



**Office of Student Success**

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## **President's Advisory Committee on Disability Issues**

Fall Meeting

10/20/2022

9:00am – 12:00pm

Room 123, 780 Regent Street, Madison, WI 53715

and via [ZOOM](#)

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### **MINUTES**

#### **I. Introductions/New Member Welcome**

- a. The members of PACDI introduced themselves with an attention to best practices in introductions in an online meeting, e.g., indicating gender and visual description.

#### **II. Membership review**

- a. Thanks to Lynn Niemi for twelve years of service. This will be Lynn's last meeting.
- b. Do we need to reconsider our group member constituents? Is there a need to include more voices with a technology background?
  - i. A general conversation emphasized the need to include a more technical voice on our committee.
    1. We specifically discussed the need for awareness with HR, Webpages (referencing the recent class action filed against Harvard), Marketing and Communications, and perhaps a centralized representative with UW System Technology, and the expanding HRS/LMS/ATP projects.
    2. Renee Pfeifer-Luckett offered to serve as a liaison for the system work she engages with.
      - a. A question was raised about the ATP project to confirm if there is any specific effort to focus on accessibility.
      - b. The report from representatives who serve on both PACDI and ATP indicates that the conversation that needs to happen about accessibility may not be happening, but there should be a presentative from UW Madison DOIT that is specifically present on system projects to assure accessibility. That process was successfully implemented with ShopUW.

- c. We need to move away from reasonable accommodations and towards selecting and assuring the digital tools and products we purchase are accessible.
    - d. The Canvas external tool integration vetting process championed by Renee may be a model we could encourage across System to support. The process explicitly considers security, student data privacy, and accessibility.
  - 3. We have also lost a lot of technology-focused individuals at our individual campuses.
- c. Damira from UWO has stepped down from PACDI and we would like to invite someone in a Senior Diversity Officer Role.

### **III. Update on Digital Maturity Assessment Survey (DMAS)**

- a. Nichole worked on the survey creation with the subcommittee and provided an update on the progress we have made in crafting the questions, working through the process to create the survey with John's Team.
- b. Elizabeth and Nichole will work through the UWW IRB process to receive exemption for a self-assessment and self-audit tool and confirm that we have done our due diligence in requesting permission to use the publicly available survey tool through NCDAE.
- c. Our process has been delayed with the transition of presidents.
- d. Rationales for Survey
  - i. A significant rationale for the project is that when UW-Madison used the tool (five or six years ago) they used the information to make significant and positive changes.
  - ii. COVID significantly changed our learning platforms permanently and some of the practices/tools adopted to meet the need actually created challenges.
  - iii. The recent lawsuit filed against Harvard makes this issue real.
  - iv. Emphasize that the survey is intended to serve as benchmarking tool and as an opportunity to self-assess and make a plan to increase digital accessibility on our campuses.
  - v. Ann reminded us that the impact of inaccessible resources needs to be emphasized in the Memo and the conversation with President Rothman.
- e. Next Steps
  - i. Confirmation of whether this is the project we want to focus on. Agreement from the group.

- ii. Please engage in the survey to test the skip logic and provide feedback for question phrasing/framing (e.g., Shared Services)
- iii. The brief that Elizabeth and Damira crafted for the President to send to Chancellors will be reviewed by Ruben and Elizabeth by November 11th and the group will receive a Teams Message and an Email to review the letter by November 16th.
  - 1. Add specific impact examples in the Memo by the 11th
    - a. Eric and Ruben – employee case studies
    - b. Ann and Lynn – student case studies, emphasize the impact of time lost in a fifteen-week class
    - c. UW Madison now requires all Gen Ed classes are fully accessible.
    - d. Renee – autogenerated captions in the Kaltura media management tool as an example of digital accessibility addressed
- iv. John will work on scheduling with the President.
  - 1. The meeting with President Rothman will include Ruben, Renee, Nichole, John, Elizabeth, and one Student Rep
- v. Plan to send out to institutions for a Spring completion.
- f. We will need to further discuss how we will use the information as a group – to assure that the data will be used in aggregate and not as a punitive tool for our committee.
  - i. We will also need to identify individuals on our committee who are comfortable serving as resources/mentors for campus teams as they work through the survey.

#### **IV. Updates on Governor’s Committee for People with Disabilities (GCPD)**

- a. Elizabeth attends the GCPD at least quarterly.
- b. She will solicit feedback/insights from us and since the meeting is next week, she asked for feedback:
- c. UW Madison now requires all Gen Ed classes are fully accessible.
- d. Three Critical Issues of GCPD
  - i. Emergency Preparedness (Elizabeth will share the link to resources). Currently in Spanish and English and working on Hmong.
  - ii. Transportation.
    - 1. Milwaukee Bus Reduction
    - 2. Intrastate Railroad line that would link Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota in planning stage
    - 3. Community Transportation options not meeting needs

- iii. Broadband Expansion
  - 1. Wisconsin opted to disburse COVID funds to individual business.
- e. Self-Determination Conference, sponsored by Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities recognized a UW-Whitewater Grad, Ramsey Lee, who is now a state-wide advocate.
- f. UWW was also recognized with a multi-million dollar grant in support for the center that trains K12 instructors and counselors.
- g. UWS is using state grant funding to pilot telehealth with Mantra through 2025 across all twelve regional institutions which will also include automated self-help services.

## **V. Student Campus Climate Survey**

- a. Student Campus Climate Survey had a poor return rate, 18%.
- b. We will be inviting a System representative for our April meeting to share the aggregate data specifically about the disability and mental health related questions.
- c. John will share the survey contact person for each campus with the group.
- d. Lynn shared that UWGB we are working through the staff and faculty survey now.
  - i. We may pull the questions from UWGB and other institutions who are crafting questions to create a guiding document from PACDI for institutions to consider including

## **VI. Parking Lot Items**

- a. [Disability Director's Report](#)
- b. [BOR Presentation](#) includes student speakers and shares critical needs:
  - i. Faculty Training
  - ii. Assistive Technology Specialists
  - iii. Campus-wide speakers
- c. Budget Proposal increases request for salary and operational budgets that does not have initiative-based requests. If the legislature approves new funds, then we will need to advocate on our campuses for additional resources.
- d. To review previous meeting minutes, visit the PACDI UW resource

NEXT MEETING: April 13, 2023