Summary of the Issue: It is important to identify effective supports and models of support delivery that improve postsecondary access, participation and success for students with disabilities. The goal of these supports and services is to improve educational and employment outcomes, success for their consumers in school and the workforce would be an integral measure of their effectiveness. This necessitates a close, in-depth study of individual student cases, or success stories, to tease out the effective supports and services among the many variables that contribute to success. Case studies of successful students are also instructive because this is where the support system ultimately functions—at the level of each individual student.

Study Questions/Method:

- What supports have actually been effective in helping people with disabilities to successfully complete their postsecondary education and to subsequently obtain meaningful employment?
- To what extent do successful students with disabilities attribute their success to the supports and services they received?
- What were the supports that students needed that were not available?
- What are the exemplary models of people with disabilities who have successfully negotiated postsecondary education and have obtained quality employment? How might these models help to guide and support current and incoming students?
Successful student informants are selected using a questionnaire. Informants are interviewed individually in two stages, using findings from the first interview to inform the second. Results are then analyzed qualitatively. A case study will be prepared for each informant and overall findings will be summarized across the case studies.

Findings:

- Not yet available.

Implications by Audience:

- The findings of this study should be of particular interest to postsecondary disability service providers, faculty, vocational rehabilitation counselors, students with disabilities, and potential employers.

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