



Hussman Center for Adults with Autism

Town Hall

1.12.2021





General Meeting Notes

- Questions- Please use the chat feature and we will address them accordingly during the Q & A time near the end.
- Our Agenda
 - IWB & Hussman Center Overview
 - Review of Programming for Spring 2021- Zosia Zaks
 - Review of Social Groups- Rufus Platt
 - Review of Forms and Payments- Cameron Shultz-Lutwyche
 - Question & Answer Time
 - CAPS Overview- Jen Beard

Institute for Well-Being

- **Hussman Center for Adults with Autism**
 - Started with a gift from the Erdman family
 - Developed in collaboration with adults on the autism spectrum, their families, and the community
 - Embraced perspectives of inclusion, presumed competence, engagement, honoring of neurodiversity
 - Enhanced by a gift from the Hussman Foundation that provided an endowment and led to the naming of the Center.
- **Hearing & Balance Center**
- **Occupational Therapy Center**
- **Speech & Language Center**



Vision

The Hussman Center for Adults with Autism strives to enhance opportunities for adults with autism to live as fully engaged members of their communities.



Mission

- The center enhances opportunities for adults with autism to be fully engaged members of their communities through its activities in four core areas, all of which occur in collaboration with adults with autism:
 - Integrating meaningful programs and activities for adults with autism and educational experiences for students and professionals.
 - Evaluating and disseminating programs that use best practices and have high value to adults with autism.
 - Conducting faculty-student research that addresses the needs and priorities of adults with autism.
 - Serving as a resource to the campus, the surrounding community, and beyond regarding approaches that are inclusive and enhance the achievement of self-determined goals by adults with autism.

Meeting the Mission

- Integrating meaningful programs and activities for adults with autism and educational experiences for students and professionals.
 - Throughout the school year, our programs and social groups provide opportunities for learning and growth for adults with autism and their TU allies. We have up to 200 students, graduate and undergraduate participating in programs across the school year. Over 150 adults with autism participate in programs.
- Evaluating and disseminating programs that use best practices and have high value to adults with autism.
 - We seek input and feedback from adults with autism about their experiences within the programs to help plan for and facilitate higher-quality programming.



Meeting the Mission

- Conducting faculty-student research that addresses the needs and priorities of adults with autism.
 - We collaborate with multiple departments across Towson University to conduct research and thoroughly examine the results to better our practice.
- Serving as a resource to the campus, the surrounding community, and beyond regarding approaches that are inclusive and enhance the achievement of self-determined goals by adults with autism.
 - Through collaboration with departments, student involvement and additional on-campus and off-campus opportunities, we share the mission and vision, and encourage TU students who come to the Center to think about and carry on the mission of inclusion to their current and future places of living and employment.

Hussman Center for Adults with Autism

Spring 2021 Program Calendar

Program Start Date: February 22nd - Program End Date: May 7th, No programs during TU Spring Break

* Social Groups follow separate schedule and registration process

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1:00 PM					
1:30 PM					
2:00 PM					
2:30 PM					
3:00 PM	3:00 - 4:00 PM Fitness Online	3:00 - 4:00 PM Fitness Online			
3:30 PM			3:30 - 5:00 PM Yoga & Dance Online	3:30 - 5:00 PM Hussman Artistry Online	
4:00 PM			4:15 - 5:15 PM Self-Management Online		
4:30 PM					
5:00 PM	5:00 - 6:30 PM Life on the Internet Online	5:00 - 6:30 PM Hussman Trivia Online		5:00 - 6:30 PM Executive Functioning Online	5:00 - 6:00 PM Social Group 1*
5:30 PM					
6:00 PM					
6:30 PM	6:30 - 8:00 PM Cooking: Whats in the Microwave? Online	6:30 - 8:00 PM E-Gaming Online	6:30 - 8:00 PM Photographic Adventures Online	6:30 - 8:00 PM Mens Activities Online	
7:00 PM					
7:30 PM					
8:00 PM					
8:30 PM					

Our Approach to Programming

- Diversity Education
 - What is it?
 - What role does it play in helping us meet our mission?
- Students & Participants
 - Empowering students and participants
 - Breaking down stereotypes and partnering to build better communities

Program Emphasis

Community Integration Programs:

- These programs facilitate opportunities to engage in fun activities with Towson University undergraduate students who are participating in a diversity education course.



