NC PSE Alliance
North Carolina Postsecondary Education Alliance: QUARTERLY MEETING SUMMARY

Updates on developments across the state:

Ashley Durkee (CIDD-UNC) – PSEA website is up! Linked to CIDD webpage (www.cidd.unc.edu/services). Has information and resources.

Kira Fisher (CIDD-UNC) – published an article in IMPACT about initial impressions of her experience as a graduate student with a disability in the LEND program. She hopes to write more once she completes the program. Kira feels that she has already gained confidence. Find this article online at ThinkCollege (www.thinkcollege.net). This publication is devoted to PSE.

Yasmine White (Voices Together) - Voices Together is working to get Beyond Academics students involved in music classes at UNCG.

April Root (Central Piedmont Community College) – CPCC is increasing job and internship opportunities around employment and particular areas of interest. Project Search is building partnership with business and support agencies.

Alma Taylor (NC Division of Vocational Rehabilitation) – Voc Rehab is adapting to funding changes. It will maintain/increase relationships with public schools. Discussion of global issue of transportation. One example of success was shared: VR funded 9 grants in some counties to buy vans, hire people with disabilities to drive vans and transport individuals with DD to jobs any time of day.

Kelly Kelley (WCU-University Participant Program) – WCU students feel very strongly about the UP program. Within 24 hours WCU students organized a meeting (70+ students), and contacted their representatives. They set up meetings and letter-writing campaigns to save the UP program. UP participants and WCU students planned a trip to Washington, DC to talk to representatives.

Megan Kovac (CIDD-UNC) – The first part of the collaborative evaluation of the WCU UP was completed by CIDD program. Initial results indicate success.
Deb Zuver and Donna Yerby (CIDD-UNC) – Two panels were presented as part of the training experience for educators attending the Transition Summit in February. Donna presented a panel featuring NC Postsecondary Education examples and Deb facilitated a panel of youth leaders discussing their transition experience.

Joan Johnson (Beyond Academics) – Two students about to graduate from BA have Voc Rehab job coaches and two have been admitted to associate degree programs at GTCC in programs such as Entertainment Technology. One student (age 53) succeeded with his goal to move from a group home and will relocate to Wilmington. BA students excited about graduation are working with rising juniors to get them ready for post-grad life. Administration is engaging LEAs in working on dual enrollment and earlier transition planning. BA curriculum has improved, including creating objectives and partnerships with departments.

Terri Shelton (Beyond Academics) – A new admission code is now accepted within the UNC system to meet the specific needs of PSE students. Students now have UNCG ids.

Evaluation results from October meeting:
⇒ were generally pleased with the meeting
⇒ liked specific focus and task assignment

Our Strategic Plan: Focus on Expanding Awareness

Next Steps: Action Items
⇒ Reach Students: Post information/videos related to rights, IEPs, self-advocacy to Orange County Special Olympics Facebook page, Twitter – Dana; create PSEA Facebook page that interlinks to CIDD PSEA page, Special Olympics page, AHEAD, Think College, etc.
⇒ Reach Families: Advocacy efforts to change families’ expectations related to PSE (Terri Shelton); create DVD about PSE in NC “It’s not your grandmother’s college;” have core video that stays the same, but change out intro based on target audience – families, students, policy makers, etc. (Dana-HD.Hanson-Baldauf)
⇒ Reach Educators: Panels, presentations at conferences. CEC DCDT Transition Conference April 14-16 (Kelly Kelley and Donna Yerby/Deb Zuver), Community College Basic Skills Conference August 3-5 (April Root). Email Deb if you’re speaking at a conference, please include materials/fact sheets/PowerPoint/talking points to address general PSE opportunities (Terri Shelton)
⇒ Systems/Policy: Summit?
Your TO-DO List

☑ Email update information you’d like to share with the Alliance—include questions and agenda items.

☑ Forward this PSE Alliance newsletter to all interested in expanding PSE options.

☑ RSVP to Deb by Monday 5/2/11: Can you attend 5/10/11 meeting? If not, ask someone to attend in your place.

NC Postsecondary Education Alliance

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PSE webpage:
http://www.cidd.unc.edu/services

NEXT PSE ALLIANCE MEETING ➔ TUESDAY MAY 10

The next PSE Alliance meeting will be held on

Tuesday May 10, 2011 from 1:00-4:00pm

at the Carolina Institute for Developmental Disabilities (CIDD)

101 Renee Lynne Ct. Carrboro, NC 27510

Agenda to Include:

⇒ Alliance Members: PSE Announcements and NC Updates
⇒ Expanding Awareness: PSEA Action Items Progress /Next Steps
⇒ Cate Weir: National Update

PLEASE RSVP BY MONDAY MAY 2