Universal Design principles (UD) and Universal Design for Learning (UDL) are two promising interactional models of inclusive service that work well. Special education and disability services have, for many years, built their philosophical constructs on the tenets of the medical or rehabilitation model. Although this has been effective in most cases in providing programmatic access and accommodations for those who qualify, it has unfortunately reinforced a “separate but equal” system rather than full inclusion within a community of peers. This session will explore some of the limitations of the old models and how educators can embrace the principles of universal design.

PRESENTER:
Dr. Bea Awoniyi

Dr. Bea Awoniyi serves as the Assistant Vice President (AVP) for Student Affairs at Santa Fe College. In that capacity, she serves as Ombudsperson for the College as well as oversee the Disabilities Resource Center (DRC) and the grant programs within the Division of Student Affairs. Prior to her role at Santa Fe College, Bea served as an Assistant Dean of Students and Director of the Student Disability Resource Center at Florida State University. For many years, Bea worked as a disability services professional where she developed programs and wrote standards of practice and services. Dr. Awoniyi has held many leadership roles in higher education including serving as the President of the Association of Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD) and she was the recipient of the 2018 AHEAD Excellence in Diversity and Inclusion Award.

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