

# SU HAPPENINGS

## Black History Month Celebration Begins Thursday February 1<sup>st</sup>

Syracuse University's annual *Black History Month* celebration begins Thursday, Feb. 1. The month-long celebration includes performances, thought-provoking lectures and dialogues, art exhibitions, music and other events. Campus wide coordination is led by the *Office of Multicultural Affairs* within the *Division of Enrollment and the Student Experience*, in partnership with many student organizations and University partners.

"The events and programs during Black History Month offer campus community members an opportunity to explore, engage and celebrate the robust and diverse history and traditions of African Diaspora. The planning committee, comprised of students, faculty and staff, is excited for this year's calendar of events and looks forward to bringing the campus community together for this celebration," says Cedric T. Bolton, coordinator of student engagement in the Office of Multicultural Affairs and chair of the planning committee.

One of the most highly anticipated events of the month is the annual evening dinner and music celebration The Black Lounge. This year's event will feature headliners Danielle Ponder and the Tomorrow People, a soulful vocal band from Rochester. The Black Lounge will also feature performances by Anomalous People and music by DJ Maestro. Tickets for The Black Lounge are free and available at the Schine Box Office. [The Black Lounge is Saturday, Feb. 10, at 7 p.m. in Goldstein Auditorium, Schine Student Center.](#)

This year's commemorative event features a poetic expression by Philadelphia-based poets Perry "Vision" DiVirgillio and Kavindu "Kavi" Jointe. DiVirgillio and Jointe use performance poetry, generative writing workshops and critical dialogue to cultivate a conversation that encompasses all forms of masculinity, the performance of gender and the inherent toxicity of gendered binaries in a patriarchal world. With poems focusing on gender, sexuality, multicultural identity, race, violence, street harassment, sexual assault, education, homophobia/transphobia and more, their art aims to task men and masculine-of-center folks of all journeys to unpack, heal and create a path to whole masculinities. [The poetic lecture is on Wednesday, Feb. 21, in HBC Gifford Auditorium at 7 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.](#)

Some additional events throughout the month include:

- "Owning My Masters: The Rhetoric of Rhymes & Revolutions": Monday, Feb. 5, 5 p.m., Peter Graham Scholarly Commons, Bird Library
- Martin Luther King Jr. Community Celebration: Saturday, Feb. 10, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Dr. King Elementary School
- "Reclaiming our Education: Black Girls Lit 4 Literacy": Saturday, Feb. 10, 2-4 p.m., Beauchamp Branch Library
- [Tangerine Film Screening and moderated discussion: Thursday, Feb. 22, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., 001 Life Sciences Complex](#)
- Wellness/Yoga Workshop presented by Marcelle Haddix: Wednesday, Feb. 28, 6-8 p.m., 228B Schine Student Center

For more information, including a complete list of events and programs, visit the *Office of Multicultural Affairs* website <http://multicultural.syr.edu/> or contact Bolton at 315.443.9676.

**FREE Yoga Class: Do We Want to Be Well? (A Community Health and Wellness Event) SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3 with Prof Haddix**

Beauchamp Branch Library, 2111 S. Salina Street

2-4 p.m.

Sponsored by ZenG Yoga

For more information contact Dr. Haddix at [mhaddix@syr.edu](mailto:mhaddix@syr.edu)

**SOULscape Retreat, Applications Accepted Through Feb. 5th for 2 Day Retreat**

SOULscape, our weekend retreat for Syracuse University students, is accepting applications through this coming Monday, February 5. SOULscape gives students an opportunity away from campus to reflect and discuss with their peers some of life's big questions, including the themes of passion, gratitude, and vulnerability. This semester the retreat will be from February 24-25.

For more information and the actual application, see [soulscape.syr.edu](http://soulscape.syr.edu) ! Please forward to any students who may be interested, and don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

**OWNING MY MASTERS: The Rhetoric of Rhymes & Revolutions-MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5**

Lecture by Dr. A. D. Carson

Peter Graham Scholarly Commons, E. S. Bird Library

5 p.m.

