What is Discord?

"Discord is great for playing games and chilling with friends or even building a worldwide community. Customize your own space to talk, play, and hang out." (https://discord.com/) Discord is very similar to Microsoft Teams or Slack. Most commonly, people use Discord as an audio conference call between friends and community members. People often share their screens when they are playing a video game or watching a show so other people can watch them and talk to them at the same time. Discord has video calling, text chat, and filing sharing capabilities. Many use Discord to connect with my friends and family who live in different states and countries.

Who can use Discord?

Everyone! People can create a profile or enter a server as a guest. Individuals can download the app on their computer or phone or use Discord in their browser. https://discord.com/
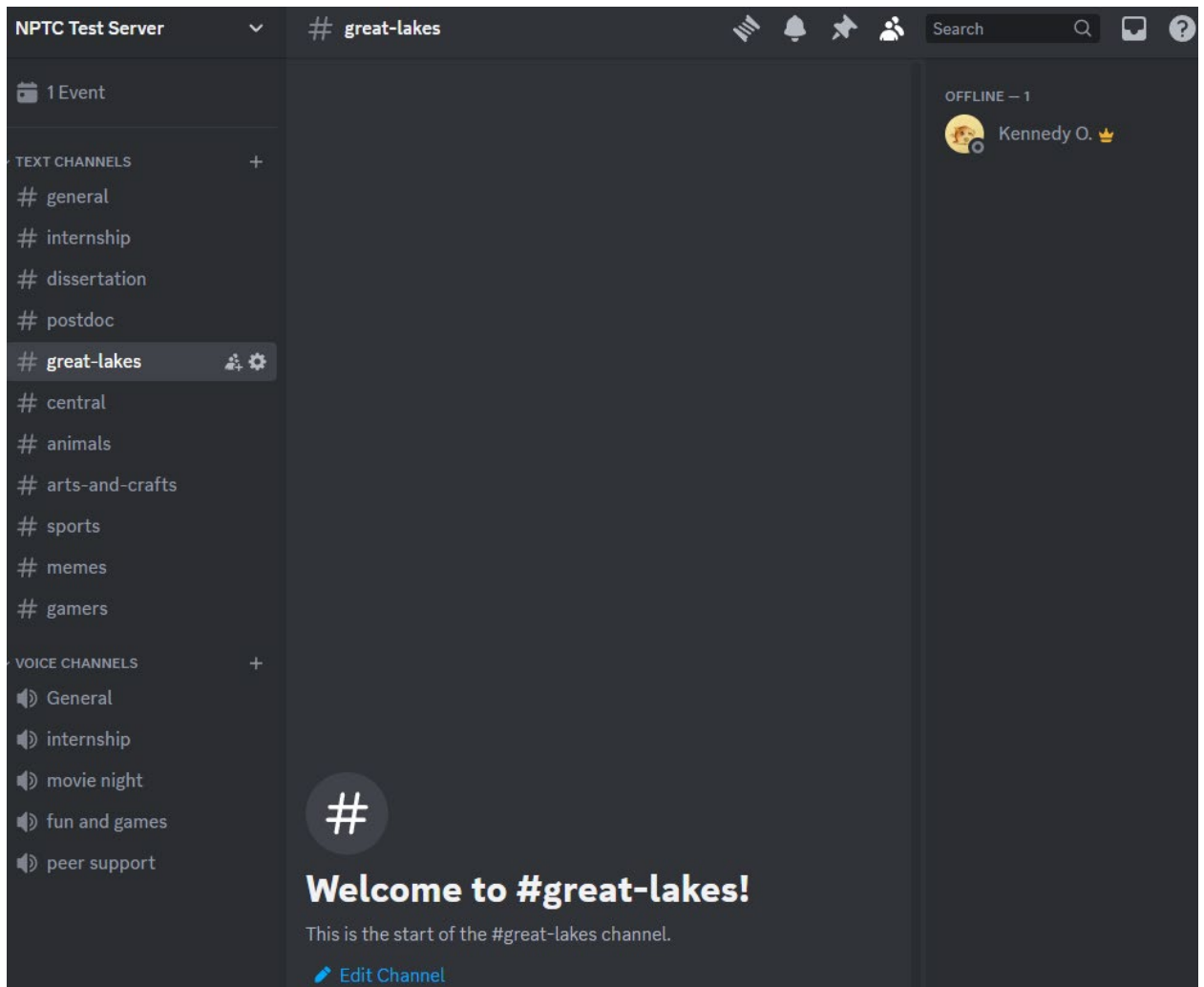
How would interns use Discord?

