

Disability Services and Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Programs: Aligning Support and Services to Achieve Access and Equity

Dr. Bea Awoniyi – Santa Fe College
Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs
Santa Fe College, Gainesville, FL



Session Goal

Together, we will explore how disability support professionals can partner with Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Programs (FPCTPs) to achieve equity and social justice on each of our campuses



Agenda

- ⊗ DSS Background – Very brief
 - ⊗ Legislations – Goals and Accountabilities
- ⊗ FPCTP
 - ⊗ Purpose and Intent of the Statute
- ⊗ Meat of the session
 - ⊗ Conversation on how to partner to achieve:
 - ⊗ Access
 - ⊗ Equity
 - ⊗ Social Justice
- ⊗ Closing thoughts—strategies for moving ahead

Federal Laws

Section 504 of Rehab Act:

Anti-discrimination legislation passed to address educational inequity for all **institutions receiving federal funds.**

Americans with Disabilities Act (PL 101-336)

Civil rights legislation passed to protect ALL people with disabilities from discrimination in all areas (school, work, transportation, other public places).

Goals and Accountabilities

Section 504 encourages institutions of higher education to make reasonable efforts and necessary adjustments to qualified individuals with disabilities

Called higher education institutions to action.



Postsecondary Response to Call-To-Action

Higher education institutions sought ways to ensure they comply by the requirements of the law and thus assigned individuals to:

- (1) Help protect the institutions
- (2) Advocate for the civil rights of qualified students with disabilities.

Meeting Legal (504 & ADAAA) Obligations

Designate a Professional/Office/Person(s) to:

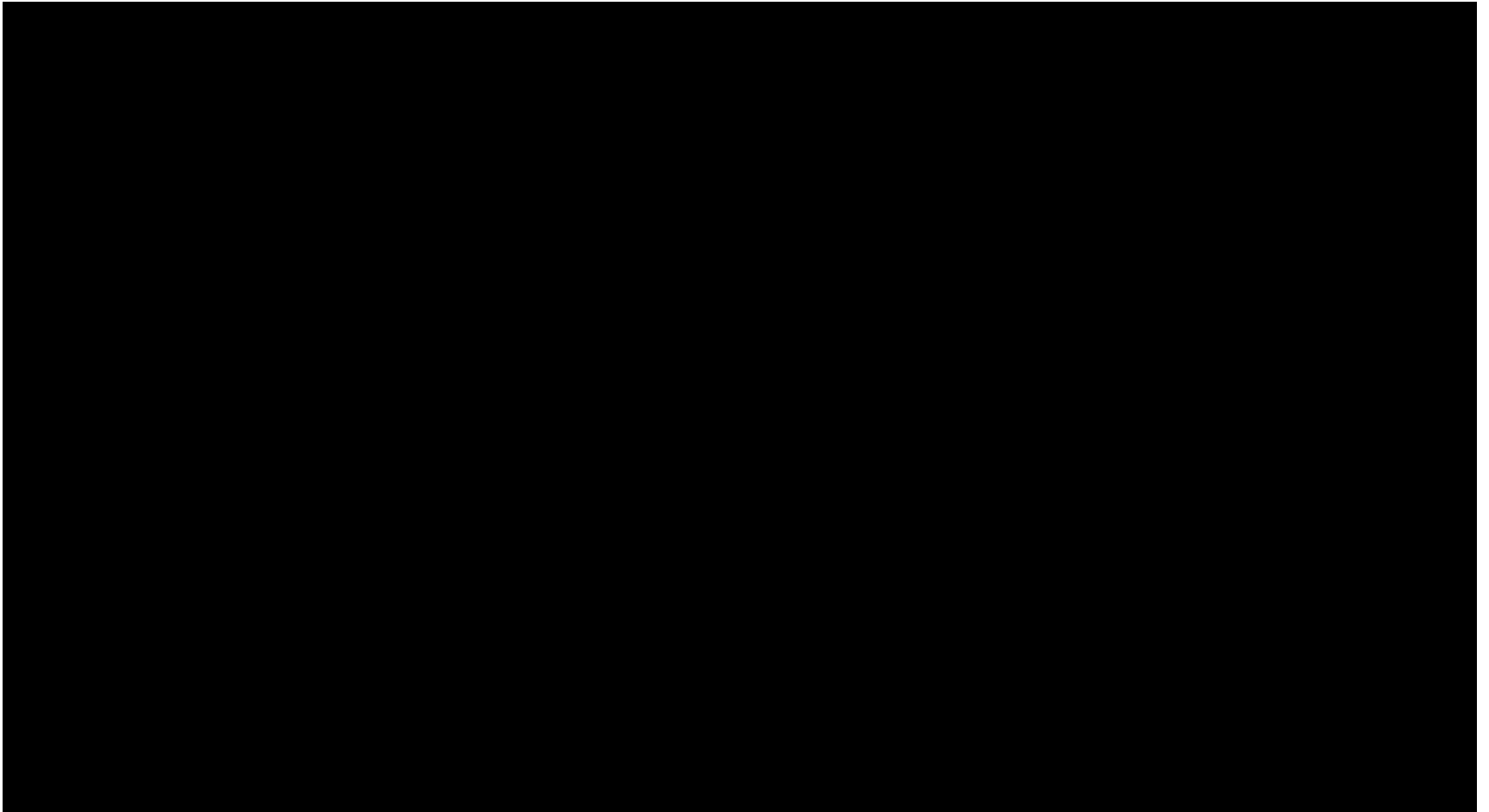
1. Determine eligibility for services

2. Determine appropriate level of services and support (reasonable, necessary, appropriate)

3. College/University resource expert

Commercial Break

VID-20180121-WA0007.mp4



Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education (CAS)

1. Provide institution-wide advisement, consultation, and training on disability- related topics
2. Collaborate and partner to identify and remove barriers and foster an all-inclusive campus
3. Ensure efficient and effective services and support to individuals and facilitate accommodations to students with disabilities including assistive technology.

DSS Obligations

1. Provide **institution-wide advisement, consultation, and training** on disability-related topics
 - a) Leadership
 - b) Resource expertise
 - c) Educator, trainer
 - d) Inclusive diversity efforts
 - e) Policy efforts (initiate/review/revise)

DSS Obligations

2. Collaborate and partner to **identify** and **remove** barriers and **foster** **an all-inclusive campus**

- a) Advocate/Collaborator
- b) Intentional Learner
- c) Positive Relationship for social and inclusive cultural engagement
- d) Resource expert
- e) Intuitive and Promoter of access and success

DSS Obligations

2. Collaborate and partner to **identify** and **remove** barriers and **foster** **an all-inclusive campus**

- f) Problem solver/Understands Power and Privilege
- g) Transparent decision maker/Great communicator
- h) Commitment to diversity and excellence
- i) Engage in policy development, review, change

DSS Obligations

3. Ensure efficient and effective services and support to individuals and facilitate accommodations to students with disabilities including assistive technology.
 - a) Ensure comprehensive service delivery
 - b) Promote access, success, awareness, and inclusion
 - c) Promote inclusive student experience
 - d) Advocate/collaborator

Florida Statutes 1004.6495

- PURPOSE—The purpose is to increase independent living, inclusive and experiential postsecondary education, and employment opportunities for students with intellectual disabilities through degree, certificate, or nondegree programs **and to establish statewide coordination of the dissemination of information regarding programs and services for students with disabilities.**

Florida Statutes 1004.6495

- LEGISLATIVE INTENT—Legislatures wants to ensure that students with intellectual disabilities **and students with disabilities** have **access** to **meaningful postsecondary education credentials** and be afforded the opportunity to have a **meaningful campus experience**.

Group/Collective Exploration (DIFFERENT)

- DSS Professionals
- FPCTP Professionals
- Others (?)

Discussion Question

- How might DSS office/staff better work/collaborate with FCSUA to assure postsecondary education access, attainment of credentials and meaningful campus experience?
- Who within your institution do you consider resources to help ensure access and success for all students, including students with disabilities?
- What types of trainings or professional development do you and others need to assure positive and inclusive experience for students with disabilities across postsecondary education environment?

A closing thought...

Let's not lose focus of our common goal of access and equity for all, let's do it together and do it well



Presenter Information

Bea Awoniyi, Ph.D.

Assistant Vice President/Ombuds

Past President, AHEAD/Member FL-AHEAD

Santa Fe College

3000 NW 83rd Street

Gainesville, FL 32606

352-395-5513

Bea.awoniyi@sfcollge.edu