Meet Hannah Kubinsky, from Southeastern University Link Program

Hannah Kubinsky is a 2nd year SEU Link student from Tampa. She is scheduled to graduate in April 2023. Her career goal is to work in a school or daycare. She completed her first Link internship at Pathways School for Excellence (on-campus lab school for middle/high school students with disabilities). She was then hired by them for a paid Work Study opportunity. Pathways staff members have noticed her positive attitude and joy that she brings and had these words to say, "Hannah treats all..."
STUDENT HIGHLIGHT

Continued from Page 1...

the Pathways students with respect, kindness, and love! She is willing to do anything that is asked of her and is extremely patient with any student she works with." They added, "It is obvious that she wants to be here and loves working with the students." Her direct supervisor summed up his comments with, "We are all extremely grateful for Hannah’s help. She is a 10 out of 10!" She also is employed during summers and school breaks at a day camp in her hometown. Her passion for children shows and she says working with students brightens her days. Hannah began her final off-campus internship at The Cygnet School this semester.

Hannah is in her second year of living in the dorms. Hannah’s residential mentor states that she is very independent and makes friends everywhere.

Hannah is very motivated to succeed and maintains a demanding schedule. She manages to take care of herself and excel academically. Hannah does not let failure drag her down. Instead, she builds a stronger mindset for the future. She puts forth her best effort in class participation and timely completion of assignments. Her confidence has increased over the past year. She asks for help when needed. She is receptive to corrective feedback and makes improvements. She has come so far in professionalism in 2 years and strives to be her best. Perseverance is a trait which Hannah exemplifies. She does not give up when something is difficult to understand. She just keeps trying. Budgeting (her Fire Funds) was a difficult concept to grasp and now she does it beautifully. Hannah has learned to be proactive and contacts faculty and staff days and weeks in advance to prepare adequately for classes and other events.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

Eileen Hoffman Hafer
UMatter Program at
University of South Florida

Recruiting and Keeping Mentors

Jayme Joslyn, EdD, Eileen Hoffman Hafer UMatter Program Director

"The delicate balance of mentoring someone is not creating them in your own image, but giving them the opportunity to create themselves."

- Steven Spielberg

When the Eileen Hoffman Hafer UMatter Program was established in 2020 at the University of South Florida (USF) St. Petersburg campus, the first cohort of students began the following year. In order to support students academically and with independent living skills, the UMatter program needed to employ student mentors. Three main questions arose as we approached this milestone in the development of the program:

- How do we recruit mentors?
- What are the best strategies for training and supporting mentors?
- How can we retain mentors we hire?

UMatter’s goal was to recruit/hire, train, and retain USF students who would have a positive impact on the UMatter students.

Continue reading here....
College Matters Florida (CMF)

CMF is a project designed to promote higher education as an option for students with intellectual disability. In this short video, CMF interviewed administrators from Broward College, Santa Fe College, and the University of South Florida. The administrators spoke about the value of college for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and the positive impact their participation has on the campus community. It is a must-see video for any college considering starting an inclusive college program as well as for colleges not considering a program! Scroll to the bottom of the page to see the video College Matters Florida: Administrator Perspectives video.

FCSUA offers monthly webinars on the first Tuesday of the month at 3:00 p.m. eastern time to support the development and continuation of FPCTPs.

Join us for our upcoming webinars:

**Mar 7:** Strategies for Thorough and Comprehensive Student Reports

**Apr 4:** Florida Developmental Disabilities council: Innovative Practices and Findings

**May 2:** Overview of the Able Trust

The video recordings from previous webinars are located on FCSUA's YouTube channel.
Professional Development Opportunities
Read, Attend, Present

**Visions 2023 Transition Conference**
Jacksonville, FL
April 12-14, 2023
Early Bird registration ends March 3, 2023*

**Southeast Postsecondary Education Alliance Conference**
May 17-19, 2023
Nashville, TN
Early Bird registration ends April 15, 2023

**Exhibit at the College Fair**
National Down Syndrome Congress Convention
Orlando, FL
Friday, July 21, 2023
12 pm - 5 pm

The College Fair is an opportunity to showcase all of Florida’s FPCTPs.

