

AccessAbility

DASS Newsletter

Disability Accommodations and Success Strategies

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Leveraging Neurodivergence:

A Conversation

with Dr. Quill Kukla

By Max Ashby DASS Grad Assistant



Earlier this month as part of SMU's Maguire Lecture in Ethics series, Dr. Quill Kukla, a professor of philosophy and disability studies at Georgetown University, spoke on "Healthism, Neurodiversity, and Respectability Politics." I had the privilege of interviewing Dr. Kukla about their lecture's specific relevance to SMU students and faculty. We discussed how Dr. Kukla's own Autism diagnosis connects them to this topic, the support of parents/guardians and the University, the strengths of neurodivergent students, and tangible advice. Dr. Kukla's key takeaway for students? Recognize that your neurodivergence and way of understanding the world is not a disease and can actually benefit your academic career if you pursue your interests while leveraging your cognitive strengths.

Extra Mile Award Nominations

If you have ADHD, an LD, or ASD, and an outstanding SMU instructor helped and inspired you, pay them back and nominate them for an Extra Mile Award!

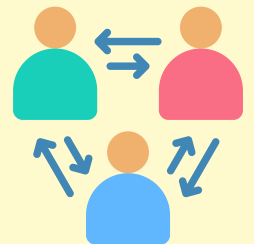
Email David (dtylicki@smu.edu) the name and a few sentences about why you want them to be recognized by Friday, April 4.



Understanding the Importance of an "Interactive Process"

An "interactive process" is a basic communication model – simply two or more people exchanging information.

Think of the Interactive Process like a triangle. Each party – the student, the instructor, and DASS – rests on one of the points, and they are connected by lines of communication. If any of the 3 points stop talking to one another, the process breaks down and complications arise.



Here at DASS, we look at it as a way for students, DASS, and faculty to collaborate, so that everyone has the information they need to implement a student's authorized accommodation.

Have you checked your Midterm Grade Report?

Have a C- minus or lower? Now is the time to make a plan to get that grade up! First meet with your instructor and discuss the areas you need to work on. Then use these student resources in your study plan to improve that grade point.

Tutoring Schedule and the Writing Center

If you are feeling overwhelmed and need help in getting a plan together schedule a one-on-one with our Academic Coach, David Tylicki; dtylicki@smu.edu or meet with one of the ALEC Learning Specialists.



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DASS Link Student Log-In: <https://shibboleth-smu-accommodate.symlicity.com/sso/>