



PRE-EMPLOYMENT TRANSITION SERVICE
presents

Transition Tuesdays

every Tuesday in May

Join educators, specialists and professionals every Tuesday in May

Free weekly webinars will be live
from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm
Recordings available from
6:00 to 7:30 pm

Tuesday, May 4, 2021
James Martin, PhD
presents
**Self-Determination:
The Engine Powering Transition
Planning and Education**



MAY 11

Virtual Work-Based Learning

Amber E. McConnell,
PhD
and
Jessica Elliott

MAY 18

A Legal Perspective:
Student's rights to
special education,
including transition
services, the
importance of
measurable goals and
the impact of COVID

Judith Weinstock

MAY 25

Promoting Delivery of
Pre-ETS
Inside and Outside
Educational Settings

Andrew Lowney

Register Now:

<https://oklahoma.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJIpufumsqzljGdNcI4C1sHNh0OsH4kd3YFaB>

After registering, a confirmation email will be received containing information about joining the meeting. The same link will be utilized for all May training sessions. For questions contact: Judi Goldston at jgoldston@ou.edu

Session Descriptions

Transition Tuesday May 4, 2021

Webinar 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Recording available 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Self-Determination: The Engine Powering Transition Planning and Education **James Martin, Ph.D.**

Presentation Abstract:

Consider self-determination as the engine powering transition planning and education. Self-determination exists as a philosophy, skills, and strategies to teach essential behaviors. Research clearly demonstrates individuals who are more self-determined do better in school and attain better post-high school further education and employment outcomes. During this webinar self-determination will be explained, its essential role in transition planning and education will be profiled, and methods to teach essential self-determination skills will be discussed.

James Martin, Ph.D. is the Emeritus Zarrow Family Professor and Chair at the University of Oklahoma, Department of Educational Psychology. He founded and directed OU's Zarrow Center from 2000 through 2018. Dr. Martin earned his Ph.D. in Special Education from the University of Illinois with a focus on secondary transition. His professional interests focus upon the transition of youth with disabilities from high school into postsecondary education and the work force and facilitating success in high school and postsecondary environments. Professor Martin has authored several books, numerous chapters for edited books, journal articles, several curriculum lesson packages, and instructional assessments. Most recently, he and colleagues co-authored the on-line *Transition Assessment and Goal Generator* (TAGG) and was nominate for the OU graduate student mentoring award. Dr. Martin is a Past-President of CEC's Division on Career Development and Transition.

Transition Tuesday May 11, 2021

Webinar 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Recording available 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Virtual Work-Based Learning **Amber E. McConnell, Ph.D. & Jessica Elliott**

Amber E. McConnell, Ph.D.

Senior Extension Associate
Director of TAP for Transition

Jessica Elliott, MS

Extension Associate

Yang-Tan Institute on Employment and Disability
ILR School Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

Presentation Abstract:

Now more than ever, professionals need virtual resources to provide students with disabilities meaningful Work-Based Learning Experiences (WBLEs). While research has begun in this area, there are few resources available with identified tools and strategies to facilitate virtual work-based learning. In this Transition Tuesday, we will explore differences between virtual and remote WBLEs, resources to assist with virtual WBLE, and applied strategies to ensure virtual and remote WBLEs are successful for all involved.

Amber E. McConnell, Ph.D., is the Program Director for Transition and Education Programs at the Yang-Tan Institute on Employment and Disability. She currently serves as the Director of the Transition Technical Assistance Partnership at YTI funded by the New York State Department of Special Education. She has published multiple research studies in academic journals and has presented her work at local, state, and national conferences. Amber has contracted with four states to provide professional development and technical assistance to Special Educators in the areas of self-determination, transition, and student involvement in the IEP process. Amber is passionate about incorporating transition skills into academic curriculum and integrating research-based nonacademic skills into academic standards instruction to improve post-school outcomes. Amber believes in a holistic approach to preparing students with disabilities for life after high school that blends relationship skills, self-determination, job skill development, and knowledge acquisition.

Jessica Elliott is a Transition Associate at the Cornell University Yang Tan Institute on Employment and Disability. She received her master's degree from Sage Graduate School and has worked in school counseling, employment services, and across the state of New York for NYS PROMISE. In her role with PROMISE, Jessica was responsible for project management and oversight of the day-to-day operations and direct supervision of a team over twenty staff members. She served as lead trainer for the New York Employment Services System and trained employment providers across the state on the SSA Ticket to Work program and the effective use of SSA work incentives. Currently, she develops training packages and provides professional development for Transition Specialists and Family and Community Engagement Centers across New York state. Jessica has a strong passion for ensuring youth with disabilities transition into adulthood as integrated members of our community.

Transition Tuesday May 18, 2021

Webinar 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Recording available 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

A Legal Perspective:

Student's rights to special education, including transition services, the importance of measurable goals and the impact of COVID.

Judith Weinstock

Parles Rekem Law Firm

Presentation Abstract:

This presentation will clarify the fundamental legal obligations of public schools to provide a free appropriate education to students with special needs, including transition services to facilitate the student's progress from school to post-school activities, including post-secondary education, vocational training, employment, independent living, and community participation. We will emphasize the importance of the legally requisite measurable goals and objectives in a student's IEP and transition program. Finally, we will discuss the impact COVID has had on special education services in New Jersey and the continued obligation of public schools to provide special services and instruction pursuant to federal and state guidance.

Judith Weinstock is a practicing attorney committed to representing and advocating on behalf of individuals with special needs and their families in the areas of special education, early intervention, transition and adult services, residential placements, and guardianships. An experienced attorney, Ms. Weinstock graduated Rutgers School of Law-Camden with high honors, and clerked for the Honorable John J. Hughes (Ret.), Magistrate Judge, United States District Court, District of New Jersey, and the Honorable Gary S. Stein (Ret.), New Jersey Supreme Court. Prior to practicing special education and special needs law, Ms. Weinstock practiced environmental law for seven years in New Jersey and worked for several years at Weil Gotshal & Manges before taking time off to raise her three children, one of whom is diagnosed with AD/HD and the other two with CAPD. Her experience advocating for her sons led to her interest in advocacy for children with special educational needs. Ms. Weinstock, a passionate, persistent advocate, is committed to ensuring that the rights and protections of families and their children with disabilities are not denied.

Transition Tuesday May 25, 2021

Webinar 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Recording available 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

**Promoting Delivery of Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS)
Inside and outside of Educational Settings**

**Andrew Lowney
Montana Pre-ETS Project**

Learn about Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) in Montana. This webinar will introduce families and professionals to the concept and help them understand how to access Pre-ETS. Participants will learn how Vocational Rehabilitation, high schools, Community Rehabilitation Programs, Independent Living Centers, universities and other programs are working together to help students with disabilities prepare for life after high school. Presenters will share examples of how students with the most significant impact of disability are receiving Pre-ETS, as well as special projects in Montana that were developed to ensure that all students in Montana have an opportunity to access pre-ETS.

Andrew Lowney

Andrew Lowney is a Pre-ETS Program Specialist in the state of Montana. Andrew has a Master of Science in Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling, as well as a CRC certification. Andrew has been with MT Vocational Rehabilitation since June 2015, starting out as a general Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, then shifting into his current role as a Pre-ETS Program Specialist for the Missoula Region. He was recognized as the Montana Rehabilitation Counselor of the Year in 2018, and for the Outstanding Pre-ETS Case of the Year for the 2019-2020 program year. Andrew has experience working with students with various disabilities, as well as schools of all sizes. Andrew has assisted with various pre-ETS programs and projects in school settings, and out-of-school settings.