Sponsored by democratizing knowledge PROJECT  
and the Office of Multicultural Affairs

For more information, contact Marama Cavino at 315.443.8750 or [hcavino@syr.edu](mailto:hcavino@syr.edu)

**Sociality and Reciprocity among Indian Student-Migrants Presentation; February 6<sup>th</sup>**

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

12:30pm

341 Eggers Hall

Assistant Professor,  
Cultural Foundations of Education  
Syracuse University  
Susan Thomas

Examining the migratory lives of middle class youth from India pursuing their education in the United States, this talk draws from ethnographic fieldwork to theorize the connections between migrant social networks and anthropological notions of reciprocity. Specifically, it

argues that Indian student migrants' practices of sociality produce and disrupt multiple webs of social attachments hinging on competitiveness, expectations of reciprocal exchange, and sacrifice.

*For information on accessibility, or to request accommodation, please contact Marc Albert 315-443-9248*

### **On The Spectrum Meets Wednesdays at 5:00 in the DCC**

A group of graduate and undergraduate students who identify as Autistic / being on the Autism Spectrum have formed a support and advocacy organization by and for Autistic individuals, including alumni, staff, and other community members. Being Autistic / on the Autism Spectrum can be an isolating experience, particularly on a college campus. But, given Syracuse's size and autism's prevalence, we know there are quite a few of us out there! If you identify as Autistic / on the Autism Spectrum, we will be holding our meeting on Wednesday, January 31st, at 5:00 p.m. in 230 Schine Student Center (the Disability Cultural Center). This is a private and confidential group. Interested people do not have to be formally diagnosed or at any specific "point" on the spectrum. Feel free to contact Chris Damon ([cdamoncr@syr.edu](mailto:cdamoncr@syr.edu)) or Justin Robbins ([jarobbin@syr.edu](mailto:jarobbin@syr.edu)) if you have questions. If you need to request an accommodation, please email Justin or Chris by the Friday before the meeting each week.

### **Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha; February 7th**

*Bodymap: A Performance with Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha*

February 07, 4-5:30 p.m.

304ABC Schine Student Center

The Douglas Biklen Landscape of Urban Education Lecture Series

Lambda Award winning queer disabled Sri Lankan/Irish femme writer and performance artist Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha will share new work and performance pieces from her work with disability justice collective Sins Invalid and her most recent books, *Bodymap and Dirty River: A Queer Femme of Color Dreaming Her Way Home*. Piepzna-Samarasinha maps luscious and vulnerable terrains of transformative love, survivorhood, sick and disabled, queer, femme of color genius and all the homes we claim, make, and deserve. Book signing and Q&A to follow.

*Presented by the Syracuse University Humanities Center. Co-sponsored by the Douglas P. Biklen Landscape of Urban Education Lecture Series; Harry S. and Elva K. Ganders Lecture Series; Disability Cultural Center; Department of Women's and Gender Studies; South Asia Center; LGBT Studies; Office of Multicultural Affairs; and LGBT Resource Center.*

*Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) will be available for the event. If you have requests for accessibility and accommodations, please [contactsuschoolofed@syr.edu](mailto:contactsuschoolofed@syr.edu) or 315.443.4696. Parking available in the University Avenue garage. We ask all attendees not wear perfumes or other scented products to this event.*

### **No Body Left Behind: The Art and Practice of Disability Justice; February 8<sup>th</sup>**

February 08, 12:30-1:50 p.m.

319 Sims Hall (Atrium)

Come learn about disability justice--a movement building framework centering the leadership of Black and brown, queer and trans and other disabled folks marginalized within mainstream movements. We'll talk about disability and accessibility in our communities and movements, view and discuss performance and writing by disabled queer and/or people of color artists, and share and build concrete tools to build spaces that center disabled genius and access.

Lambda Award winning queer disabled Sri Lankan/Irish femme writer and performance artist Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha maps luscious and vulnerable terrains of transformative love, survivorhood, sick and disabled, queer, femme of color genius and all the homes we claim, make, and deserve.

