

Accessibility Committee 3.17.21

Introduction of DRS – Hannah works with blind/low-vision, Morgan is GA and notetaking coordinator, works with students with anxiety/autism, Sal GA, Amanda Rodino – Assistant Director – primary coordinator of students who register

Work with students with ADHD, autism spectrum – vast majority of students have hidden disabilities

Technology in DRS office – will do a test run – notetaking software audiorecord lectures, bookmark, color code, etc – will meet multiple times with reps from company, ask about accessibility of software, pilot, see if software doesn't work with other programs, ex: jaws and read and write (read and write accessible to everyone on campus) - doesn't work with jaws, a screen reading software – ask the right questions (is this going to work with this software, is this going to be compatible) - training is a really issue with looking at vpaths and procurement – digital environment subcommittee of accessibility committee is working on a tip sheet to use while testing digital environment – process is: rely on information that is shared, talk to colleagues, try it out

Consistency across departments and programs and what students are already using is often the driver for which products are decided on. Which companies are well-versed and “selling to the population.”

Ex: Everfi (training) went through procurement but is definitely not accessible.

Why not have users with disabilities test? Hard to find students who will participate. Small population – doesn't always want to be the “guinea pig.”

Training would be useful. DRS willing to do training with our staff. Training for Accessibility Lab and disability etiquette. If faculty come to us for help, please push for materials to be accessible. Advocate or captioning, inaccessible pdfs, course materials loaded into ecourseware. Scanned annotated pages from textbooks etc.

We could create a research guide sharing DRS resources. There should be information about the assistive technology lab by the staff computer.

OER group could work with DRS to advocate for accessibility in OER and create/share resources. DRS working on creating centralized space for all resources on website. Intersects with access issues for textbooks overall.

Caption materials in tutorials for UNIV. Willing to assist in caption creation.

Jessica says: I've recommended some things to put on the OIE webpage from the Libraries: Information and tutorials for accessing HTML files, eBooks, and Permanent links, Tutorials and instructions on how to convert PDF files to HTML, so the content can be accessed through D2L's built-in accessibility features, and Libraries Contact Info. Ya'll can give me some other ideas of what should go on there

Caitlin suggests that DRS presentation to chat/RIS should be annual bc of turnover.

Carl suggests that we incorporate a separate annual training about making accessibility learning materials for teaching faculty.

Kenny recognizes the issue of making materials accessible inside of an already accessible digital interface (BePress).

Next meeting – start making plans and delegating work.