The idea is that a NPTC Discord server could be a peer-led hub for interns to connect, find support, and have virtual fun regardless of distance!

- *Channels*

   Separate "channels" can be created in the server to allow people to text or talk about different topics at the same time. For example, interns that are looking for peer support can meet in one voice channel while another group of interns are unwinding from the day and playing games in a different voice channel. We would also have different text
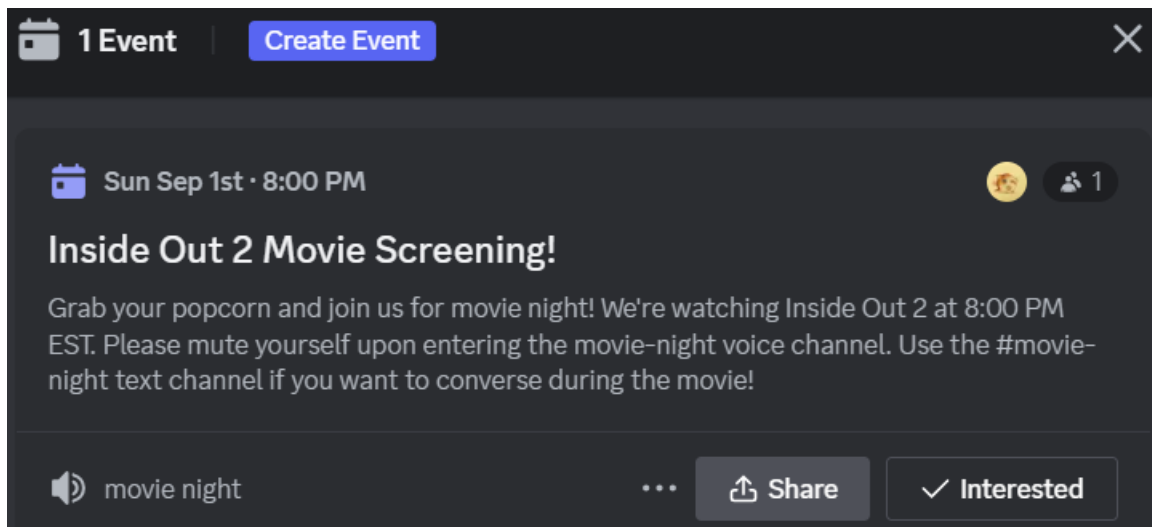
channels to have discussions based on individual topics, such as dissertation, postdoc, and fun & games. Below is an example of the kinds of channels we anticipate to create:

- ***Events***

  Discord also allows us to create prescheduled events. For example, we could use this feature to have movie screenings where someone streams a movie and people can connect in the voice channel and have conversations while watching.

How would we promote privacy and safety?

We would promote the highest level of privacy, safety, and security possible for our intern community. We will not tolerate any harassment, hate speech, discrimination, and hostility. Discord is **not** HIPAA compliant. Therefore, this channel will not be used for clinical discussions. We will create a disclosure for members to refrain from discussing specific clinical work.

- ***Disclaimers and User Agreements***

  The server owner can create a user agreement before members join the server. Members will not be able to join without reading and agreeing to the terms and guidelines of the server. This message will include the purpose of the channel and expectations for conduct.