*Presented by the Humanities Center. American Sign Language (ASL) Interpretation will be available for the event. RSVP to Mike Gill ([mcgill@syr.edu](mailto:mcgill@syr.edu)) by January 31 and include any requests for accessibility accommodations. We ask all attendees not wear perfumes or other scented products to this event.*

### **University Teaching Seminar by Prof. Evensky, February 8<sup>th</sup>**

Coming up next week, the 6th of 8 Certificate in University Teaching seminars for the year:

*Effective and Efficient Assessment*  
with Prof. Jerry Evensky, Economics  
Thursday, February 8  
5:15-6:30 p.m.  
Hall of Languages 107

This workshop, led by Meredith Professor for Teaching Excellence Jerry Evensky (Economics) will focus on the purposes of and effective/efficient strategies for both formative and summative assessment that can inform your teaching tomorrow and beyond. Click here to register: [https://syracuseuniversity.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_bfwuu6HTCRT2gaV](https://syracuseuniversity.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bfwuu6HTCRT2gaV)

### **State Violence Real Talk February 9<sup>th</sup>**

REAL Talks: Resisting Exclusion through Activism and Leadership Spring 2018 Luncheon Series

*State Violence* (February 9, 12:30-2 p.m., 304 Tolley Admin Building)  
Moderated by Biko Mandela Gray, to include topics of policing, police brutality, Black Lives Matter, immigration control, and DACA.

### **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Celebration-SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10**

Dr. King Elementary School, 416 E. Raynor Ave.  
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
For more information, contact Syeisha Byrd at [sbyrd@syr.edu](mailto:sbyrd@syr.edu)

## **The Black Lounge Featuring Danielle Ponder and the Tomorrow People-SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10**

Schine Student Center, Goldstein Auditorium  
6:30 p.m. (doors open); 7 p.m. (event begins)  
Tickets are free and available at the Schine Box Office.  
Sponsored by Office of Multicultural Affairs,  
Office of Program Development, Black Graduate Student  
Association, and Black History Month Committee

For more information contact Cedric T. Bolton at [ctbolton@syr.edu](mailto:ctbolton@syr.edu)

## **OrangeAbility 2018 Is On February 17<sup>th</sup>!**

OrangeAbility will be a day full of inclusive and adaptive sports, such as wheelchair rugby and basketball, powerchair soccer! Engage with local teams on the court, as well as organizations in our expo area. Bring your friends, family, kids, and colleagues!

Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm, Women's Building, GYM A, Comstock Ave., Syracuse University.

Powered by: The Syracuse University Disability Student Union, the Syracuse University Disability Cultural Center, the Syracuse University Department of Recreation Services, the Syracuse University Beyond Compliance Coordinating Committee, and Move Along, Inc.

Details: [orangeability.syr.edu](http://orangeability.syr.edu)

## **SAVE THE DATE: Disabilities As Ways of Knowing, March 19<sup>th</sup>—Professor Kuusisto's Book Signing and Event!**

The Disability Cultural Center will be hosting a book launch (reading, book signing, festive food!) on Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., with gratitude to the Co-curricular Departmental Initiatives Program within the Division of Enrollment and the Student Experience. (Reading, 7:30 to 8:30, Watson Theater; Reception and Book Signing, 8:30 to 9:30, Light Work Gallery lobby, adjacent to Watson Theater).

This engaging, accessible, inclusive, and catered event will be the latest incarnation in the *Disabilities as Ways of Knowing: A Series of Creative Writing Conversations* programs coordinated since 2012 by the Disability Cultural Center, in partnership with others.

American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation and Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART -- live captioning) will be provided during the reading; ASL interpretation will be provided during the reception. The catered offerings during our reception will include vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free, and Kosher choices. Books will be available for purchase via the SU Bookstore, at a discount. Prof. K. will sign copies at a spectacular table fitted with doggy pizzazz.

Stay tuned for updates about parking, and the poster!

