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**The Essential Functions of the Position:
Investigating Collegiality and Productivity for Faculty with Mental Disabilities**

From *Mad at School: Rhetorics of Mental Disability and Academic Life*
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Overview of talk

- 1) How mental disability is entering the picture of U.S. higher education.
- 2) Terminology: Why “mental disability”?
- 3) Kairotic space, crip time, and key *topoi* (common themes) of academic culture.
- 4) The *topoi* of collegiality and productivity.
- 5) Key question: What indeed are the “essential functions” (ADA) of work as a faculty member? Can one participate in the life of the mind with an impaired mind?

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