



Virginia Collaborative for College



October 2010



Purpose

Under a Think College mini grant from the Association of University Centers of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, the Virginia Collaborative for College developed Virginia's 3 year strategic plan for an inclusive, individualized approach to postsecondary education for students with ID/DD

Members

Arc of Northern Virginia	Elaine Eisenbaum
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Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center (and parent)	Cathy Healy
Self Advocate	Sara Rhu
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Self Advocate	Matt Shapiro
Self Advocate	Jill Egle
State Council of Higher Education, Virginia	Gary Krapf
Virginia Board for People with Disabilities (DD Council)	Katherine Lawson
Virginia Commonwealth University	Dr. Donna Gilles & Dr. Colleen Thoma
Virginia Community College System	Jennifer Allman & Mike Taylor
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Virginia Department of Education Training & Technical Assistance Center (and parent)	Kathe Wittig
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Staff:	
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Outcomes

Over a period of 8 months, the Virginia Collaborative for College met every 6 weeks to:

- come to consensus on future core strategies that provide direction for an individualized, inclusive approach to postsecondary education in Virginia
- think about what they do and how to coordinate their work with, and promote the vision of, the Virginia Collaborative for College



Vision Statement

Individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities have inclusive, individualized and authentic postsecondary experiences on Virginia college and university campuses that lead to successful career and life paths.



Principles

- Awareness exists about the need for inclusive postsecondary opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- Students with intellectual and developmental disabilities routinely choose to pursue postsecondary education opportunities in preparation of having a career of their choice.
- Virginia colleges/universities are supported in offering individualized and diverse opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to benefit from higher education.



Principles

- A climate is fostered of learning experiences within an inclusive postsecondary educational setting for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, university students, faculty, and staff.
- A braiding and blending of funds, resources and policies exists and is no longer a barrier to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities pursuing higher education.



For more information on the Virginia Collaborative for College or Virginia's grant from the Office of Postsecondary Education, please contact:

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