*Have Dog, Will Travel: A Poet's Journey*

<http://www.simonandschuster.com/books/Have-Dog-Will-Travel/Stephen-Kuusisto/9781451689792>

## SU NEWS

Prof. Steve Kuusisto's Piece on Guide Dogs and Delta Airlines in 1.30.18 Huffington Post

[https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/opinion-kuusisto-delta-service-dogs\\_us\\_5a6f9fdce4b00d0de2232bfd?8kd](https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/opinion-kuusisto-delta-service-dogs_us_5a6f9fdce4b00d0de2232bfd?8kd)

## CALLS FOR PAPERS, CONFERENCES, PARTICIPANTS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Re-Imagining Bodyminds: A Five College Conference for Student Scholarship on Disability; Apply for Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>

### *Call for Submissions*

In spring 2018 the Smith College Program in American Studies and the Office of Disability Services, in conjunction with Smith College Departments for the Study of Women and Gender and Africana Studies and the Mount Holyoke Program in Critical Social Thought, will host the Five College Conference for Student Scholarship on Disability. This conference provides an opportunity for students interested in disability studies, culture, and activism to share their work and build community in a supportive environment. The conference will take place in the Smith Campus

Center from 11:00-9:00pm on March 30, 2018, with panels running from 11:00-5:30pm. The three panels will be comprised of 3-4 students each, with each student panelist presenting for 10 to 15 minutes. A brief Q+A will follow each panel.

We invite Five College students who are interested in presenting scholarly work they have done in classes on issues related to disability, accessibility, health, illness, or embodiment to apply.

Students can submit a version of a class paper, an independent study, or a senior thesis. We welcome explorations of disability from a range of disciplines and prioritize intersectional approaches. The conference will be particularly helpful for students considering applying to graduate school.

In conjunction with the conference, University of Wisconsin-Madison professor Sami Schalk will offer a keynote address at 7:00pm the same day. Schalk's talk will be drawn from her

new book *Bodyminds Reimagined*, which is forthcoming through Duke University Press in 2018. Bridging black feminist theory with disability studies, Schalk demonstrates the potential of speculative fiction to imagine bodyminds that transcend reality's limitations. Professor Schalk will serve as a respondent to the three student panels and will be available for informal discussion during a dinner with student panelists, which will be subsidized by the conference and take place from 5:30-6:30.

To Apply: By February 9th, 2018, please email a word document or PDF of the following to Sarah Orem at [sorem@smith.edu](mailto:sorem@smith.edu) with the subject line "Disability Studies Conference Submission."

- Your name, school year, major, and email address.
- An abstract of 250-350 words. The abstract should provide a clear, well-written preview of the work you'll be presenting. Strong abstracts will describe what text(s) or cultural artifacts the presentation will discuss, as well as the presenter's argument or reading of the text(s). Be sure to include a title!
- A brief bio of 100-150 words, which should describe your academic interests, anything notable you've worked on, or what you'd like to do with disability studies after college. Applicants will be notified of whether their abstract has been accepted by March 1st. Email Sarah Orem ([sorem@smith.edu](mailto:sorem@smith.edu)), Laura Rauscher ([lrausche@smith.edu](mailto:lrausche@smith.edu)) or Emma Cornwell ([ods@smith.edu](mailto:ods@smith.edu)) with questions.

<https://www.amherst.edu/offices/student-affairs/accessibility-services/re-imagining-bodyminds-a-five-college-conference-for-student-scholarship-on-disability>

### **One-Day Interdisciplinary Symposium at U Virginia: "Disability at the Intersection"; February 22nd**

<http://as.virginia.edu/disability-intersection>

### **CNIB National Youth Council Leadership Award Application Form-Deadline is May 4<sup>th</sup>**

*The National Youth Council* believes it is important to recognize youth who are blind and partially sighted and are reaching above and beyond to make a difference in their community, province, or country. The council would like to acknowledge the accomplishments of these leaders by offering an opportunity for them to share their impact. The person who shows the greatest leadership that reflects the National Youth Council mission and vision statements will be granted the Leadership Award.

Once a recipient has been selected, their accomplishments will be broadcasted on CNIB's social media. The recipient of the Leadership Award will be given a plaque and \$250 monetary prize during one of CNIB's Annual General Meetings to recognize their accomplishments. Travel, accommodation, and meal costs are covered for the recipient (and guest if the recipient is a minor).

*Eligibility and Application*

To be considered for the Leadership Award, applicants must be a CNIB client between 15 and 30 years of age and be reaching above and beyond to make a difference in their community, province, or country.

