hard-working planning team.

And it's all happening in one place--the Renaissance HarborPlace Hotel in "Charm City," a.k.a. Baltimore. Home of the Ravens, Orioles and Edgar Allan Poe, birthplace of shaved ice with syrup, the world's first umbrella factory and the Ouija Board. Quoth the raven: See you there!



Newsletter Highlights

Baltimore Bound! See you at the Summit

CANVAS Topic: If you are planning a dissertation, You'll want to attend

Survey from the Frist Center on Neurodiversity and Entrepeneurship seeks participants

Introducing NAVIS: An Interview Preparation Tool

Interesting things from the internet: Managing meetings well and designing for autism

CAN Swag Shop: In time to do some holiday shopping

CANVAS to Discuss Autism Dissertations



We invite you to join us for our next CANVAS presentation, a special **panel of recent dissertators**! This is a perfect space for our newest and more emergent researchers, in particular, in the CANVAS community to assemble and learn from those who crafted dissertations on autism in higher education. Please share widely with your graduate student colleagues.

Title: So You're Developing a Dissertation on Autism and Higher Education - What Now?

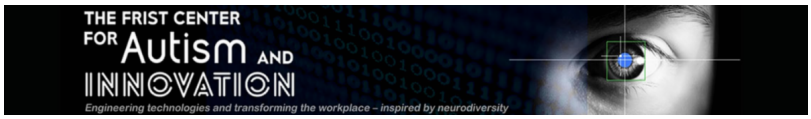
Date: Tues, Nov 17 at 1pm ET

Register here:
https://pitt.zoom.us/meeting/register/qVXRPtTFSfSU2Nb6rh47Tw

Presenters: Dr. Cherie Fishbaugh (Executive Director of Specialized Learning, West Chester University), Dr. Elinor Lim (Recent PhD Graduate), and Dr. Emmanuel Méjeun (Director of Full Spectrum Learning, Austin Peay State University)

Description: In this interactive panel, recent doctoral graduates will discuss the process of developing their dissertations related to autism and higher education. Learn from them about the fundamentals of crafting a study, forging partnerships, recruiting participants, gaining study buy-in, and working alongside practitioners and students in their academic pursuits.

Frist Center Survey Seeks Respondents



Do you have some opinions about neurodiversity? How about entrepreneurship? Our friend Dave Thompson is hoping the CAN community can help with a survey focused on neurodiversity and entrepreneurship being done by the Frist Center.

Here is the link to **the survey**, here is the link to their **LinkedIn post** about it. Questions? Contact Dave at **dave@neurodaversity.com**

Introducing NAVIS: An Interview Preparation Tool



Do you, or a student you know, need some practice preparing for job interviews? CAN is excited to introduce NAVIS, a platform that helps people practice for the career they want. Newly available for iPhone and iPad, NAVIS offers AI-powered interview practice for 300 job roles—from welders in manufacturing to satellite systems engineers in aerospace and space systems.

Designed with the neurodivergent community in mind and open to everyone, it combines virtual interviewers, adaptive follow-up questions, and personalized feedback. For college students and graduates, it offers a place to practice explaining their experience and strengths before an internship or job interview, at their own pace.

NAVIS is the second product in Neurodiverse Technologies' Platform for Independence™.

A spin-off from Vanderbilt University and the Frist Center for Autism and Innovation, NTs brings research into practical tools for everyday independence. NAVIS is always free to download, and new users who register by December 31, 2026, receive two free credits to get started—no credit-pack purchase required. Additional credit packs are optional in-app purchases. Learn more and download at **https://navis.website/**

Interesting Things from the Internet



Managing Meetings Well
Has anyone ever asked you for ideas to respond to challenging interactions in a meeting? **This article from the UK's Times Higher Education** may be very helpful for supporting both colleagues and students. It offers suggestions to make meetings more neuroinclusive. While it's written for employees, this would be an *excellent* resource to provide peers who run student organizations and are looking for ways to support neurodivergent members, or as a framework for a student leadership workshop.

Considering Design for Autism
Thanks, Sara Sanders Gardner, for calling our attention to **this very interesting article** from Metropolis, an online magazine, that challenges us to think differently about supporting autistic students and others. We know autism is a complicated term to fully define, but how does that complexity impact practice? This is a great example.

CAN Has a Swag Shop!



If you'd like to help promote CAN by wearing some CAN-branded clothing, we've got you covered (literally).

Visit our CAN Sideline Store to order sweatshirts, t-shirts, fleeces, hats, tanks, hoodies--you name it. Three logo options available--our colorful network globe-wearing-mortarboard, a single-colored logo with our name, or, for a limited time only, the 2026 Summit logo.

A portion of the proceeds helps support CAN's work, so place your order! All the cool kids have CAN swag.

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*CAN's newsletter is published monthly by the **College Autism Network**, an independent 501(c)3 organization supporting the success of autistic college students and the professionals who work with them. Want to share an article? Feature an upcoming event? Post a job opportunity in autism support services? Our monthly newsletter reaches almost 5000 self-advocates and professionals. Send it **to Lee** and we'll share it.*

*Was someone nice enough to forward this newsletter to you? We're happy to add you to our mailing list to receive it directly. **Send us a note.***

*If you appreciate our work, please consider **joining CAN** to receive additional information and discounts on some of our resources and to support our work. Individual and organizational memberships are available.*

*The **College Autism Network** is supported by the **Frist Center for Autism and Innovation** at Vanderbilt University.*

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