FA DisComm Sept. 20th Minutes:

Attending: Colleen Donnelly, Linda Fried, Mariana Prestigiacomo, Thorsten Spehn, Maureen Melonis, Amy Ferrell, Matthew O’Brien, Sophie Cook

* Introduced new members present, discussed ongoing problems with server/communication which should be addressed by FA in next couple weeks
* Discussed HR/ADA updates – now federally compliant, microaggressions removed, adequately describes how to receive services and individual safeguards.
* Discussed status of DRS – director and assist. director retiring, unclear if a new DRS director has been hired.
* Project for ESI cabinet – identifying best disability and accessibility serving institutions.  List of identified “best” circulated and members are each looking at a few schools – discussion and report will be done in next meeting. Members assigned 4 schools to investigate using 2 questions.  Materials due Oct. 10.

1. Who is engaged in the decision making about disability and accessibility? What persons or offices are engaged?
2. What is being done? What is unique? What are they doing beyond accommodations and compliance. I.e. student academic support, student activities and community, faculty-staff engagement, offices created, etc.

* Identified other projects for the year: education of campus to disability/accessibility issues – posters and working with other teams; spring event with students on history of disability and possible performance.