FA Disability Committee

Meeting Notes from January 17, 2024, 12:00-1:00 PM

Committee Members Present:

Colleen Donnelly (Chair), English

Thorsten Spehn (VC and Secretary), Political Science

Maureen Melonis, Bioengineering

Pepe Sánchez, SPA

Matthew O’Brien, Business

Mike Greene, Integrative Biology

Amy Ferrell, SEHD

Mary Prestigiacomo, AL

Sophie Cook, CAM

Meeting Minutes:

Chair Donnelly discussed the best accessibility practices report in IHEs that was presented to VC Antonio Farias and others. The report was well-received and has been circulated.

Committee members were asked to spread the work on ALLY launch and encourage their faculty to participate and to invite the Ally Ambassadors to meetings.

Colleen reviewed the activities being offered this semester.

* Feb 14 11-12:15: Ableism Seminar w/CFDA
* March 1: Training on Executive Functioning w/Denver Academy (first cohort training)
* March 12: Student Event (disability awareness month) – Wheelchair Sports Camp (used to also create student group and add members to taskforce)
* April 5: Accessibility Documents Workshop

Committee members were asked to participate in these events and to promote them in their units.

Badging (certificate) in accessibility practices is being prepared in collaboration with the CFDA. Attendees must attend the Feb 14, March 1 and April 5 events to receive the certificate in accessibility practices.

CAM may be interested in supporting the March 12 Student Event performance, Sophie and Matt will pursue the matter.  Mike Greene pledged financial support.

Determined to try to work with Lynn Mandziuk in CAM’s graphic design course for our poster campaign involving 4 posters and potential social media this semester.

In the next week or two, we will see if we can get this set up and plan to work with the students throughout the semester. If the class does not accept the project, we will return to working through the posters ourselves during our next meeting.

Unanimous vote for Thorsten Spehn as new VC/Secretary. We thank Linda Fried for her service in that capacity.