### *Application Form Instructions*

There are three sections to complete the Application Form. The National Youth Council requires a complete application package from interested candidates for consideration. Applicants must electronically complete the CNIB National Youth Council Leadership Award Application Form, write a personal statement, and obtain two Letters of Reference. The application form, personal statement, and two Letters of Reference are to be submitted together to [nationalyouthcouncil@cnib.ca](mailto:nationalyouthcouncil@cnib.ca) by Friday, May 4, 2018. If you have any questions, please contact [nationalyouthcouncil@cnib.ca](mailto:nationalyouthcouncil@cnib.ca)

#### Section One - Personal Information

Name:

Address:

Phone Number:

Email:

Age:

#### Section 2 - Personal Statement

For your personal statement, please describe what leadership means to you and give examples of events in your life when you have shown leadership. Attach your personal statement submission as a separate Word document. Submission should be typed in Verdana, size 14-point font and be a maximum of 1500 words.

#### Section 3 - Letters of Reference

Attach two Letters of Reference in your submission. One reference must be able to speak on behalf of the information in your personal statement. References cannot be family or friends. The CNIB National Youth Council thanks you for your submission.

<http://www.neads.ca/en/about/media/index.php?id=583>

Frank Smith

National Coordinator

National Educational Association of Disabled Students (NEADS)

Rm. 514 Unicentre, Carleton University

Ottawa, Ontario, K1S 5B6

[www.neads.ca](http://www.neads.ca)

<https://www.facebook.com/myNEADS/>

<https://www.canadahelps.org/dn/344>

### **CALL FOR SUPPORTED DECISION-MAKING FACILITATORS**

Supported Decision-Making New York (SDMNY) is recruiting volunteer facilitators for its pilot program sites in New York City, Westchester, Long Island, and Rochester.

SDMNY is a 5-year project by Hunter College/CUNY, the NY Alliance for Inclusion and Innovation, and Arc Westchester, in partnership with Disability Rights New York, and funded

by the NYS Developmental Disabilities Planning Council. By 2021, we hope that many persons with I/DD will be able to make more of their own decisions with support. To learn more, visit [www.sdmny.org](http://www.sdmny.org).

SDMNY facilitators will work one-on-one with persons with I/DD to help them create Supported Decision-Making Agreements with their chosen support persons. These Agreements are an important alternative to guardianship that may help persons with I/DD either avoid guardianship in the first place or make an important step towards regaining their rights.

SDMNY facilitators will be given a 10-hour training over 2 days at the Silberman School of Social Work, at 2180 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10035 on March 2nd (Day 1 session) and 3rd and 9th (identical Day 2 sessions), 2018, from 9am to 5pm. Attendance on both the Day 1 session and one of either Day 2 sessions is mandatory. Light breakfast and lunch will be provided.

SDMNY facilitators will be provided with SDMNY business cards, a training manual to guide them through the 3-phase pilot program process, and access to SDMNY's electronic progress tracking and educational tools. They will receive one-on-one mentoring by a trained SDMNY facilitator who has been through the process before. They will have the option of participating in monthly "community of practice" teleconferences to discuss their experiences with other new and experienced SDMNY facilitators.

SDMNY facilitators are expected to complete a sign-up form and commit to volunteering for approximately 3 to 4 hours per month over 12 months. At the end of 12 months, SDMNY facilitators will have helped a person with I/DD exercise the human right to make one's own decisions, regardless of disability.

To register for the March 2nd and 3rd/9th training, please visit [www.sdmny.org/event/tof3](http://www.sdmny.org/event/tof3). If you have questions about signing up and becoming part of the exciting Supported Decision-Making movement, please contact Joan Cornachio, SDMNY Education and Training Coordinator, at [joan.cornachio@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:joan.cornachio@hunter.cuny.edu) by no later than February 23, 2018.

## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Winter Wheelchair Basketball program

Come out and experience the fun & excitement of wheelchair basketball! Move Along, Inc. & The Syracuse Dept. of Parks & Recreation invite you to come join them this season. We will be holding clinic sessions & weekly scrimmages starting this TUESDAY starting at 5:00 pm at the Magnarelli Center in Mc Chesney Park, 2308 Grant Boulevard at Pond Street, Syracuse, NY.

Our program is designed for both beginners & experienced players of all ages and abilities! Come on out to and give it a try to find out how much fun wheelchair basketball can be!

