

Letting Go

The Transition from High School to College



Presentation Content:

Summary of our Findings

Student Presentation

Question & Answer

Presentation October 18, 2018 by David Baughman and Tasha Wahl, South Pasadena High School Special Education Department, sponsored by South Pasadena Council PTA Special Needs Committee.

Background Information

Data Collection

- Conducted 13 interviews with DRC Directors and Counselors
- Toured 12 campus facilities



Disability Resource Centers (DRC)

AKA: Disabled Student Programs, Center for Accessible Education, Disability Accommodations and Support Services, etc.

Primary Function:

- Services for students with permanent & temporary disabilities (concussions, bike accidents)
- Ensure Equal Opportunity to all aspects of campus life (Cal Poly SLO)
- Provide assistance to students in the removal of any physical, academic or attitudinal barriers (UCSB)

Colleges and Universities We Visited

California Colleges & Universities:

- CSULA
- CSUN
- Cal Poly (SLO)
- Cal State Channel Islands
- UCLA
- UCSB
- USC
- Mt. St. Mary's (Chalon Campus)
- Cuesta College
- Santa Barbara Community College
- PCC



Out of State Universities:

Arizona:

- Northern Arizona University
- University of Arizona
- Arizona State University (Downtown Campus)

Vermont:

- Landmark College

High School

vs.

College

- IDEA = progress/success
- Tracking = case manager, online grades, parent communication
- Information = student profile sent to all staff (includes disability, goals, and accommodations)
- Physical Environment = students navigate a few buildings and return home to eat and sleep
- Tests = reminders before tests and can allow for make-up tests
- Accommodations = to help ensure success, which may lead to modifications

- ADA = access
- Tracking = disability specialist, no parent communication
- Information = professors are only aware of accommodations and not the disability
- Physical Environment = students navigate a much larger campus with multiple buildings and set their own eating/sleeping schedule
- Tests = students are responsible to follow the course syllabus and deadlines are not adjusted
- Accommodations = “reasonable accommodations”

Providing “Reasonable Accommodations”

- **Level the Playing Field:** provide students with ability to reach full potential.
- **Equal opportunity** to service and curriculum
- **Supported by** documentation & self-reporting
- **Student Activated:** may need to request every quarter and/or test
- **Individualized**
- **Unreasonable Accommodation:** making a “substantial change to essential elements of the curriculum” (UCSB)

The Good News...

Technology Options & Testing Centers

- **Variety of technology and software for note-taking support**
 - Smart Pens
 - Sonoset Software (UCLA)
 - Kuzweil Software (active reading options)
 - Note-taker notes available online
- **Test Centers**
 - Video taped
 - Small Group Testing Rooms
 - Private Rooms



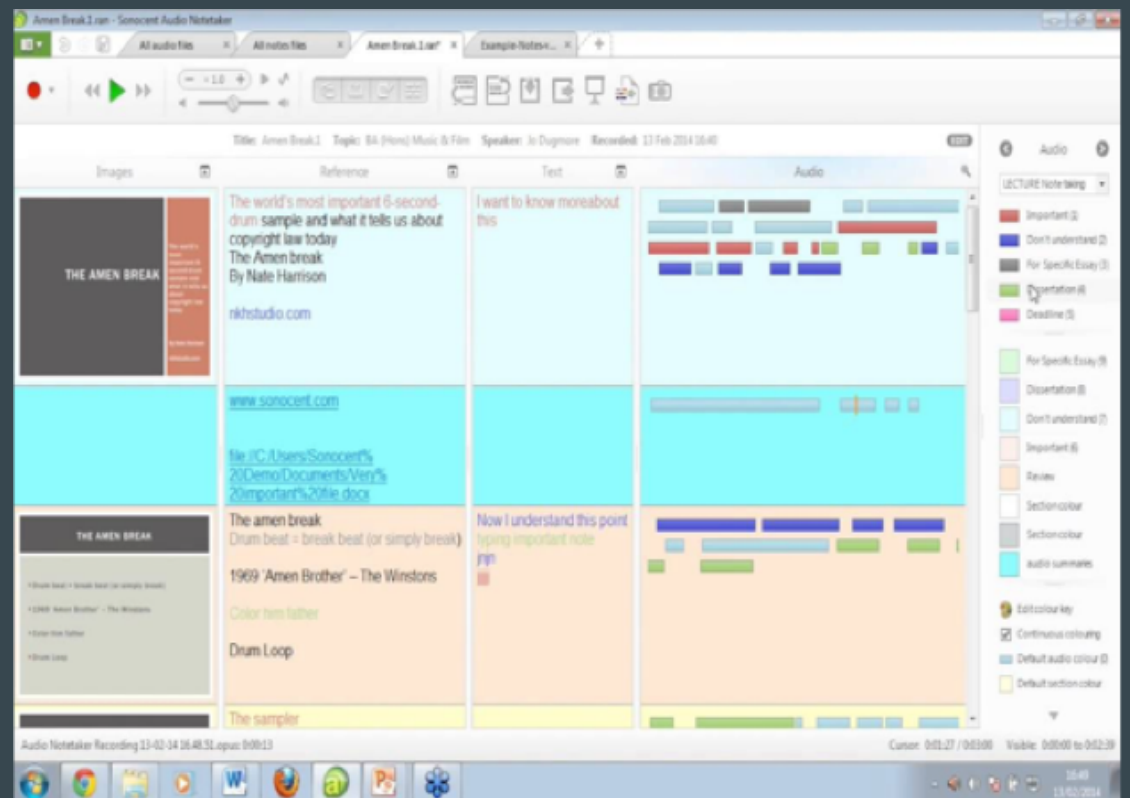
More Pics of CSUCI (because we are totally envious)



Common Accommodations at the College Setting:

- Extra Time up to 50% (tests)
- Note Taking Support
- Audio versions of books and course materials
- Priority Registration
- Assistive Technology
- Physical Space Accessible
- Some Residential Accommodations

Screenshot of Sonocent Lecture Notes



Common Threads



- Community Colleges are more flexible
- Space and Staffing can be areas of concern
- Use of online system to organize and request accommodations
- Students with Learning Disabilities and attention related issues comprise the majority of students requesting services
- Rise in students with anxiety and depression related disorders
- Consequently, a rise in students requesting ESAs -- Fair Housing Issue, more than ADA
- Most DRC employees have Psychology backgrounds, not Special Education

Universal Access: **A Driving Philosophy**

- DRC does not offer tutoring programs specific to those with disabilities
- They will ensure that university-wide tutoring and writing centers are accessible to all students
- The idea is to make things seamless -- post notes online for all, make formulas available to all, build classes with desks that are accessible etc.
- Can prove highly successful: DASS students at CSUCI have a higher rate of graduation



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
SALT Center



USC

Kortschak Center *for*
Learning and Creativity

Closing Thoughts

- Wide Spectrum of Service and Programs: Find the Best Fit for your child.
- Register for Accommodations Early - Don't wait till midterms or try to make it without accommodations.
- ALL staff we met were supportive and invested in student success