The National Down Syndrome Congress Convention is the largest annual gathering of people with Down syndrome, their families, and professionals who serve the Down syndrome community. With approximately 3500 in attendance. [Register here](#)

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**Save the Date!**

57th Annual FACTE Conference & Trade Show
SeaWorld Renaissance
July 17-19, 2023

Learn more about FACTE’s Conference and Trade Show

**ACTE’s CareerTech Vision 2023 Conference**
November 29 - December 2, 2023

Call for Proposals Open through March 3, 2023

**June 9-11, 2023**
Orlando
Learn more about the Family Cafe Conference and register here.
Publication Announcement

A Nominal Group Technique Study Identifying Evidence-Based and Promising Practices: Taxonomy for Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Programs

Taxonomy for Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Programs
Dr. Kohler, Dr. Gothberg, Dr. Andrews, Mrs. Mahon, Dr. Seabrooks-Blackmore

As more institutions of higher education offer comprehensive transition and postsecondary programs for students with intellectual disabilities, there is a need for a systematic process for strategically planning for such programs. This article identifies strategies and practices and presents how these were categorized and incorporated into a planning tool that is now being used to assist colleges and universities in developing postsecondary programs in Florida. Read more about the research and background behind the Strategic Planning Tool being used by FPCTPs today!

Is your FPCTP information up-to-date on Think College's College Search Tool?

Think College's College Search tool is the only directory of college and university programs for students with intellectual disability in the US. Starting in early January, we asked programs currently listed in the directory to update their information. We are happy to say 75% of these programs have updated their information and we are eager to hear from the final 25%. Help us by updating your program information by (or before) February 24!

Need your survey link? Contact Shelby at shelby.bates@umb.edu.
Professional Development Opportunities
Read, Attend, Present

Florida Association for Career and Technical Education (FACTE)
CTE Month Webinar Series

Teaching Students on the Spectrum
February 22, 2023 @ 4PM

Presented by Keith L. Kirby, Coordinator of Adult and Career Education. North Florida Technical College and Anna Kirby, a former Staffing Specialist with an ESE endorsement and 13 years of public education experience. Register here.

Resources and Opportunities to Prepare Florida Students for the Global Workplace
March 9, 2023 @ 4PM

Presented by Mary Risner, Ed.D., Associate Director, Center for Latin American Studies, University of Florida
In today’s global workplace, we must prepare students to compete, connect, and collaborate on an international level. This webinar will highlight the importance of diverse perspectives and global competence for CTE students as they enter the workforce. Attendees will see several examples of global projects that Florida K-16 CTE instructors have implemented to date. To close, free Global CTE resources and training opportunities will be shared to encourage participation in these events and programs. Register here.

Brady Bulletin is a research-to-practice bulletin for programs to support meaningful postsecondary comprehensive transition programs. This research bulletin is created by the Academy for Community Inclusion at Florida Atlantic University. Visit FCSUA’s website to read the current issue.

Collaborating with Employers: Strategies and Tips for Supporting Students with Intellectual Disabilities on the Job
Mar. 23, 2023, 2-3pm ET
Presenter: Jaclyn Camden, Virginia Commonwealth University
Learn more about the support you can provide students to students on the job and the support you can provide to the employer. Register Here

How Engaged are Your Students in Campus Life?
May 2, 2023, 2-3pm ET
Presenters: Jennifer Sulewski, University of New Hampshire, Ashley Luce, UMass Boston & Lindsay Krech, Vanderbilt University
This webinar will provide four guideposts to assist programs in supporting authentic community life engagement on campus. Register Here.

We’d love to hear from you on what is happening at your institution. Please send stories and photos to fcsua@ucf.edu, ATTN: FCSUA News Brief.