

**SHANNON MELIDEO**  
Marymount University, United States

**CULTIVATING INSTITUTIONAL DEXTERITY FOR SERVING  
STUDENTS WITH ASD: THE UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATOR'S  
CONSCIENTIOUS, INTERTEMPORAL DECISION**

**Abstract:**

Whether institutions of higher education currently serve students with Autism Spectrum Disorders(ASD) or not, they all will. Between 1-2% of the population world-wide has ASD. More and more college-age students with ASD are aspiring to attend a secondary educational experience. Many have been successful in the Kindergarten through high school graduation due to the outstanding preparation, training, and support in place in the U.S. K-12 educational system. It is in a university's best interest to provide professional development about working with students with ASD for faculty and staff now in preparation on a newer demographic of students that had not attended college in the recent past. This presentation will deliver current research and a sample training deliverable.

**Keywords:**

ASD  
Autism Spectrum Disorders  
inclusion  
educational equity  
academic accessibility