- ***Moderators***

  A select few members will be server "moderators" to ensure that the interns are not sharing client information. Moderators will also monitor all server activity to ensure that there is no harassment, hate, discrimination, and other undesirable activity. Members of the server can contact the NPTC server moderators if they experience or witness unwanted activity within the server, and moderators can report this to NPTC staff. Moderators can be responsible for inviting new interns or suspending access if an intern engages in undesirable behavior.
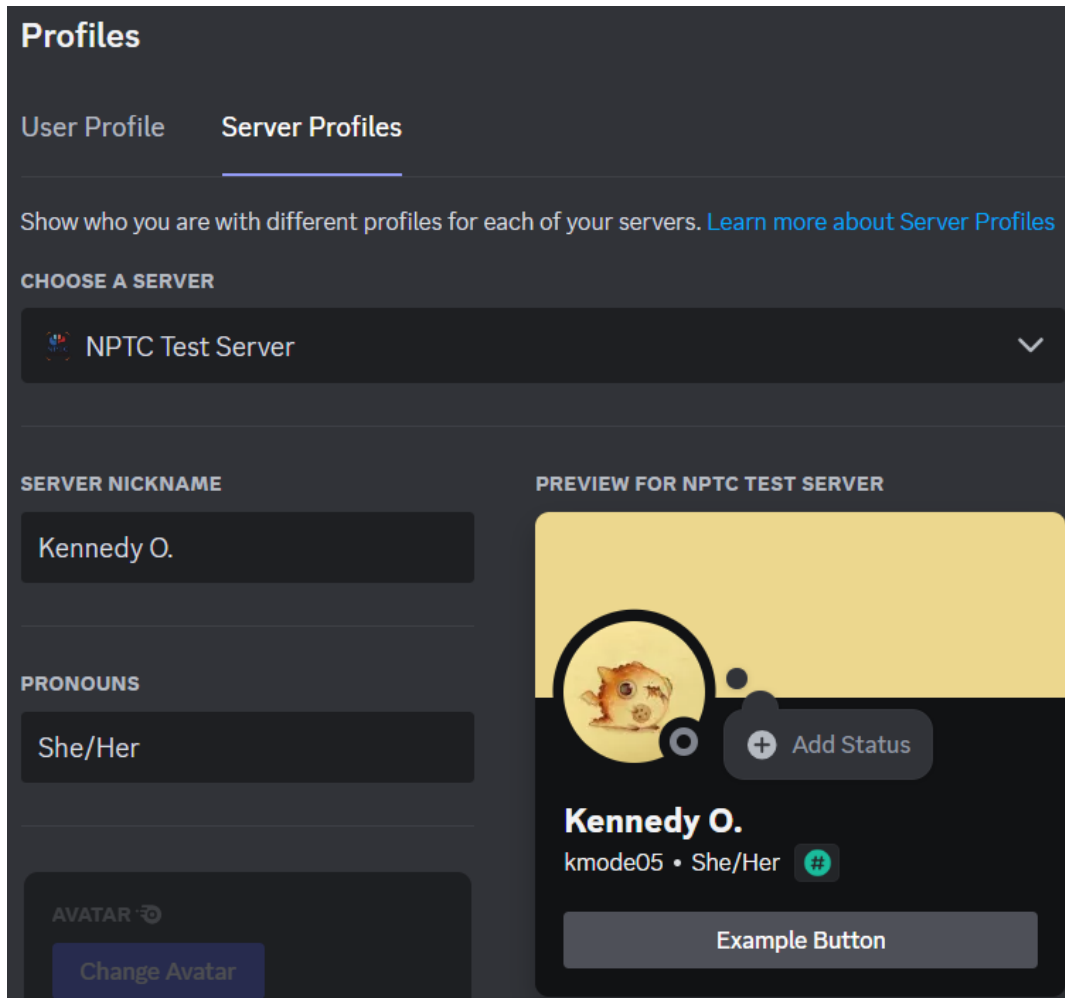
- ***Who will have access?***

  Only NPTC interns who receive the invitation link will have access to the Discord channel. Members will not be able to invite additional friends to maintain a secure community of exclusively NPTC interns.

- ***Profile Names***

  Discord requires registered users to create a unique profile name. However, the NPTC Discord channel will allow members to change their "nickname" and add their pronouns for this specific channel. We would recommend members to change their nickname to their full name or first name and last initial so that they are more identifiable to other members.

Created by Kennedy Odulio-Papa (she/her). Kennedy is in the Great Lakes region and is placed at Adult & Child Health. She is a student at Adler University in Chicago.