

Katie B. Halbruner

Education

Masters of Arts, Educational Psychology: Special Education
University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

May 2014

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology, Anthropology
University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

May 2010

Professional Experience

Disability Specialist

May 2014-present

Center for Students with Disabilities, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

- Review and maintain confidential medical documentation and supporting information for students with disabilities registered with the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD), in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974
- Navigate individualized accommodation requests and identify any needs for assistive technology, academic support services, or campus resources, through interpretation of a student's documentation and supporting information
- Engage in an interactive process with students, faculty, and/or staff to ensure receipt of accommodation and access to their educational program and understand the essential components of a course or program
- Communicate with faculty, staff, and parent populations on an as needed basis to enhance student support network and assist with transference of information as determined appropriate by the student
- Working knowledge of the civil rights legislation protecting individuals with disabilities from discrimination including Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 & Amendments Act of 2008, as well as legislation to students protect students in higher education including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972
- Assist in planning and organizing initiations, events, meetings, and communications as Campus Advisor to the Delta Alpha Pi, International Honor Society, Alpha Rho Chapter at the University of Connecticut
- Coordinate and serve as contact for the Sunshine Fund, which includes collecting funds and maintaining receipts and transactions for the CSD's special occasions
- Regularly update the CSD's social media site to share updates, news, events, resources and other pertinent information about the CSD and University
- Updated and adapted materials to create an Accessibility Checklist and Appendix that is shared for those planning meetings or events at the University to ensure accessibility
- Co-coordinating campus wide and CSD events for the CSD's 50th Anniversary celebration for academic year 2017-2018

Graduate Assistant

Aug 2012-May 2014

Center for Students with Disabilities, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

- Strategy Instructor for students enrolled in the CSD's Beyond Access (BA) program, which required weekly one-to-one meetings, from one to three hours per student, to work towards achieving identified semester goals
- Aided BA students on implementing individualized learning strategies into their academic and/or social environments, evaluated usage and efficacy of strategies, and monitored their academic progress through use of a grade tracker
- Disability Specialist for a small caseload of students with disabilities registered with the CSD (approximately 35 students), starting in August, 2013, and reviewed and maintained confidential medical documentation and supporting information to navigate accommodation requests

- Co-presenter with colleagues to promote greater understanding and awareness of the CSD and BA program for various groups such as Resident Assistants, Peer Educators, orientation groups, and various University offices and departments
- Regularly updated CSD's website to share information about CSD or University events, resources, scholarships, and disability-specific organizations
- Organized transportation and provided supervision for students of the CSD to attend the Equal Opportunity Publishing Career Expo in Boston, MA in April
- Raised awareness of the National Disability Employment Awareness Month (October) by developing and distributing a weekly newsletter to colleagues

Graduate Student Technician

May-Jul 2012 & 2013

Academic Services Center, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

- Educated incoming first-year and transfer students during Orientation sessions on the University's General Education Requirements, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) requirements, major/minor requirements, types of degrees, pre-medical and pre-dental requirements, and PeopleSoft student administration system
- Assisted students with the creation of their own individualized schedules for the upcoming academic year on PeopleSoft, through course selection based on their major(s) and/or minor(s)
- Motivated students to make appointments with major advisors, explore additional majors and/or minors based on interests, and become involved in campus programs and activities

Graduate Student

Dec 2011-Aug 2012

Center for Students with Disabilities, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

- Compiled resources and created worksheets for the newly created Connect4 program, which focused on developing career plans and creating access to career services for students with disabilities. Topics included: self-awareness and determination, campus and community engagement, resume building, informational interviewing and job shadowing, interviewing, and disability disclosure and disability rights
- Piloted the Connect 4 program with one student through weekly, one-hour, one-to-one meetings during the spring 2012 semester to evaluate the use and effectiveness of strategies and materials
- Edited and adapted learning strategies from previous individualized Beyond Access programs into one cohesive electronic file and blended in Connect 4 materials to incorporate career development and planning

Personal Support

Jun 2009-2013

Connecticut Department of Developmental Services (DDS)-Personal Hire, Mansfield, CT

- Assisted a 30-year old male client with an intellectual disability with developing his self-help and daily living skills, including but not limited to, preparing and choosing meals on a gluten-free diet, dishes, laundry, yard work, vacuuming, tidying, and preparing for the next day
- Responsible for providing transportation from work to home, community events, and appointments, and ensuring the home environment was safe and secure
- Supported client in gaining community access through University of Connecticut events, Best Buddies, Inc., Special Olympics events, exercise, shopping, dances, and other recreational activities

Support Coach, Supportive Employment

Sep 2010- Jul 2012

Horizons, Inc., South Windham, CT

- Modeled and taught the fundamental professional and social skills for individuals with disabilities in a variety of employment settings to create environments for growth and development
- Provided individualized programming through multi-modal communication and by identifying strengths and enhancing these through positive reinforcement and redirection skills
- Transported individuals to and from employment sites, assisted with toileting, hygiene, and daily self-help skills, and maintained daily logs to monitor individual's progress and behaviors

Committees/Memberships

Member, CLAS Academic Dismissal Committee, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT	May 2015-present
Member, Advisory Council, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT	Nov 2014- present
Member, Suicide Prevention Committee, University of Connecticut, Storrs CT	Nov 2014- present
Campus Advisor, Delta Alpha Pi International Honor Society, Storrs, CT	Oct 2014-present
Member, Connecticut Association on Higher Education and Disability (CT AHEAD)	Oct 2014-present

Conference Presentations

Co-Presenter, Postsecondary Disability Training Institute, Philadelphia, PA "Implementing the Council for the Advancement of Standards (CAS) in Higher Education for Disability Resources & Services"	Jun 2016
Co-Presenter, Postsecondary Disability Training Institute, Boston, MA "Implementing the Council for the Advancement of Standards (CAS) in Higher Education for Disability Resources & Services"	Jun 2015
Presenter, University Event Planners Conference, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT "Accessible University Events"	Jan 2015
Co-Presenter, Postsecondary Disability Training Institute, Philadelphia, PA "A Holistic Approach to Studying"	Jun 2014

Professional Distinctions & Skills

Member, Pi Lambda Theta, Beta Sigma Chapter, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT	Nov 2013- present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Member of the UConn Beta Sigma Chapter of Pi Lambda Theta, an international honor society and professional association in education by through outstanding academic achievement in my Master's Degree through the NEAG School of Education	
Strengths Educator, Clifton Strengths School, Gallup, Inc.	Oct 2012-present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Completed Strengths CSS 101HE course to become knowledgeable in the Strengths Quest assessment, which teaches students how to utilize their strengths in leadership roles, personal and career development, relationship building, and identify strengths in others	

Proficiencies: Microsoft Office, Google Apps, PeopleSoft Student Administration System, Online Case Management System

Publications

Kalichman, Seth C., Hudd, Katie, & DiBerto, Giorgio. Operational Fidelity to an Evidence-Based HIV Prevention Intervention for People Living with HIV/AIDS. *The Journal of Primary Prevention*. 2010 Aug; 31(4):235-45.
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20582629>

Teaching Experience

Instructor- University Learning Skills (UNIV 1800) <i>University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT</i>	Fall 2014
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Co-taught this first year experience course which is intended to acquaint students with the University and expand upon their learning experiences to assist in their adjustment to the new expectations of post-secondary education	