

# AccessAbility

DASS Newsletter

Disability Accommodations and Success Strategies

February 2025

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## Guest Speaker

### Students for New Learning

For Neurodivergent Students. Led by Neurodivergent Students.

Come listen to our guest speaker, Hilary Stern, as she shares insights into procrastination and task avoidance. Also, she will discuss several different tactics for overcoming this task avoidance and procrastination.

Date: Tuesday, 2/25/25

Time: 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Location: Loyd All-Sports Center, A-LEC Room 202N

## Sharing contributions of Black Americans with disabilities this month

We want to highlight the powerful experiences of Black Americans with disabilities—individuals who have boldly fought against both racial injustice and disability discrimination. By sharing the stories of leaders like Brad Lomax, a key figure in the disability rights movement and the 504 Sit-in, and Haben Girma, the first Deafblind graduate of Harvard Law School and a global advocate for accessibility, we honor the intersection of Black history, leadership, and the disability experience. Their contributions remind us of the importance of inclusion and advocacy in shaping a more equitable future. Learn more about their incredible legacies.



## Familiar with the term Neurodiversity?

At its simplest, neurodiversity is the idea that everybody's brains work differently, and that these differences are normal. Neurodivergent, which is not a medical diagnosis, is an umbrella term that refers to people who have autism spectrum disorder, ADHD, dyslexia, or other atypical ways of thinking, learning and interacting with others.

Neurodivergent students are people whose brains process information differently than most people. This can affect how they learn, behave, and experience emotions.

To learn more about neurodiversity and college students; <https://www.usnews.com/education/articles/how-to-navigate-college-as-a-neurodivergent-student>



## Dining News

We celebrate SMU's campus dietitian, Erika Kertz, for recently earning a Certification in Celiac Disease and Gluten-Related Disorders. Kertz noted that "this certification has not only expanded my knowledge but also strengthened my commitment to helping students with Celiac Disease and gluten-related disorders. Whether it's offering better guidance on gluten-free nutrition, advocating for awareness, or simply being a more informed resource, I am excited to apply what I've learned to make a meaningful difference." You can contact Ms. Kertz at [dietitian@smu.edu](mailto:dietitian@smu.edu) for guidance on healthy eating on the Hilltop.

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