Come on out and give it a try!

-Jeff Wright (MoveAlong, Inc.)

## **NCD Employment Opportunity: Public Affairs Specialist**

NCD is looking for a Public Affairs Specialist to join its Legislative Affairs and Outreach team. Please read the entire job listing and apply online at: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/489568300>

### *Public Affairs Specialist*

Open & closing dates: 01/29/2018 to 02/05/2018

Salary: \$81,548 to \$106,012 per year

Pay scale & grade: GS 12

Work schedule: Full-Time

Appointment type: Permanent

Locations: 1 vacancy in Washington, DC

Relocation expenses reimbursed: No

This job is open to the public (U.S. citizens, nationals or those who owe allegiance to the U.S., and excepted service employees.)

Announcement number: CK-10109008-VG

Control number: 489568300

### **DUTIES**

#### **Summary**

This position serves as the Government Communications Specialist in the Legislative Affairs and Outreach (LAO) team for the National Council on Disability (NCD), an independent federal agency, subject to the provisions of title 5 USC and established by the Vocational Rehabilitation Act, as amended in 1978, and the Rehabilitation Amendments of 1984 (PL 21), dated February 22, 1984. The NCD staff supports the Council which is comprised of 9 members appointed by the President and Congress. The Council's principal purpose is to advise the President, the Congress, and other federal agencies on matters that affect the lives of people with disabilities, with the aim of promoting full inclusion, independence and equality of opportunity for people with disabilities. To facilitate policy research and recommendations, NCD maintains continuing liaison with stakeholder groups, to include individuals and organizations from the disability community and officials and persons from advocacy groups, national, state, tribal and local level entities.

**SPECIAL NOTATION: PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY**

Federal agencies must provide reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities where appropriate. Applicants requiring reasonable accommodation for any part of the

application and hiring process should contact the hiring agency directly. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

NCD is committed to actively recruiting and retaining qualified people with disabilities and encourages people with disabilities to apply for this vacancy.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

Duties include but are not limited to the following:

- \* Researches, writes and edits news releases, speeches, position papers, fact sheets, talking points, and other agency materials that clearly communicate NCD policy positions and foster open communication with other federal agencies and NCD stakeholders.

- \* Manages and creates content for NCD's email lists and social media platforms consistent with NCD's planned projects and activities and policy positions; as well as with federal rules and regulations governing government use of social media.

- \* Uses digital images (with accompanying alt-text), video (with captions), and graphics to create original and compelling social media and digital content that engages followers.

- \* Responds to inquiries and questions about NCD's policy positions and current projects from NCD stakeholders and the media.

- \* Maintains regular contact with other federal agencies regarding NCD's policy recommendations and underway projects, organizing meetings with federal colleagues on behalf of other NCD staff and Council Members regarding NCD policy positions, as appropriate.

- \* Monitors and analyzes proposed, new, or amended regulations, suggesting and drafting NCD responses as appropriate.

Supervisory status: No

Promotion Potential: GS-13

View the rest of the job listing and apply at: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/489568300>

## **DREAM Weekly: Disability and Higher Education News for January 21-27<sup>th</sup>**

<https://www.dreamcollegedisability.org/this-weeks-news-in-disability-and-higher-education>

## **Students With Disabilities Are Largely Ignored by Colleges' Assault Prevention, Study Finds**

[https://www.chronicle.com/article/Students-With-Disabilities-Are/242400?cid=at&utm\\_source=at&utm\\_medium=en&elqTrackId=7b940681ba8c4860a87f2f713a79de39&elq=0c776308289f41b38c3d0a6c5ab91022&elqaid=17685&elqat=1&elqCampaignId=7786](https://www.chronicle.com/article/Students-With-Disabilities-Are/242400?cid=at&utm_source=at&utm_medium=en&elqTrackId=7b940681ba8c4860a87f2f713a79de39&elq=0c776308289f41b38c3d0a6c5ab91022&elqaid=17685&elqat=1&elqCampaignId=7786)

## **Student Sexual Assault Victims with Disabilities: NCD Study Released**

Report: "Not on the Radar: Sexual Assault of College Students with Disabilities" is available for download at: <http://www.ncd.gov/publications/2018/sexual-assault-college-students-disabilities>

Begin forwarded message:

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From: Anne Sommers for the National Council on Disability <[asommers@NCD.GOV](mailto:asommers@NCD.GOV)>

Date: January 31, 2018

January 30, 2018

Washington, DC - The National Council on Disability (NCD) - an independent federal advisory body - today will release and discuss the results of a national study on college sexual assault policies and federal research as they pertain to student victims with disabilities during a policy briefing sponsored by the American University Sexual Assault Working Group. The briefing will take place at American University.

