

Accessibility/Disabilities Committee
December 1, 2005

Members Present: Joshua Bickford (student representative), Patricia Fagan (Chair), Rey Junco (invited guest), Jane Penman, Cathy Weglarz

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 noon. The minutes of the last meeting were approved. Members present introduced themselves to Rey Junco who has agreed to serve as an invited guest member of the committee.

Pat Fagan led the discussion in which the group reported to Rey the results of our brainstorming session at the last meeting. He had comments on the following:

1. Routine travel from Main Campus to East Campus – Rey reported that the beginnings of a solution could be in place as early as next spring. L. Koch, VP Student Affairs, is working on this problem
2. Discussion of the need for additional staff at the Office for Disability Services, particularly for testing and proctoring students. The office is currently supported by a 1/3 time secretary. Rey reported that over the last six years the number of identified students with disabilities has increased to 210 and he suggested that less than half of the disabled student body has been identified. The group also discussed the need for a separate testing center.
3. Grants – The topic of grants was introduced. Rey remarked that there are often sections under larger umbrella grants that have room for disability issues.
4. East Campus – The group returned to a discussion of East Campus, not just as a disability issue but as an accessibility issue. Josh volunteered to contact the Eagle Eye to see about a possible feature story. The idea was mentioned to ask students to travel to East Campus under different scenarios – walking, walking on crutches, using a car and crutches, in a wheelchair – and describe their experiences. The group agreed that this was a good idea and Josh will begin efforts to coordinate the scenarios and the article.
5. Role of the Committee –A question was raised as to the role of the group as far as forwarding recommendations the University. We believe that our role is make recommendations formally through the Chair to Executive Council.
- 6.

Cathy Weglarz
Secretary

cc: Joannette Saba-Sturm
Denise Shoemaker