



President's Advisory Committee on Disability Issues

Spring Meeting

4/21/2022

9:00am – 12:00pm

Room 126B, 780 Regent Street, Madison, WI 53715

and [VIA WebEx](#)

AGENDA

1) Introductions/Greetings from Interim President Mike Falbo

- Attendees: Elizabeth Watson, Chair (UW-Whitewater), John Achter, System Liaison (UW System), Steven Wright, Administrative Support (UW System), Lynn Niemi (UW-Green Bay), Top Tantivivat (UW-Madison), Ann Murphy (UW-Stout), Victoria Morechen (UW-Milwaukee), Nichole LaGrow (UW-Green Bay), President Michael Falbo (UW System)
- President Falbo greeted the group and reaffirmed a commitment to our work. He stayed around for about 20 minutes to participate in discussion about the digital maturity assessment project and the behavioral health impact on disability/accessibility services offices.

2) Update on Digital Maturity Assessment Survey (DMAS)

- We are in the process of moving forward with the survey but need to be mindful that there is a concern with using surveys across system right now. We may need to approach this as a grassroots effort through outreach to campus teams and system stakeholder groups, e.g., LTDC, HR, ADA, CIO/IT Directors, Academic Staff Committee, and Teaching and Learning Center Directors.
- Elizabeth and John compiled a list of the contact points for these groups and members of the committee agreed to engage with these groups to promote the project. Steven Wright will create a document in the Teams site including: 1) stakeholder group name; 2) meeting schedule; and 3) PACDI member assigned to present.
- Nichole shared that the theme of the 42nd Annual Faculty College 2022: Teaching & Learning with a Social Justice Lens might be a nice alignment.
- The two-page instruction sheet is a good document to review and share before reaching out to the group. John shared the current draft, but the timeline in the

document is no longer accurate because it assumed spring/summer survey administration.

- Nichole raised a concern regarding the permission to use the survey. Elizabeth, Top, and Nichole will engage with the organization to confirm that we can use the survey.
- Elizabeth asked that all members of PACDI complete the survey this summer to test the skip logic.
- Special thanks to Steven Wright for compiling the survey for us in Qualtrics.

3) Membership

- Jess Jones (UW-Madison) has stepped down from her position at UW-Madison. There is an interim in her role and that individual can join temporarily.
- Lynn Niemi (UW-Green Bay) is at the end of her appointment and would like to allow for someone else to join.
- Elizabeth will continue as chair to support the Digital Maturity Assessment Survey and is willing to serve as co-chair.
- One student member is continuing, and one student is graduating. Ann Murphy has a student in mind who might be willing to serve. He is an emerging student leader, part of student government on the Stout campus, and connected for the NFB.
- John and Elizabeth will work through creating an Excel document to keep on our Teams site that provides information regarding our terms of appointment.
- Elizabeth and John suggested that Renee Pfeifer-Luckett be invited to serve on this committee as an expert to support the Digital Maturity Service. PACDI members affirm this invitation so John & Elizabeth will follow-up.
- In response to the question of gaps on our committee (as a reminder our committee does not have a limit on the number of members), Lynn suggested that we may want to invite another faculty member and consider rotating terms so that we do not have two new faculty members each year.

4) Updates on GCPD

- The Governor's Committee for People with Disabilities (GCPD) has requested a member from UW System and Elizabeth serves as our current representative. In addition to serving as the liaison she also serves on the Health Services Committee and is also involved in the Rural Access Working Group that is crafting a paper to support the need for broadband access across our state.
- The work with the Rural Access Working Group has revealed the limitation in our state-wide effort for broadband. Private companies will use the dollars to add

towers to expand access, but individuals will still need to purchase access through those companies because the service will not be centralized.

- GCPD also put out emergency preparedness kits and how to support individuals with disabilities. The toolkit resource page is available at [CPD: Emergency Preparedness Kit](#). We can link to this resource from our webpages and should share the information with our ADA and Facilities teams.
- The committee transitioned into a conversation of striker chairs and their presence on campuses, both quantity and training provided.

5) Other Topics/Issues

- Lynn shared a plan to create an Enabled ERG for Employees with Disabilities at UW-Green Bay and asked if others have experience with such groups or offer a group on their campus. We have a local business partner, Schreiber Foods, which offers a similar group. Elizabeth suggested that we might want to also offer a system-wide ERG for disabilities.
- UW-Whitewater is a member of the Disability in Wisconsin, a network of Wisconsin organizations and it offers an ERG. They may be a source of information as well.
- Elizabeth will ask Janelle to survey the campuses and ask about ERG presence on other campuses.
- What are topics that we want to get in front of our new president?
 - Staffing ratios in disability/accessibility services offices: additional salary and FTE needed to meet current demand for service.
 - Qualifications of Disability Services Staffing (relying more on those with a counseling background given the mental health crisis).
 - The complexity of accommodations, both for our faculty and our staffs, means that there is also an increase in the number of contacts to support a student.
 - ASD support needs
 - Increase in complaints: OCR and ADA.
 - Staff resiliency
 - Role of ADA Officer to help with supporting our faculty and staff to have an acceptable work environment.
 - Technology in the classroom – accessibility and equity for faculty and students.
 - Positive developments
 - Fall 2022 Education Committee presentation will focus on accommodating students on the autism spectrum and students with psychological disabilities
 - Autogenerated Captions implemented in Kaltura; partnering across campus to get accurate captions at a reduced price
 - Sharing the resources from GCPD and ERG plan

- Lessons learned/partnerships through COVID at the campus and system level
- UW Swap to find accessible furniture
- Morphic adopted at UW-Milwaukee
- Digital Maturity Survey.
- Elizabeth and Lynn will work on a report to share with the committee.

Meeting adjourned at 11:22am