NCD's study found that students with disabilities are not "on the radar" of colleges in their sexual assault prevention efforts, policies, or procedures for response and support after an assault. This includes the absence of procedures to communicate with victims who are Deaf or hard of hearing and inaccessible support services for students with mobility disabilities. NCD's study further found that students with disabilities are invisible in federal research programs on campus sexual assault. These findings are against the backdrop of a recent study by the Association of American Universities that revealed that 31.6 percent of undergraduate females with disabilities reported nonconsensual sexual contact involving physical force or incapacitation, compared to 18.4 percent of undergraduate females without a disability.

The findings and recommendations in the resulting report, *Not on the Radar: Sexual Assault of College Students with Disabilities*, are the product of interviews with experts on sexual assault on college campuses, experts on sexual abuse against people with disabilities, college professionals and staff, Title IX coordinators, and sexual assault services administrators; as well as two national questionnaires that included college students with disabilities. Colleges that participated came from 14 states and the District of Columbia, 7 of 10 federal regions, 2-year and 4-year colleges, and both private and public.

"Sexual assault has become a topic of concern on campuses and with the #MeToo and #TimesUp movements, but seldom has the conversation included consideration of the needs of college students with disabilities," said Wendy Harbour, NCD Council Member and Director of the National Center for College Students with Disabilities. "One campus said students with disabilities were not 'on their radar,' but it's time to change that and make national conversations more inclusive."

## Report Quick Takes:

\*Colleges lack policies and procedures to ensure disability-related supports are readily available to students to communicate with sexual assault first responders.

\*Campus assault prevention and education programs are not inclusive of students with disabilities, and college staff lack awareness that such programs should be accessible to students with disabilities, and staff are not trained in disability accommodations.

\*Based on the colleges that participated in NCD's research, no mention of accommodations was made on any of the reviewed Title IX websites, which include vital information to students regarding sexual assault policies of schools.

\*Federal research studies on sexual assault on college campuses, funded by the Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women and the National Institute of Justice, have not included disability as a demographic as they have race, nationality, and sexual orientation.

\*There is an absence of collaboration between campus organizations for students with disabilities and sexual violence survivor groups, limiting opportunities for cultural competence and increased awareness.

## Report Recommendations:

A small sampling of the report's recommendations includes:

\*NCD recommends that Congress amend the Clery Act to:

- Require colleges to collect the number of all reported sexual assaults on students with disabilities and include this information in their annual security report.

- Require colleges to include a description of disability-related accommodations available to students with disabilities who have experienced sexual assault in their descriptions of procedures that schools will follow once an incident of domestic or dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking occurs.

- Require memoranda of understanding between colleges and local law enforcement to include protocols for communicating with students who are Deaf.

\*NCD recommends that the Department of Education (ED) develop and publish a technical assistance document or training for colleges on the rights of students with disabilities to have necessary accommodations in the process of reporting assault, utilizing sexual assault support services, and in the institutional disciplinary process.

\*NCD recommends that the ED Office for Civil Rights should inform colleges that they must provide required Title IX information in accessible formats to students with disabilities.

\*NCD recommends that the Department of Justice (DOJ) Bureau of Justice Statistics should include students with disabilities as a demographic when conducting research on sexual assault on college campuses.

\*NCD recommends that the DOJ funded Center for Campus Public Safety should include information on disability, including communicating with victims who are Deaf or hard of hearing, in their trauma-informed training programs for school officials and campus and local law enforcement.

