



Office of Student Success

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**President's Advisory Committee on Disability Issues
Spring Meeting**

4/13/23

1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

Room 1820, 1220 Linden Dr, Madison, WI 53706

and via [ZOOM](#)

MINUTES

Participants

Elizabeth Watson, UW-Whitewater (Chair)

Ruben Mota, UW-Madison

Top Tantivivat, UW-Madison

Shannon Aylesworth, UW-Milwaukee

Victoria Moerchen, UW-Milwaukee

Renee Pfeifer-Luckett, UW Stevens Point

Eric Roesler, UW-Stevens Point

Ann Murphy, UW-Stout

Janelle Ann Crowley, UW-Whitewater

Justin Wesolek, UW-Whitewater (Student Representative)

Hunter Kuester, UW-Stout (Student Representative)

John Achter, UW System Administration (Committee Liaison)

Danielle Lee, UW System Administration (Committee Support)

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 Justin Wesolek for two years of service. Justin will be phasing out of the role.

b. We will need a new student representative. There is a general consensus that recruiting for student representatives from within the student body is most effective.

i. We would like to reach out to students who presented at the March 2023 BOR Meeting. Shannon Aylesworth can reach out to Teresa at UW-Milwaukee. Additionally, one of the students who presented is graduating but will continue their graduate studies in Madison and may be a resource for representation.

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- ii. Justin recommended reaching out to Matthew Schweinert at UW-Whitewater, as he would be an important advocate for students with disabilities. Elizabeth can reach out.
- iii. A question was raised about the number of student representatives that we have on the committee
- iv. There are generally two student representatives, but we have had three in the past for those years when there are more student-heavy projects.
- v. Madison, Green Bay, Stout, and Whitewater have all had recent representation on the committee. We are open to representation from other locations.
- vi. This is generally a two-year appointment, though there is some flexibility around enrollment status. We can review this process and have an ad hoc group handle appointments.
- c. Renee Pfeiffer-Luckett is now at UW-Stevens Point, so we will have to keep in mind someone in the area of learning technology.
 - i. Shannon can email David Delgado at UW-Milwaukee, LMS administrator and DLE coordinator
- d. Elizabeth's term as chair is set to expire. Anyone interested in taking on the role should notify Elizabeth, who can remain in a support role for two years to support the transition until she steps down as chair.
- e. Victoria and Top's terms are set to expire soon, but they have both agreed to serve additional two-year terms.
- f. Nicole has resigned from the committee as of January 2023 when she left her position at UWGB

III. Digital Maturity Self-Assessment (DMSA) Update and Planning

1. Summary of Meetings with President Rothman and Chancellors
 - a. With President Rothman's endorsement, John and Elizabeth sent out a memo to Chancellors on the DMSA initiative and spoke to Chancellors at their February meeting. This was also highlighted during the accessibility panel at the March BoR meeting.
 - b. Stout and Oshkosh CIOs asked if we would attend the CIO meetings to brief them on the self-assessment plans. Elizabeth, Ann, Ruben, and Victoria will plan to join the April 28 CIO meeting to address the need for the DMSA at campuses.
2. Timeline
 - a. Most campuses will reach out to CIOs/ADA coordinators to walk through the process- CIOs will be the lead/ or co/lead in the process. John and Elizabeth can do outreach to Chancellors and get email contact information for team leads.
 - b. The goal will be to have team members and team leads by early May.
 - c. Plan for a 45-minute informational meeting for campus teams, ideally in the second week of May.
 - d. The timeline will be determined by whoever completed the survey first.
3. Teams/Support
 - a. Teams of three at each stage will help with presentations ???

4. Summer Work/Reviews/Reports
 - a. Elizabeth will reach out for May, June, July availability of PACDI members to work on reviewing survey results and report writing. Ask as many committee members as possible to join based on availability.
 - b. Committee members that volunteered to help with report writing include Ruben, Victoria, Justin (Hunter?), Shannon, Renee, Elizabeth, and John.
 - b. A template can be designed from survey responses. Once we have a template, we can break into smaller groups. There may be gaps in reporting based around people's summer vacation schedules. This can be communicated via email.
 - c. The design template will need to be shared with CIOs, ADAs, Disability Service Coordinators and Chancellors to ensure that we are addressing compliance concerns and addressing digital access barriers.

