

The Unique Financial Aid Experience of Graduate Students with Disabilities: Implications for Service Delivery

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Intersectionalities

GRADUATE
STIPEND

PROVINCIAL
DISABILITY
ASSISTANCE

TIME IN
PSE

EXTERNAL
SCHOLAR-
SHIPS

DISABILITY-
RELATED
LEAVES

FINANCIAL AID
LANDSCAPE

GRADUATE
VS.
UNDERGRAD

ACCOMMODATION
NEEDS

RESEARCH VS.
PROFESSIONAL
PROGRAMS

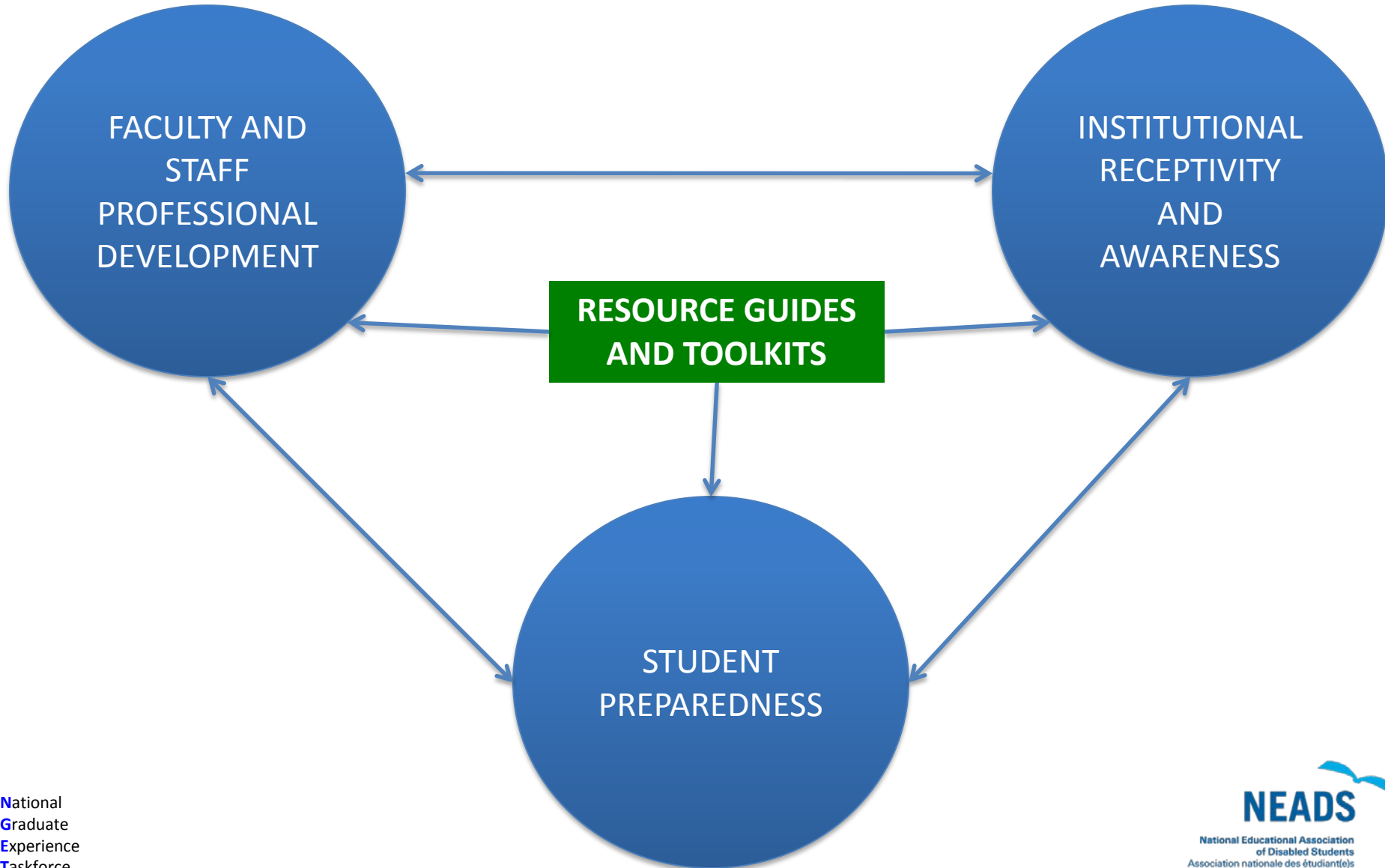
Key Findings

- Student preparedness and financial literacy around graduate education and disability
- Financial Aid Officer preparedness and professional development around graduate issues
- Accessibility of information and process – personally customizable vs. one size fits all
- Need to share best practices

Discussion Questions

- What best practices in service delivery at the local/provincial level are you aware of?
- How best can we adapt to differences in learning and interaction with information and process that accompany different disabilities?
- What role should provision of appropriate financial literacy information to students play in their transition to graduate school?
- What professional development resources are best deployed to aid service professionals in financial aid?

Resource Development



Equal Opportunity vs. Equal Outcome

equality

equity

Equality = SAMENESS

Equity = FAIRNESS

Equality is about **SAMENESS**, it promotes fairness and justice by giving everyone the same thing.

EQUITY is about **FAIRNESS**, it's about making sure people get access to the same opportunities.

BUT it can **only work IF every-one starts from the SAME place**, in this example equality only works if everyone is the same height.

Sometimes our differences and/or history, can create barriers to participation, so we must **FIRST ensure EQUITY** before we can enjoy equality.