Intellectual Disabilities and Transition to Postsecondary Education and Employment

Intellectual Disabilities and Transition Topic Area
Due to the hard work of students, families, and advocates, Postsecondary Education (PSE) options for students with intellectual disabilities in the United States are at an all time high. A number of new initiatives have also bloomed from the dedication of short-term federal funding such as the TPSID (The Model Comprehensive Transition and Postsecondary Programs for Students with Intellectual Disabilities) initiative. While these projects and other institutionally initiated programs have expanded opportunities for persons with intellectual disabilities to access postsecondary education, participate in the workforce, and take an active part in their communities, fundamental advances are still needed to ensure barrier free education and employment environments. Finally, as TPSID funded programs enter their final 2 years of funding, many programs are seeking and creating innovative ways of sustaining and expanding PSE options for students with intellectual disabilities.

The breakout sessions in this strand are designed for special educators, VR counselors, and postsecondary education faculty and disability service providers, persons with intellectual disabilities, advocates and family members, federal and state labor agencies, and employment specialists.

Proposals for consideration will include:

- Presentations of international and national research and evaluation findings, promising practices, training programs, strategies and supports that assist individuals with intellectual disabilities to access and participate in postsecondary education. Included for consideration are topics related to innovative and inclusive programs for individuals with intellectual disabilities: person-centered planning; dual-enrollment options; post-secondary accommodations/supports; family participation/support; or other strategies that facilitate:
  - Transition of students with intellectual disabilities into postsecondary education.
  - Promoting postsecondary education as a goal for students with intellectual disabilities.
  - Inclusion of students with intellectual disabilities in postsecondary education (i.e., creating a supportive, caring, and inclusive postsecondary environment).
- Findings related to the effectiveness of postsecondary programs and supports that assist individuals with intellectual disabilities with employment.
- Legislation and policy frameworks that supports the education and employment of persons with intellectual disabilities.
- Best practices in transition planning processes from post-secondary education to employment, including those practices that are person-centered and participatory.
- Collaborative and multi-stakeholder partnership models between k-12, universities and the employment sector which result in successful transition and positive and meaningful work outcomes for persons with disabilities.
- Descriptions of funding practices and the detailing of efforts to sustain TPSID and other inclusive PSE projects.
- Projects, public awareness campaigns and initiatives that promote the economic and social inclusion of people with disabilities through educational and employment pathways.

We welcome all proposals. Please see presentation formats on our webpage at: [http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu/submissions/presenters/formats/](http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu/submissions/presenters/formats/). Please read criteria for each format and ensure that you have the appropriate number of presenters for your chosen format.

You may submit proposals online at: [http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu/submissions](http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu/submissions) or send your proposals via email to prcall@hawaii.edu.

For more information please contact the topic co-chairs:
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**OTHER PERSONS & COLLABORATORS:**
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For general information on the conference, please contact Charmaine Crockett at cccrocke@hawaii.edu, (808) 956-7539.

For registration questions please contact registration desk at prreg@hawaii.edu, Phone: (808) 956-8816, Fax: (808) 956-4437.