Clinical Collaboration Programs:

- These programs are facilitated in collaboration with Towson University's Occupational Therapy, Speech Language Pathology, and Nursing Departments. These programs provide an opportunity to have fun engaging with students in various activities while gaining skills necessary to live independently.

Program Offerings and Structure

Programs are offered in a “class” type format

Most meet 1.5 – 2 hours once a week, some twice

Offered during the University’s academic sessions:

- 10 weeks during Fall and Spring semesters
- 4-5 weeks during Summer Session

Program Offerings and Structure

Activities Clubs

Executive Functioning

Art/ Crafts

Photographic Adventures

Self-Management

Dance/Yoga

Communication/ Social Media

Healthy Living

Fitness

Self Management

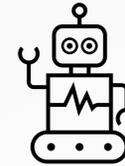
Book Club



Work Possibilities

Cooking

Robotics





Program Costs

- Group Program fees range from \$250 - \$350 for a 10-week session.
- With donor support, we offer the Lisa Higgins Award, which covers up to 75% of the cost of one program for individuals who have financial need

Programs use a Community Integration Model

- Social feedback is provided in natural settings
- Participants and students interact in our programs in a peer-with-peer model



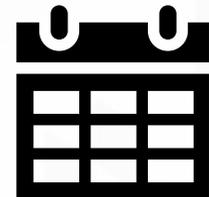
Interest and Registration Process- Spring 2021



- Interest Indication- Tuesday, January 19- Friday, January 29th: everyone lets us know what they are interested in and ranks their first, second, or third choice for one or two programs. Staff fill program slots based upon your preferences.
- **All first-time registrants must sign up for an intake Meeting with Zosia**
 - This is a required meeting before signing up for programs
 - Determine which programs are a good fit
 - Review the registration process
 - <https://tinyurl.com/HCAA-spring-intakes>

Interest and Registration Process- Spring 2021

- Registration-
- By Thursday, February 4th at 5:00pm, you will receive an email from Hussman Center staff listing program(s) you're approved for.
- By Monday, February 8th at 5:00pm- All participants are expected to respond to the email including submitting an initial deposit towards the program as a means of holding your spot in the program
 - If you do not respond to the email by this time, we will assume that you're dropping your spot in the program.



Registration Process- Spring 2021

- Payments-
 - **Final payments due by Monday, February 15th at 5:00pm**
 - If you need to make a payment plan, one can be organized with the Business Office
 - More information on this is included in the "Program Confirmation Email" that you will receive if you sign up for programs
 - <https://www.towson.edu/iwb/centers/hussman/programs/payment.html>



Social Groups

- Social Group brings participants and Towson University students together through games, activities and conversation.
- More than just a fun, relaxed gathering
- Social Group provides a supportive environment for people to find common interests, make connections, and learn from each other
- Towson students have an opportunity to see autistic adults as capable peers
- By interacting together, participants and students build strong connections and we realize our mission of inclusion

Social Groups

- These will take place virtually this spring.
- Virtual Friday evenings:
 - **5:00-6:00**
 - **6:15-7:15**
- Will be offered at a cost of 3 dollars per group
- Announcements will be emailed the Monday of Social group week
- Once you sign up, you will receive information on how to pay
- Once you submit your payment (by the deadline outlined in email) you will receive a link to that week's group
- We are not offering memberships so as many different people can attend as possible
- For any questions, or if you would like to sign up to receive social group announcements, email Rufus at rplatt@towson.edu

Forms and Payments

- 4 required forms:
 - Participant Information Form
 - Participant Agreement Form
 - Health Care Protected Information Form
 - Request for Services Form
- Forms must be filled out every calendar year- contact the business office at hcaa@towson.edu with questions
- Payment is due at least 1 week before programs begin
 - If you need to make a payment plan, this can be done through the Business Office
 - Business Office Phone Number: 410-704-7300
- <https://www.towson.edu/iwb/centers/hussman/programs/payment.html>



Q & A



- College Autism Peer Supports Program

What is it?

For registered Towson University students on the autism spectrum who are looking for additional support to help them achieve success. 14-week program that encompasses the fall and spring semesters

Registration: Please visit the following website for information and forms to complete the registration process. [Program Forms | Towson University](#) Please see the CAPS forms.

Participation:

Weekly group Meetings and individualized peer mentoring opportunities with Towson University students and faculty.