IV. Update from Accessibility Panel on March BoR Meeting

1. A [recording of the BoR meeting](#) is available online. In summary:
 - a. This panel was the result of students advocating at the shared governance meetings and sharing feedback with Regent President Walsh and Regent Vice President Bogost.
 - b. Four students talked about the barriers to access they have faced on campus and avenues they have pursued to address them through self-advocacy and campus-wide advocacy for improved accessibility.
 - c. Elizabeth, Ruben, and Ann followed by answering questions related to themes raised by the students, including physical and digital access, universal design, timely availability of accommodation and support services, and calls for better faculty/staff training.
 - d. Elizabeth identified potential action items that could address some of these themes (further addressed below)
 - e. Board members asked questions and engaged in dialogue with both student and PACDI panelists
2. Following the training Elizabeth had a follow up phone call from Regent Underly, Superintendent of DPI, concerning the transitional gap between high school and college that has widened post-COVID. Regent Underly is interested in better bridging the transition for students and is open to collaborations between DPI and UWSA to do so.
3. Chancellor Frank from UW-Stout talked met with Hunter and Ann immediately after the presentation and appointed them to the university architectural committee.
4. Potential Action Items for PACDI
 - a. ADA self-assessment template- what exists and what resources can we share?
 - i. One of the things we may recommend instead of a template is a training on how to do an ADA-accessible audit of buildings, as a form or tool may not address the uniqueness of needs.
 - ii. Top suggested campuses could have an annual rotation of buildings to evaluate, with some standardized items for review.
 - iii. Madison has a list of facilities guidelines they use for such assessments.

- iv. The BoR could require as part of policy compliance with the ADA that every campus conducts an audit of facilities and maintains a priority list for improving access.
- v. Decision: Agreed to return to this item next academic year
- b. ADA compliance reporting – draft a recommendation for the BOR
 - i. Ruben gave an example that UW Madison has an [Accessibility Barrier Reporting Form](#) on their website. The ADA Coordinator tracks the form and works with the responsible party to address the concerns.
 - ii. PACDI could recommend that every campus be required to have this type of reporting system.
 - iii. Decision: Shannon and Justin will work with Ruben on drafting language for requiring each campus to have a centralized reporting system.
- iv. Additional conversation:
 - 1. We could propose to System that one of the project managers has to be an expert on Universal Design and lead assistance to the comprehensive campuses.
 - 2. We could also recommend that, when looking at capital projects, older buildings with accessibility issues get prioritized over newer buildings to address barriers to the learning and working environment.
- c. Faculty/staff training (mandatory?) on disability/accessibility and accommodations
 - i. Has anyone reviewed the UW-Milwaukee training? Is this something we can advocate to be developed?
 - ii. The current systemwide mandatory discrimination training has less than two minutes that addresses inclusivity for disability. There is no discussion on how to request accommodations.
 - iii. While all campuses offer training through their disability services offices, none of it is mandated.
 - iv. The BoR could add required training to the Disability and Non-Discrimination Policy.
 - v. Decision: Agreed to return to this item next academic year.
- d. Universal design statement- draft endorsement language
 - i. We could draft a statement on Best Practice Universal Design and how that can be added into the existing Non-Discrimination Policy and the System Statement on Universal Design. Justin, Ann, and Elizabeth are interested in working on this.
 - ii. Ruben pointed out that there are learning, digital, physical and community ecosystems that interlock and overlay one another, affecting how barriers in one area can translate into another area.
 - iii. Ann mentioned that the University of Washington has a robust Universal Design website and information on learning that can be a great resource.
 - iv. Elizabeth pointed out that a good starting point for this workgroup is look at what is currently in the policies, what works, what has aged out, and how do

we broaden Universal Design to not just focus on physical access, but all our ecosystems and how they interact.

v. Decision: Justin, Ann, and Elizabeth will work on draft statements.

V. New Items/Parking Lot

1. We should offer an update on the DMSA and other action items during a Fall 2023 meeting. John will contact the Board office to discuss.
2. Discussed putting together an annual briefing document for President Rothman to review PACDI activities for the year. John and Elizabeth will discuss further.
3. Elizabeth serves as the System representative on the Governor's Counsel for Persons with Disabilities and will provide updates on PACDI work including DMSA and the recent BoR presentation.

2023/24 Meeting dates: **October 3, 2023** and **April 18, 2024**