Report: "Not on the Radar: Sexual Assault of College Students with Disabilities" is available for download at: <http://www.ncd.gov/publications/2018/sexual-assault-college-students-disabilities>

## **Disability, Culture and Identity Available on Bookshare**

<https://www.bookshare.org/browse/book/1890175?returnPath=L2Jyb3dzZS9sYXRlc3Q%2FbW9kdWxLTmFtZT1wdWJsaWM%3D>

## **Disability in Higher Education: A Social Justice Approach | Higher Ed Live**

[http://higheredlive.com/disability-in-higher-education-a-social-justice-perspective/?utm\\_campaign=HEL%20Newsletter&utm\\_source=hs\\_email&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=60277269&\\_hsenc=p2ANqtz-9ZlZnJhizpmCdHlKyFPigJhAjiZM2QNUfQPr\\_\\_lOx1McBo1adlnyceeljA\\_MKCFBkTo3FGkDnmtCgHO1YureFFra9HsQ&\\_hsmi=60277269](http://higheredlive.com/disability-in-higher-education-a-social-justice-perspective/?utm_campaign=HEL%20Newsletter&utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&utm_content=60277269&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-9ZlZnJhizpmCdHlKyFPigJhAjiZM2QNUfQPr__lOx1McBo1adlnyceeljA_MKCFBkTo3FGkDnmtCgHO1YureFFra9HsQ&_hsmi=60277269)

## **'White Supremacists Are Targeting College Campuses Like Never Before' - The Chronicle of Higher Education**

[https://www.chronicle.com/article/White-Supremacists-Are/242403?cid=at&utm\\_source=at&utm\\_medium=en&elqTrackId=e5e61b2b6d3e4f6dabb6923adeed4e1&elq=0c776308289f41b38c3d0a6c5ab91022&elqaid=17685&elqat=1&elqCampaignId=7786](https://www.chronicle.com/article/White-Supremacists-Are/242403?cid=at&utm_source=at&utm_medium=en&elqTrackId=e5e61b2b6d3e4f6dabb6923adeed4e1&elq=0c776308289f41b38c3d0a6c5ab91022&elqaid=17685&elqat=1&elqCampaignId=7786)

## Save the ADA: Proposed Legislation is Threatening Our Freedom & Dignity

*United Spinal Association* and *Long Island Center for Independent Living, Inc.*, have teamed up to make you aware of a threat to your freedom and dignity. The ADA Education and Reform Act (H.R. 620), co-sponsored by Long Island Representative Kathleen Rice, would turn people with disabilities into second-class citizens by ending years of mandatory accessibility compliance.

She is the only Democratic member of Congress from New York on the bill and we must have her pull her sponsorship.

Click To Ask Representative Rice To Remove Herself As A Sponsor: <https://www.unitedspinal.org/advocacy-action/?vsrc=%2fcampaigns%2f54723%2frespond>

Since 1990, the ADA has required businesses to remove barriers if barrier removal can be accomplished in a readily achievable manner.

The Harm In H.R. 620:

- It requires individuals who cannot access a business, theater, restaurant, stadium, etc., to provide written notice of the specific ADA violation complained of to the proprietor.
- If passed, businesses will have no incentive to comply with the ADA because until notice is received, businesses no longer have an obligation to remove barriers. The business will have 60 days to acknowledge the problem and another 120 to begin to remove barriers.
- Discrimination is real. Those who support H.R. 620 are denying the everyday experiences of millions with disabilities who cannot shop, transact personal business, or recreate because many public accommodations have failed to comply with the ADA.

Why should a wheelchair user be unable to join family members at a restaurant because its owner has failed to ramp the entrance for 27 years? Shouldn't a wheelchair user be able to file a complaint immediately and not have to wait 6 months after providing written notice? No other minority groups must provide notice before they can assert their rights under any civil rights statute.

Representative Rice mistakenly believes that H.R. 620 will stop a few unscrupulous attorneys who file complaints against businesses not to get barriers removed but to extort attorney's fees. In fact, those attorneys will just wait the six months required by H.R. 620 and continue to extort fees.

There are state laws which can be used to punish attorneys who file frivolous/extortive claims. Businesses should be educated, first, to comply with the ADA, and second, about how to pursue dishonest attorneys seeking fees instead of justice.

Thank you in advance for being an advocate.

James Weisman

President & CEO

United Spinal Association

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